



Australian Government

AHCBAC401 Manage pastures for livestock production

Release: 1

AHCBA401 Manage pastures 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 manage pastures 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.

This unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for own work and for the quality of the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

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. Develop a pasture management program	1.1 Assess pasture types on property and seasonal production potential and limitations 1.2 Confirm or modify livestock production and enterprise objectives to develop production targets achievable by each pasture type 1.3 Assess grazing and rest period requirements of pasture types for pasture quality, quantity and persistence considerations 1.4 Assess nutrient requirements for pastures to determine appropriate

Element	Performance criteria
	fertiliser and soil ameliorant program 1.5 On properties / paddocks with irrigation, determine appropriate irrigation schedules for each soil and pasture type using assessed water requirements, rainfall, Readily Available Water and evapo-transpiration data 1.6 Identify and plan grazing and fodder conservation strategies 1.7 Determine infrastructure and resources required to support grazing management 1.8 Identify and account for budgetary constraints appropriately 1.9 Develop appropriate pasture management program 1.10 Identify hazards in pasture management and assess risks
2. Implement pasture management program	1.1 Identify work health and safety hazards and implement controls 1.2 Monitor pasture capacity appropriately 1.3 Implement planned strategic grazing to reduce or eradicate areas of weed infestation and maintain ground cover 1.4 Determine fertiliser and soil ameliorant applications and rates appropriate to pasture type, soil analysis and production targets, and applied accordingly 1.5 On properties / paddocks with irrigation, monitor soil moisture and schedule watering 1.6 Apply technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations 1.7 Develop and implement appropriate processes to minimise waste, soil degradation and environmental impacts
3. Monitor pasture growth and fodder production	3.1 Determine longer term trends in weed, pest and disease incidence and implement any identified changes to control measures 3.2 Monitor soil structure and risks of erosion, determine changes to cultural practices, grazing management and drainage to improve soil quality 3.3 On properties with irrigation, check and maintain irrigation and drainage systems 3.4 Monitor grazing management to ensure sustainable pasture and optimal livestock production levels 3.5 Identify feed surpluses and deficiencies and rectify appropriately 3.6 Monitor pasture maturity and conduct seed harvesting to meet any marketing and production targets
4. Review production level	4.1 Monitor pasture yields and evaluate against forecast production levels 4.2 Evaluate grazing programs for sustainability of the land and pasture resource, and livestock profitability 4.3 Collect and maintain physical and financial records of production

Element	Performance criteria
	for analysis and evaluation of production performance

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Unit Mapping Information

This unit is equivalent to AHCBA401A Manage pastures for livestock production.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>