



Australian Government

AHCMER406 Provide information on fertilisers and soil ameliorants

Release: 1

AHCMER406 Provide information on fertilisers and soil ameliorants

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide information on fertilisers and soil ameliorants.

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

This unit applies to employees in a sales role in an agricultural or horticultural support enterprise who provide information on fertilisers, soil ameliorants and related environmental information to primary producers

This unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable and sometimes unpredictable 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

Merchandising and Sales (MER)

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. Gather information on the requirements of the client	1.1 Identify basis of fertiliser or soil ameliorant requirement 1.2 Evaluate planned use of fertiliser or soil ameliorant against legislative requirements, local productivity and environmental

Element	Performance criteria
	guidelines and food safety regulations 1.3 Take individual soil, plant tissue and water samples for each customer 1.4 Provide customer with relevant sampling kits and advice on sampling procedures where appropriate
2. Provide information on nutrient management program	2.1 Provide information and referrals about the fertiliser and soil ameliorant products including work health and safety, biosecurity, food safety and environmental and sustainability issues inline with industry codes of practice and enterprise policies 2.2 Recommend use of nutrient management tools where necessary 2.3 Suggest changes to application method or timing if necessary 2.4 Research and update knowledge and understanding of fertilisers, soil, ameliorants and related products from authoritative sources 2.5 Research local enterprise and district requirements for fertilisers, soil, ameliorants and related products
3. Provide appropriate service or product	3.1 Refer customer to a specialist adviser if required 3.2 Provide customer with information regarding transporting, storing and handling fertiliser and soil ameliorants 3.3 Arrange transport, handling and storage of fertiliser and soil ameliorants where required 3.4 Supply fertiliser and soil ameliorants that meet legislative requirements and productivity, food safety, biosecurity and environmental guidelines 3.5 Record details of transaction

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 AHCMER406A Provide information on fertilisers and soil ameliorants.

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 AHCMER406 Provide information on fertilisers and soil ameliorants

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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:

- take soil, plant tissue and water samples
- use and explain use of nutrient management tools
- provide information on the relationship between soil types, water, crops, fertiliser and soil ameliorant use
- follow enterprise work health and safety policies
- follow enterprise biosecurity and sustainability policies

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- crop nutrient requirements - both macro and micro nutrients
- effect of soil ameliorants in dispersion and adjustment for acidity or alkalinity (pH)
- fertiliser and soil ameliorant application methods, including timing and frequency of fertiliser and soil ameliorant application to minimise losses
- fertiliser and soil ameliorants availability and relative costs
- industry production regimes and fertiliser practices
- sources of technical information
- major nutrient management risks of leach, run-off, load, blow, mine and how these impact on the environment
- nutrient management advisory tools and processes used by advisers in making a crop nutrition recommendation
- organisational work health and safety and environmental procedures, practices and policies in operating sampling equipment
- packaging and dispatch procedures for samples
- physical, chemical and biological properties related to a healthy soil and environment,

- sampling tools and methods, including soil, plant tissue and water tests; yield monitoring; and electrical conductivity survey
- impact of climate on soil productivity
- environmental impacts including soil structural decline, fertility decline, acidification and salinity, erosion, loss of organic matter, water quality, fertiliser and soil ameliorant impurities, and greenhouse gas emissions
- work health and safety legislation
- use, transport, handling and storage requirements of fertiliser and soil ameliorants in terms of legislation, codes of practice, environmental stewardship and human safety

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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