

# RTC3401A

## Unit Descriptor

### Unit Sector

## Control weeds

Control weeds

No sector assigned

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Assess weed infestation	1.1 Scope and size of the infestation is assessed 1.2 <b>Weeds and beneficial organisms</b> are identified and reported or recorded in field notes 1.3 Levels of weed infestations tolerated by the client, market or environment are identified from the Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy 1.4 Infestation levels, about which plant health or growth objectives are compromised are identified 1.5 Professional advice is obtained as required according to enterprise guidelines
2. Plan the implementation of control measures	2.1 <b>Control measures</b> suitable for the infestation are selected from Integrated Pest Management strategy 2.2 <b>Tools, equipment and machinery</b> are selected from Integrated Pest Management strategy 2.3 <b>Occupational Health and Safety hazards</b> are identified, risks assessed, controls implemented and reported to the supervisor 2.4 Suitable safety equipment and <b>Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)</b> are selected, used, maintained and stored 2.5 Control measures selected need to be in full consideration of <b>environmental implications</b>
3. Implement control measures	3.1 Enterprise work team, contractors and Integrated Pest Management product suppliers are coordinated in a sequential, timely and effective manner in consultation with the supervisor 3.2 Control measures are implemented according to the <b>Integrated Pest Management standards</b> or industry Code of Practice 3.3 Implementation of Integrated Pest Management activities is undertaken according to <b>Occupational Health and Safety requirements</b> 3.4 A <b>clean and safe work area</b> is maintained throughout and on completion of each work activity 3.5 <b>Records</b> are maintained as required by legislation and enterprise guidelines
4. Monitor control methods	4.1 Control methods are monitored to identify side effects to other plants, animals or external environment 4.2 Effectiveness of control methods are assessed in reference to specified industry and enterprise standards 4.3 Adjustments to Integrated Pest Management control methods are implemented where necessary to meet enterprise specifications

## KEY COMPETENCIES

What processes should be applied to this competency standard? There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life, which are required in all jobs. They are fundamental processes and generally transferable to other work functions. Some of these are covered by the key competencies, although others may be added. The questions below highlight how these processes are applied in this competency standard. Following each question a number in brackets indicates the level to which the key competency needs to be demonstrated where 0 = not required, 1 = perform the process, 2 = perform and administer the process and 3 = perform, administer and design the process.

Key Competency	Example of Application	Performance Level
Communicating ideas and information	Written, oral and telecommunications of ideas and information relating to Integrated Pest Management implementation, activities and problems encountered will be required with the supervisor, work group, contractors or consultants	2
Collecting analysing and organising information	Enterprise work procedures and Integrated Pest Management program should be consulted, interpreted and applied to coordinate weed control activities with further clarification sought from the supervisor, contractors or consultants where necessary	2
Planning and organising activities	For the work group, contractors and self will be planned prior to and adjusted during implementation of the Integrated Pest Management program	3
Working with others and in teams	Implementation of the Integrated Pest Management program will involve facilitating and leading members of a team to complete Integrated Pest Management activities, and meet Integrated Pest Management standards and specifications on time and budget	2
Using mathematical ideas and techniques	Will be required to implement the spatial and logistical and quantitative requirements of the Integrated Pest Management program	2
Solving problems	Site contingencies, personnel difficulties and control and timeline failure may require problem-solving techniques	3
Using technology	To access and apply Integrated Pest Management specifications to work activities, undertake Integrated Pest Management activities, communicate and keep records	3

## RANGE STATEMENT

Weeds	<p>may include those which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• present a potential risk for the enterprise, industry or environment</li><li>• are notifiable to authorities</li><li>• are part of a local, regional, State or national strategy</li></ul>
Beneficial organisms	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• volunteer or cultivated plants that out-compete the weed, insects and other non-vertebrates, and micro-organisms that attack the weed</li></ul>
Control measures	<p>employed as part of an Integrated Pest Management program may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• targeted chemical application</li><li>• the application of non-chemical controls including<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• organically or naturally ingredient based sprays</li><li>• controlled release of predatory organisms</li></ul></li><li>• the application of cultural control methods including removal and disposal of weeds</li></ul>
Tools, equipment and machinery	<p>required may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• standard horticultural tools such as<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• gardening implements</li><li>• mechanised and manually operated spray applicators and cultivators</li><li>• tractor and trailed equipment may be required</li></ul></li><li>• monitoring equipment for the implementation of an Integrated Pest Management program may include<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• insect traps</li><li>• soil</li><li>• fertiliser and plant tissue test kits</li><li>• sampling equipment</li></ul></li></ul>
Occupational Health and Safety hazards	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• chemicals and hazardous substances</li><li>• manual handling</li><li>• operating machinery tools and equipment</li><li>• noise</li><li>• dust</li><li>• solar radiation</li><li>• falls and tripping</li></ul>

Personal Protective Equipment	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• hat</li><li>• boots</li><li>• overalls</li><li>• gloves</li><li>• goggles</li><li>• respirator or face mask</li><li>• hearing protection</li><li>• sunscreen lotion</li></ul>
Environmental implications	<p>associated with controlling weeds may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• beneficial environmental impacts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• where reduced and informed targeting of chemicals, fertilisers and water to the site and recycling within the system, result in minimal escape of contaminants to the external environment</li><li>• beneficial impacts may also result from improved production, healthier ecosystems, more efficient water and nutrient utilisation and reduced weed numbers</li></ul></li><li>• detrimental environmental impacts may arise where<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Integrated Pest Management activities produce excess noise, dust or water, or the systems do not function effectively because of inadequate implementation techniques</li></ul></li></ul>
Integrated Pest Management Standards	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• those established by registered industry associations</li><li>• clients or markets of the enterprise</li><li>• land management agencies or quality assurance program</li></ul>
Occupational Health and Safety requirements	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• identifying hazards, assessing risks and implementing controls</li><li>• cleaning, maintaining and storing tools, equipment and machinery</li><li>• appropriate use, maintenance and storage of Personal Protective Equipment including<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• sun protection</li><li>• safe operation of tools</li><li>• equipment and machinery</li></ul></li><li>• safe handling</li><li>• use and storage of chemicals</li><li>• organically based materials and hazardous substances</li><li>• correct manual handling</li><li>• basic first aid</li><li>• safety procedures for protection of others</li><li>• personal hygiene</li><li>• reporting problems to supervisors</li></ul>

