



**Australian Government**

# **AHCBAC506 Manage the harvest of crops**

**Release: 1**

# AHCBC506 Manage the harvest of crops

## Modification History

| Release | TP Version | Comment         |
|---------|------------|-----------------|
| 1       | AHCv1.0    | Initial release |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to manage the harvest of crops.

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

Harvesting crops carries risk of fire. All harvesting activities shall be conducted appropriate to relevant regulations, legislation and guidelines as determined by the relevant fire authority.

This unit applies to individuals who demonstrate deep knowledge in a specific technical area, take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They organise the work of self and others and analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.

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. Determine crop quality                 | 1.1 Assess the potential crop yield using measurements made in the field<br>1.2 Test and assess the potential quality of the crop using quality parameters before harvest |

| Element                                              | Performance criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                      | 1.3 Estimate the value of each crop using the measurements taken and assessments made before harvest                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2. Determine crop readiness                          | 2.1 Refer pre-harvest samples to the laboratory or marketing agent to determine the potential quality of the crop<br>2.2 Monitor weather patterns estimate the rate of ripening<br>2.3 Monitor crop maturity and estimate when the crop will be at its optimum and harvest commencement<br>2.4 Assess the incidence of pests and determine the requirement for, and the type of, pre-harvest treatment<br>2.5 Select pre-harvest treatments to ensure that the crop meets market requirements<br>2.6 Ensure adherence to all work health and safety and environmental requirements throughout the application of pre-harvest treatments                                                                                                                                   |
| 3. Assess the need for insurance                     | 3.1 Confirm any commitments to insure the crop<br>3.2 Estimate the crop value<br>3.3 Insure the crop, if appropriate<br>3.4 Analyse, assess and implement appropriate strategies to manage financial risk                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 4. Plan harvest strategy                             | 4.1 Estimate the appropriate harvest commencement date and the time span<br>4.2 Calculate equipment and labour resources required for harvest from the size of the crop and harvest time limitations<br>4.3 Analyse equipment and labour resources required against those available within the enterprise, and determine the amount of labour and equipment to be contracted<br>4.4 Assess technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations<br>4.5 Plan for and order any equipment preparation required prior to harvest<br>4.6 Plan application of required pre-harvest pest control treatments appropriately<br>4.7 Determine and arrange required licenses, permits and notifications<br>4.8 Determine and describe the order of the harvest in the plan |
| 5. Plan for work health and safety hazard management | 5.1 Communicate with all harvesting personnel and ensure awareness of work health and safety hazards that may be present, their responsibilities for action, and the systems that are in place to deal with such hazards<br>5.2 Implement suitable controls to reduce work health and safety hazard risks<br>5.3 Monitor, identify and assess work health and safety hazards at                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

| Element                                                   | Performance criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                           | each stage of the harvesting process                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 6. Plan for fire prevention and control                   | 6.1 Evaluate the property and identify fire risks and hazards<br>6.2 Develop a fire prevention and control strategy that addresses the identified risks and hazards, including measures to be taken<br>6.3 Assess the fire prevention and control strategy, and the specific measures to be taken<br>6.4 Prepare appropriate fire breaks as identified in the strategy<br>6.5 Ensure that sufficient firefighting equipment meets appropriate fire authority standards or guidelines is available as prescribed in the strategy<br>6.6 Implement appropriate community fire control practices                                                       |
| 7. Decide on storage and delivery requirements            | 7.1 Allocate crop storage facilities, and plan and arrange for immediate delivery of the crop to packing sheds, the bulk handling system, or other purchasers<br>7.2 Ensure that silos, storage bins and other containers are located to enable efficient harvesting and transport operations<br>7.3 Identify any work health and safety hazards from silo operation and implement risk minimisation practices<br>7.4 Plan storage for flexible marketing and distribution initiatives<br>7.5 Evaluate resources required for crop transport, engage contractors where required<br>7.6 Identify strategies and resources to dry crops appropriately |
| 8. Manage harvest operations                              | 8.1 Ensure harvest plan is adhered to<br>8.2 Ensure adherence to all work health and safety and environmental requirements<br>8.3 Monitor harvest operations to ensure efficient and timely completion<br>8.4 Monitor crop quality against the harvesting plan as the crop is harvested and segregate into the various marketing grades<br>8.5 Store each crop grade as determined by the harvesting plan<br>8.6 Implement enterprise biosecurity policies                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 9. Record production level and review cropping strategies | 9.1 Maintain appropriate records of production for analysis and evaluation of production performance<br>9.2 Monitor and evaluate crop yields against forecast production levels                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

## 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 AHCBA506A Manage the harvest of crops.

## 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 AHCBA506 Manage the harvest of crops

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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:

- plan and implement harvesting operations, including amendment of these during the operation itself
- organise and schedule the maintenance of plant and equipment
- establish processes or strategies, procedures and controls for crop harvesting
- demonstrate correct use of technology to improve efficiency
- interpret, analyse and extract information from a range of sources and discussions
- assess potential yields
- negotiate and arrange contracts and agreements
- explain, and deliver instructions about the plans and scheduling of the harvest operations to both staff and contractors, as well as suppliers, customers, and neighbours
- observe, identify and react appropriately to environmental implications and work health and safety hazards
- estimate crop yield and value and monitor for harvest readiness
- plan for the resources that will be required for harvest
- negotiate insurance and equipment supply contracts
- develop risk management procedures for work health and safety, climate and fire risk
- organise for the logistics of the harvesting operation including harvesting, storage and delivery
- keep grain batches separate and monitor for pests or spoilage
- implement work health and safety policies in the context of the work team
- implement enterprise biosecurity policies
- implement enterprise environmental sustainability practices.

## Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- capability and use of harvesting equipment
- role of technology in improving efficiency
- crop measurement techniques and parameters
- market information and sources
- contracting requirements for crop insurance
- management of the moisture content of crops, including drying and aeration
- storage options and local storage availability
- bushfire prevention and control legislation
- bushfire prevention and control strategies and equipment
- contact details for local fire services
- weather conditions which may affect the harvest
- relevant legislation and regulations relating to WHS, contractor engagement, chemical use and application, and vehicle and plant use
- environmental controls and codes of practice applicable to the business and to the harvesting operations
- sound management practices and processes to minimise noise, odours, and debris from the harvesting operations
- enterprise biosecurity policies and environmental 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.

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