



**Australian Government**

# **AHCNSY308 Maintain nursery plants**

**Release: 1**

# AHCNSY308 Maintain nursery plants

## Modification History

| Release  | Comments                                                                                                                    |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor and maintain the nursery environment, determine water requirements and plant interventions that promote plant growth, and complete nursery plant maintenance work.

The unit applies to individuals who maintain nursery plants under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work.

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

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

## Unit Sector

Nursery (NSY)

## 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 to work                               | 1.1 Determine work requirements from workplace instructions<br>1.2 Identify potential hazards and risks, and implement safe working practices to manage risks<br>1.3 Select required materials, tools and equipment, and check for safe operation<br>1.4 Select, fit, use and maintain personal protective equipment applicable to the task |

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|                                                  | 1.5 Follow biosecurity practices applicable to maintaining plants                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 2. Monitor and maintain the nursery environment  | 2.1 Monitor environmental conditions against the needs of the plants<br>2.2 Adjust environmental controls to meet the needs of nursery plants<br>2.3 Check and operate irrigation system components according to manufacturer's specifications and desired application                                   |
| 3. Determine and apply daily water requirements  | 3.1 Determine water requirements according to plant needs and environmental conditions<br>3.2 Apply water to meet the needs of the plant                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 4. Promote plant growth by intervention          | 4.1 Monitor plant health and stage of growth according to end use<br>4.2 Undertake plant interventions as required                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 5. Complete work                                 | 5.1 Remove and dispose of waste according to workplace procedures<br>5.2 Clean and return tools and equipment to required location<br>5.3 Identify and report unserviceable tools and equipment according to workplace procedures<br>5.4 Record maintenance activities according to workplace procedures |

## 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            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify and interpret textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about nursery plant maintenance</li> </ul>                                             |
| Writing            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to prepare irrigation system component service records, and complete nursery plant maintenance activity records</li> </ul> |
| Oral communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use clear language to report tool and equipment unserviceability</li> </ul>                                                                                                                        |
| Numeracy skills    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculate daily water requirements</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                      |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title<br>current version       | Code and title<br>previous version      | Comments                                                                                                                                                 | Equivalence status |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| AHCNSY308<br>Maintain nursery<br>plants | AHCNSY301<br>Maintain nursery<br>plants | Minor changes to<br>application<br><br>Major changes to<br>performance criteria<br><br>Foundation skills added<br><br>Assessment requirements<br>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 AHCNSY308 Maintain nursery 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 maintained nursery plants on at least three occasions, and has:

- prepared for nursery plant maintenance activities according to workplace instructions
- applied workplace health and safety requirements, including use of PPE equipment
- selected, cleaned, used and maintained nursery plant maintenance tools and equipment
- applied workplace hygiene practices
- monitored and adjusted environmental conditions
- implemented plant maintenance activities according to workplace instructions
- serviced irrigation system components
- applied and monitored water according to plant needs and environmental conditions
- monitored plant health, and applied interventions as required
- recognised stages of plant growth
- removed and disposed of waste material
- recorded nursery plant maintenance activities and irrigation system service activities.

## 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:

- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for maintaining nursery plants
- principles and practices of nursery plant maintenance, including:
  - plant physiology as it applies to plant maintenance
  - symptoms of unhealthy nursery plants, likely causes and treatment options
  - effect of different pruning and intervention methods
  - effects of environmental conditions on plant growth

- best practice guidelines for nursery hygiene
- methods of calculating daily water needs
- optimum growing conditions for a range of plants in a nursery
- principles and operations of irrigation systems used in nurseries
- processes for modifying environmental conditions
- relationship between plant water needs and environmental conditions
- treatments required by plants at different growth stages
- irrigation system manufacturer specifications.

## 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:
  - nursery plants
  - nursery plant maintenance tools and equipment
  - irrigation system, tools and components
  - personal protective equipment applicable to nursery plant maintenance
- specifications:
  - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace and nursery plant maintenance
  - work instructions, workplace procedures, quality specifications and best practice guidelines for nursery hygiene applicable to nursery plant maintenance
  - irrigation system manufacturer specifications
- timeframes:
  - according to job requirements.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

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