Clean and safe work area	<p>may include tasks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• disabling unused tools, equipment and machinery and storing neatly out of the way of Integrated Pest Management activities</li><li>• correct storage of personal protective equipment</li><li>• safely storing materials on site, and swiftly and efficiently removing and processing debris and waste from the work area</li></ul>
Records applied to controlling weeds	<p>may include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• types of weeds and beneficial organisms present</li><li>• numbers of weeds and beneficial organisms present</li><li>• treatments applied</li><li>• date of application</li><li>• application rates</li><li>• success of treatment</li><li>• economic thresholds</li></ul>
The sport and recreation industry	<p>covers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• industry sectors of community recreation, fitness, outdoor recreation and sport</li><li>• significant roles played by activity organisations, industry peak bodies, professional organisations</li><li>• large volunteer base</li><li>• high turnover of volunteers</li><li>• high levels of part time and casual employment</li><li>• irregular working hours</li><li>• relatively few professional positions</li><li>• workforce employed mostly in operational positions</li><li>• mainly small business or self-employed personnel</li><li>• slow to take up technology</li><li>• over 2/3 of the sport and recreation industry have no formal/recognised qualifications</li><li>• significant reliance upon industry credentials and involvement in the activity itself</li></ul>

## EVIDENCE GUIDE

### Critical aspects of evidence to be considered

- Assessment must confirm sufficient knowledge in controlling weeds
- Assessment of performance should be over a period of time covering all categories from the Range Statements applicable to the learner's environment
- In particular, assessment must confirm the ability to
  - observe the successfully planning, implementation and monitoring of weed control measures, according to enterprise guidelines and industry best practice
  - transfer the skills and knowledge required to control weeds to a different work environment, eg, this could include different weed species, enterprise situations and control methods

### Interdependent assessment of units

- This unit must be assessed after attainment of competency in the following unit(s)
  - Nil
- This unit must be assessed in conjunction with the following unit(s)
  - Nil
- For the purpose of integrated assessment, this unit may be assessed in conjunction with the following unit(s)
  - Nil

**Required knowledge and skills**

- Required knowledge
  - Weed recognition
  - Economic, aesthetic or environmental thresholds for a range of weeds
  - Chemical, biological and cultural control methods and treatments available to the enterprise within the parameters of an Integrated Pest Management program
  - Range and use of tools, equipment and machinery available to the enterprise for implementing the control measures
  - Range of site monitoring and analysis techniques that may be used to implement and Integrated Pest Management program
  - Association of Integrated Pest Management methods with site limitations, environmental implications, end market and horticultural objectives for the site
  - Occupational Health and Safety issues and legislative requirements associated with hazardous substances, regulations and Codes of Practice
  - Occupational Health and Safety responsibilities of employers and employees
  - Correct wearing/fit of personal protective equipment
- Required skills
  - Recognise a range of weeds and beneficial organisms within a particular enterprise
  - Communicate with work team members, supervisors, contractors and consultants
  - Utilise proforma reporting, analysis and work procedure documents
  - Understand Integrated Pest Management symbols and information
  - Interpret and apply Integrated Pest Management program spatial and logistical specifications
  - Correct fitting, cleaning and storage of personal protective equipment
  - Interpret and apply test results and calculate the quantities and application rates of control materials
  - Coordinate work group, contractors and own activities to sequentially and effectively complete Integrated Pest Management activities in a timely and cost effective manner

## Resource implications

- Physical resources - assessment of this competency requires access to
  - tools, equipment and machinery
  - personal protective equipment
  - appropriate documentation and resources normally used in the workplace
- Human resources - assessment of this competency will require human resources consistent with those outlined in the Assessment Guidelines. That is, assessors (or persons within the assessment team) should
  - be competent in this unit
  - be current in their knowledge and understanding of the industry through provision of evidence of professional activity in the relevant area
  - have attained the National Competency Standards for Assessment: BSZ401A, BSZ402A and BSZ403A

## Consistency in performance

- Competency in this unit must be assessed over a period of time in order to ensure consistency of performance over the Range Statements and contexts applicable to the work environment

## Context for assessment

- This unit of competency must be assessed in the context of a sport or recreation activity. For valid and reliable assessment the sport or recreation activity should closely replicate the work environment. The environment should be safe with the hazards, circumstances and equipment likely to be encountered in a real workplace
- Assessment of this unit of competence will usually include observation of processes and procedures, oral and/or written questioning on required knowledge and skills and consideration of required attitudes
- Where performance is not directly observed and/or is required to be demonstrated over a "period of time" and/or in a "number of locations", any evidence should be authenticated by colleagues, supervisors, clients or other appropriate persons

## Essential Assessment Information

There is **essential information about assessing this competency standard for consistent performance and where and how it may be assessed** , in the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package. All users of these competency standards must have **access** to the **Assessment Guidelines** . Further advice may also be sought from the relevant **sector booklet** .