



**Australian Government**

# **AHCORG409 Manage biodynamic production**

**Release: 1**

# AHCORG409 Manage biodynamic production

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to manage a farming system according to the principles, practices and standards for organic and biodynamic agricultural production.

The unit applies to individuals and farmers who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others within known parameters, and use discretion and judgment in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

## Unit Sector

Organic Production (ORG)

## Elements and Performance Criteria

| Elements                                              | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>      | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 1. Prepare a plan for a biodynamic farming enterprise | 1.1 Identify health, safety and environmental hazards, assess risk and develop controls according to workplace procedures<br>1.2 Identify requirements for biodynamic certification<br>1.3 Develop goals and plan for a biodynamic enterprise<br>1.4 Develop marketing plans for biodynamic produce<br>1.5 Investigate and implement trials for biodynamic agriculture and |

| Elements                                                                       | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>                               | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|                                                                                | products<br>1.6 Record outcomes of trials and incorporate into business plans<br>1.7 Develop and implement biodynamic production plan according to biodynamic principles and organic farming strategies                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 2. Make and apply biodynamic field spray preparations                          | 2.1 Formulate, manufacture and store biodynamic field spray preparations<br>2.2 Agitate preparations to ensure homogeneity<br>2.3 Select and prepare equipment for application of biodynamic preparation<br>2.4 Calibrate and adjust equipment for application rate according to workplace and industry standards<br>2.5 Apply preparations according to biodynamic principles                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 3. Use biodynamic compost preparations, composts and liquid brews              | 3.1 Use and store biodynamic compost preparations according to biodynamic principles<br>3.2 Identify materials and mineral inputs for compost formulae from farm production plan and soil analysis<br>3.3 Construct compost according to formulation and biodynamic standards<br>3.4 Apply biodynamic preparations to compost according to biodynamic industry standards<br>3.5 Monitor conditions of compost to ensure anticipated decomposition according to workplace procedures and biodynamic standards<br>3.6 Apply compost to enhance natural cycles |
| 4. Apply biodynamic principles and techniques to enhance soil and plant health | 4.1 Plan crop production activities and schedule according to moon rhythms and planetary patterns<br>4.2 Optimise soil and plant health using biodynamic products and processes<br>4.3 Monitor crops for weeds and pests in enterprise<br>4.4 Identify weeds and pests and evaluate options for their control<br>4.5 Develop, document and implement plan for managing pests and weeds                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 5. Manage livestock                                                            | 5.1 Optimise soil and plant health to provide a nutrient-dense and                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| within a biodynamic production system            | balanced diet<br>5.2 Develop and incorporate grazing and feeding strategies into biodynamic system<br>5.3 Incorporate homeopathic remedies and treatments into livestock health strategies according to biodynamic and organic farming principles<br>5.4 Implement enterprise livestock welfare policies |

## Foundation Skills

*This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.*

| Skill    | Description                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reading  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Critically analyse biodynamic principles, standards and certification procedures to ensure compliance when developing biodynamic production systems</li> </ul> |
| Writing  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Write, proofread and edit biodynamic management plans to ensure clarity of meaning, accuracy and consistency of information</li> </ul>                         |
| Numeracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Apply mathematical skills for accurately preparing treatments to a formula and for scheduling and analysing biodynamic management outcomes</li> </ul>          |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version            | Code and title previous version           | Comments                                                                                                                      | Equivalence status |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| AHCORG409<br>Manage biodynamic production | AHCORG401<br>Manage biodynamic production | Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria, Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions for | Equivalent         |

| Code and title<br>current version | Code and title<br>previous version | Comments                                       | Equivalence status |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
|                                   |                                    | brevity and clarity<br>Foundation Skills added |                    |

## Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>