



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for  
AHCPCM406 Develop a soil health and  
plant nutrition program**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for AHPCPM406 Develop a soil health and plant nutrition program

## Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0.

## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has developed a soil health and plant nutrition program on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety, and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- accessed and analysed information on regional site factors
- assessed the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of soils
- assessed the physical, nutritional and health requirements of plants
- developed a soil, plant and water testing program
- researched and analysed findings on plant nutritional requirements, nutrients available from soils and other growth media, and environmental implications of program
- developed a program to achieve appropriate soil conditions and nutrient availability for plant growth, incorporating a soil health and plant nutrition plan
- selected suitable management practices, soil amendments, additives and fertilisers
- negotiated, budgeted and documented soil health and plant nutrition plans
- communicated plans, site procedures and schedules to staff
- monitored soil health and plant nutrition program.

## Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- principles and practices of soil health and plant nutrition, including:
  - characteristics of soil and other growth media types, their uses and additives to enhance available nutrition for specific plants
  - main simple and compound fertiliser products available to workplace, including analysis, solubility, salt index, application rates and costs

- methods of nutrient uptake by plants, and favourable conditions for effective uptake to occur
- nutrients and water required by plants grown within workplace, and effects of nutrient deficiency and toxicity on individual plant species and varieties
- visual and other symptoms of nutrient deficiency and toxicity on individual plant species and varieties
- organic matter, pest and disease, and nutrient interactions in soil and nutrient cycling
- types of relationships between soil and growth media characteristics and availability of nutrients to plants, including macro and micro elements
- types of site evaluation techniques, and methods of sampling and analysing soils and other growth media
- soil amendments commonly required to treat soil problems experienced by the workplace
- workplace health and safety and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - site and climate data, and environmental context information relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
  - industry publications and internet sources of information relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
- specifications:
  - workplace health and safety and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
- relationships:
  - staff, suppliers, contractors, appropriate personnel and management
- timeframes:
  - according to job requirements.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

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