



Australian Government

AHCBAC310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

Release: 1

AHCBA310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to maintain pastures and crops for livestock production.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, work health and safety and biosecurity legislation and codes, and sustainability practices.

Operating machinery carries risk and candidates should observe all enterprise and manufacturer's requirements.

This unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for own work including limited responsibility for the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources and complete routine activities.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil.

Unit Sector

Broad acre cropping (BAC)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Monitor & assess agricultural pasture and crop condition, growth	1.1 Monitor pasture and crop growth, nutrient status and health regularly and record observations 1.2 Report deviation from expected growth and vigour

Element	Performance criteria
and requirements	1.3 Identify, monitor and report weeds, pests and diseases 1.4 Monitor soil fertility and plant nutrition where required 1.5 Follow directions to establish sites for regular measurement of soil moisture where required. 1.6 Measure moisture levels and calculate soil water percentage using soil probe or other measuring tools 1.7 Report observations of pasture and crop ripening to manager to determine the timing of harvest
2. Undertake pasture and crop health operations	2.1 Identify work health and safety hazards and implement appropriate controls 2.2 Select, use and maintain appropriate personal protective equipment 2.3 Contribute to an Integrated pest and plant health strategy to address pasture / crop health and growth issues 2.4 Select and use equipment to apply treatments where required 2.5 Follow label instructions and any specialist advice 2.6 Apply specialist sprays appropriately for growth stages 2.7 Apply technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations 2.8 Conduct any required chipping or spot spraying 2.9 Assess, record and report pasture and crop growth stages and keys 2.10 Apply water as required in irrigated situations 2.11 Consider adverse environmental impacts when performing all applications
3. Complete cleaning and hygiene operations	3.1 Clean and maintain equipment appropriately 3.2 Dispose of all containers, leftover fluids, waste and debris from the maintenance and servicing work appropriately 3.3 Follow enterprise biosecurity procedures 3.4 Complete all required records and documentation appropriately
4. Implement grazing strategies	4.1 Contribute to an integrated pest management program using livestock to conduct stubble and fallow weed control 4.2 Implement appropriate grazing program to maintain pasture and crop production for grazing 4.3 Respond to changes in quantity and quality of available pasture and crop with appropriate grazing management

Foundation Skills

Foundation Skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Range of Conditions

Unit Mapping Information

New unit - no equivalent.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCBA310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence that they can:

- detect differences and variations in pasture and crop growth
- report/communicate such differences to the supervisor/farm owner
- observe and report on health, nutrition and growth of the pasture and crop
- monitor pests and disease in pastures and crops
- assess pastures and crop maturity
- apply sprays and fertilizers as directed
- measure soil moisture and relate data to crop requirements
- apply technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations
- monitor the productivity and feed intake of grazing livestock
- assess the impact of grazing on pasture and crop productivity
- follow enterprise work health and safety and animal welfare policies and procedures.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- potential hazards associated with the operation of basic tools, equipment and machinery
- general machine maintenance procedures
- machinery operating principles and safe operating methods
- role of technology in improving efficiency
- environmental impacts associated with the operation of machinery and equipment
- organisation recording and reporting procedures
- symptoms of pasture and crop lacking health and vigour
- signs of pest and disease infestation, moisture stress and nutrient deficiencies
- hygiene requirements for equipment that comes into contact with the pastures and crops

- types and uses of herbicides, insecticides and other pesticides and alternative pest control methods (non-chemical)
- work health and safety and pesticides, legislation
- different livestock grazing habits
- enterprise sustainability practices.

Assessment Conditions

Competency is to be assessed in the workplace or simulated environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting.

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs.

Links

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