



Australian Government

AHCBAC318 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

Release: 1

AHCBC318 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Release 11.0.

Application

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

The unit applies to individuals who maintain pastures and crops for livestock production under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Broad Acre Cropping (BAC)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Monitor and assess agricultural pasture and crop condition, growth and requirements	1.1 Monitor pasture and crop growth, nutrient status and health, and record observations 1.2 Report deviation from expected growth and vigour 1.3 Identify, monitor and report weeds, pests and diseases

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	1.4 Monitor soil fertility and plant nutrition 1.5 Establish sites for regular measurement of soil moisture as directed 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 supervisor or farm owner to determine the timing of harvest
2. Undertake pasture and crop health operations	2.1 Identify hazards and risks, and implement safe working practices to manage risks 2.2 Select, fit, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE) applicable to the task 2.3 Contribute to an integrated pest and plant health strategy to address pasture and crop health and growth issues 2.4 Select and use equipment to apply treatments where required 2.5 Follow label instructions and specialist advice 2.6 Apply specialist sprays appropriately for growth stages where required 2.7 Apply technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations 2.8 Conduct chipping or spot spraying according to workplace procedures where required 2.9 Assess, record and report pasture and crop growth stages and keys 2.10 Apply water as required in irrigated situations 2.11 Identify environmental risks associated with applying treatments, assess likely outcomes and take appropriate action to minimise risks
3. Complete cleaning and hygiene operations	3.1 Clean, maintain and store tools, equipment and PPE 3.2 Dispose of or recycle unwanted materials, containers, leftover fluids, waste and debris from maintenance and servicing work according to environmental practices 3.3 Follow workplace biosecurity procedures 3.4 Complete records and documentation according to workplace procedures 3.5 Report work activities, and faulty and unserviceable tools, equipment and PPE to supervisor or farm owner

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
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

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	Identify and interpret workplace documentation to identify relevant and key information about pasture and crop production activities
Oral communication	- Use clear language to report work activities and malfunctions, faults, wear or damage to tools and equipment - Respond to questions and clarify information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCBC318 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production	AHCBC310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production	Minor changes to application Minor changes to elements and performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

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

Assessment Requirements for AHCBA318 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production

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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 maintained pastures and crops for livestock production on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety and environment and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- recognised and reported workplace health and safety hazards and used safe work practices
- detected and reported differences and variations in pasture and crop growth to the supervisor or farm owner
- observed and reported on health, nutrition and growth of the pasture and crop
- monitored pests and disease in pastures and crops
- assessed pastures and crop maturity
- applied sprays and fertilizers as directed
- measured soil moisture and related data to crop requirements
- applied technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations
- monitored the productivity and feed intake of grazing livestock
- assessed the impact of grazing on pasture and crop productivity.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production, including appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices relevant to maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
- principles and practices for maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production, including:

- 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 pastures and crops 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 non-chemical pest control methods
- different livestock grazing habits.

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:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures applicable to maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
 - tools, equipment and materials applicable to maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
 - PPE applicable to maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
 - environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices applicable to maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
 - industry standards, legislation and codes of practice and procedures for maintaining pastures and crops for livestock production
- relationships:
 - supervisor or farm owner
- time frames:
 - 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.

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