



Australian Government

AHCCSW304 Identify Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culturally significant plants

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to observe, record and report on the presence of plants of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural significance against criteria provided by a supervisor or as required under legislation, regulations, and/or community protocols. On Country refers to the land, waterways and the sea.

The unit involves the recognition of plants of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander significance that are commonly encountered in land management situations and covers knowledge of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plant identification techniques, local plant names and Community and organisational procedures for obtaining and supplying advice and information about plants. It also involves Community or organisational expectations about the range and number of plants to be recognised.

The unit has a particular focus on culturally significant Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plants, management and conservation.

This unit applies to the identification and recording of indigenous plants, local bushland and bush foods on Country. The unit applies to working with lore/law men and women either as an autonomous worker or under the appropriate supervision and Cultural Authority of Traditional Owners or Elders for specific Country. An explanation of the differences between lore and law and why both are important is available in the Implementation Guide.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

AHCOCM303 Follow Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols

Unit Sector

Cultural Sites Work (CSW)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare for plant recognition	1.1 Recognise range of plants and plant species according to predetermined criteria, and job or client needs 1.2 Work in partnership with local Community and organisations 1.3 Identify and locate resources required for use in recognition activity 1.4 Research potential for rare and endangered plant species in survey area 1.5 Implement processes for plant recognition, including consultation and seeking approval from relevant local Cultural Authorities 1.6 Investigate and document Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) principles in relation to local knowledge and cultural protocols 1.7 Identify safety hazards and apply work health and safety procedures
2. Identify specified culturally significant plants	2.1 Name specified plants according to their identifiable characteristics and by their local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander name 2.2 Determine and record plant habits, characteristics and significant features according to organisational requirements 2.3 Seek advice from Cultural Authorities or supervisors when necessary and where appropriate in the recognition activity
3. Survey and record identification of culturally significant plants in a specified area	3.1 Survey site and record location of plants using maps and grid references 3.2 Record cultural uses and significance of specified plants 3.3 Document information about plants, and add to reference collection according to organisational requirements 3.4 Update reference collection if new plants are recognised 3.5 Record rare or endangered plant species in location if present 3.6 Utilise appropriate disposal techniques for plant debris if specimen collection is necessary 3.7 Apply environmentally sustainable practices for carrying out observation activities to minimise degradation and disturbance 3.8 Record areas requiring restoration and re-establishment of

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	culturally significant plants 3.9 Follow workplace health and safety policies and procedures for carrying out survey activities
4. Identify local bushland and/or bush foods and their uses	4.1 Record the relationship between local foods, physical wellbeing and the land in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culture 4.2 Locate and gather information from a range of sources about access to bush foods 4.3 Identify and record local plants using their common, scientific and cultural names 4.4 Identify and record cultural uses of available bush resources for food and medicine 4.5 Identify and record land management practices with respect to conservation of species
5. Identify and report potential threats to culturally significant plants and implement and monitor strategies for restoration	5.1 Identify and record invasive flora and fauna species if present in survey area 5.2 Report location of invasive flora and fauna species 5.3 Develop strategies in partnership with local Community and organisations to support restoration and re-establishment of culturally significant plants 5.4 Assist in the implementation of restoration and re-establishment strategies with local Community and organisations 5.5 Work in partnership with local Community and organisations to monitor and evaluate strategies

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	- Interpret and extract key information from a range of sources - Read maps and grid references to determine location of culturally significant plants

Skill	Description
Oral communication	Use culturally appropriate verbal and non-verbal communication

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCCSW304 Identify Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culturally significant plants	AHCASW304 Identify Indigenous culturally significant plants	Updated title Application updated Elements and Performance Criteria revised for clarity Foundation Skills added Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions updated	Not 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 AHCCSW304 Identify Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culturally significant plants

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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 identified Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culturally significant plants at least once and has:

- researched and recorded potential threats from invasive flora and fauna
- documented observations in required format, according to local Community and organisational needs
- carried out survey activities, applying methods to minimise disturbance to the area
- demonstrated adherence to Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property (ICIP) principles
- explained and/or demonstrated uses of plants for food and medicine with permission from local Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Communities
- collected plant specimens according to organisational requirements
- disposed of plant debris according to organisational processes
- supported the implementation of strategies to restore and re-establish areas for culturally significant plants
- utilised available resources and equipment to recognise culturally significant plants accurately
- read map and grid references to identify locations of plants including invasive flora and fauna species
- supported local Communities in monitoring restoration and re-establishment activities
- used standard industry terminology and local Community names for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plants
- applied work health and safety practices in the context of own work.

Knowledge Evidence

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

- criteria used to categorise plant species

- common and scientific names of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plants
- biological species occurring in the designated area
- the importance, value or potential impact of the species in a designated area
- the potential impact of invasive species in a local area
- rare and endangered species that may be present in the designated area
- plant identification techniques and plant names used by organisation
- collection of specimens and disposal of plant debris according to legislation and/or sustainability requirements
- methods used to minimise disturbance and degradation of a site including:
 - soil erosion
 - sediment control
 - vegetation disturbance
 - limiting human and mechanical interaction
- reading maps and recording grid references
- measures associated with organisational sustainability plans, including:
 - local government
 - state and federal environmental policies and legislation
- organisational expectations relating to the range and number of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plants to be recognised in the survey
- cultural protocols for obtaining and utilising information about Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander plants
- key concepts of ICIP principles
- nutritional and medicinal purposes of bushland and/or bush foods
- workplace health and safety policies and processes
- potential health benefits of plants used for medicines in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander culture
- land management and conservation techniques applicable to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander sites work.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on Country and/or within an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Community or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - plants
 - plant recognition resources and equipment
 - internet and field guide reference materials applicable to plant recognition
- specifications:

- specific legislation/codes of practice relevant to ICIP, land management and conservation
- relationships:
 - local Community Elders and/or Custodians.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:

- Assessment must be undertaken by a workplace assessor who has expertise in this unit of competency and who is:

an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Elder and/or Custodian or:

- accompanied by, and/or in communication with, an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander person who is a recognised member of the community with experience and knowledge of local cultural protocols.

Links

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