



Australian Government

AHCLSK428 Supervise animal health programs

Release: 1

AHCLSK428 Supervise animal health programs

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 supervise animal health programs.

The unit applies to individuals who apply specialist skills and knowledge to supervise animal health programs. This includes applying and communicating non-routine technical solutions to predictable and unpredictable problems.

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 animal welfare legislation, regulations, standards and guidelines, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.

In addition to legal responsibilities, all units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort.

This unit applies to managers of animal production workplaces and covers the process of implementing and monitoring animal health programs.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
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Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Monitor and assess animal health	1.1 Conduct regular observations to assess animal health 1.2 Recognise and report symptoms of ill health and common diseases or parasite infestations 1.3 Sample and arrange testing for internal parasites or diseases where required 1.4 Seek veterinary advice for suspected disease outbreaks where required, according to biosecurity legislation and workplace procedures 1.5 Report notifiable diseases and comply with all restrictions and treatment requirements where required, according to biosecurity legislation and workplace procedures 1.6 Record animal health status 1.7 Identify hazards and assess risks in the workplace, and implement control measures to manage risks according to workplace health and safety procedures 1.8 Select, fit, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE), and maintain hygiene measures applicable to the task 1.9 Monitor and record animal welfare status according to legislation and workplace requirements 1.10 Dispose of deceased animals according to workplace requirements
2. Implement preventative health strategies	2.1 Identify risks to animal health, and source strategies from the production plan, relevant expert or specialist consultant where applicable 2.2 Develop and implement a vaccination program to control clostridial and other diseases 2.3 Identify livestock prone to internal parasite build-up and plan out the timing of treatments 2.4 Implement or research pest and disease control strategies according to pasture spelling and rotations of different classes of livestock 2.5 Plan an integrated approach to health treatments for animals 2.6 Use drenches, vaccines and other stock medications according to manufacturer instructions, and comply with withholding periods 2.7 Apply strategies to minimise parasite resistance to anthelmintics
3. Record and review the	3.1 Record treatments including batch numbers and date of expiry, and

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
animal health program	maintain an inventory of stock medicines according to regulations and workplace requirements 3.2 Record health issues and the results of tissue, organ and blood samples according to workplace procedures 3.3 Use records of health tests and animal health treatments, including animal production records, to review the animal health plan

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 textual and numerical information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about animal health program requirements
Writing	Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to prepare, record and report animal health program operations, processes, treatments and outcomes
Oral communication	Respond to questions, clarify information and seek advice

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK428 Supervise animal health programs	AHCLSK409 Supervise animal health programs	Minor changes to application Minor changes to elements and performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements	Equivalent

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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 AHCLSK428 Supervise animal health programs

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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 supervised animal health programs on at least one occasion, and has:

- implemented relevant workplace health and safety, and environment and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- monitored the health and wellbeing of animals
- detected possibility of disease through parameters such as loss of bodyweight, behaviour or length of time required to eat food
- recognised normal versus abnormal clinical symptoms
- recognised abnormal physiological and behavioural signs in livestock
- collected samples for testing for internal parasites and other diseases when applicable
- implemented preventative health strategies
- administered vaccines and medications to animals
- maintained records associated with animal health programs and treatments according to regulations and workplace requirements
- implemented relevant animal welfare policies and practices for supervising animal health programs.

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 supervising animal health programs
- environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices relevant to supervising animal health programs
- principles and practices for supervising animal health programs, including:
 - symptoms of common livestock diseases and parasite infestations

- storage conditions for a range of chemicals, including veterinary chemicals
- types of vaccines and how they work
- zoonotic diseases and their mode of transmission
- animal anatomy and physiology relevant to the collection of tissue, organ, blood and other biological samples in live and dead animals and the conduct of post-mortems
- management practices and processes to minimise noise, odours and debris from the livestock operations
- relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice relating to the use of veterinary medicines and animal diseases
- animal welfare requirements applicable to supervising animal health programs.

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 supervising animal health programs
 - equipment, materials and health treatments applicable to supervising animal health programs
 - livestock
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for supervising animal health programs
 - environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices applicable to supervising animal health programs
 - relevant legislation, regulations and codes of practice relating to the use of veterinary medicines and animal diseases
 - legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and procedures for animal welfare applicable to supervising animal health programs
- relationships:
 - veterinarian
- time frames:
 - according to job requirements.

Assessment of this unit must be conducted on live animals.

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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