



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCORG409 Manage biodynamic production

Release: 1

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Modification History

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

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, on at least one occasion, managed a farm using biodynamic production principles and has:

- developed goals and plans for a biodynamic or organic enterprise that must include personal, ecological and financial goals
- developed marketing plan that must address quality, integrity and ethical goals
- formulated, prepared, stored and applied biodynamic preparations, which must include:
 - horn manure (500)
 - horn silica (501)
 - horn clay preparations
 - compost
- monitored aeration, moisture and temperature of compost to ensure quality of decomposition
- enhanced soil and plant health, which must include:
 - application of biodynamic preparations
 - sowing and growing cover crops
 - using crop rotation strategies
 - using mulching and composting on soil
 - applying farm-based nutrient products
- identified, assessed and applied biodynamic controls for weeds and pests, which must include:
 - natural predators
 - life cycles of weeds and pests
 - cultural practices
 - soil health
 - plant community

- integrated and managed livestock in a biodynamic enterprise.

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:

- biodynamic production processes and practices, including:
 - animal production and welfare
 - biodynamic preparations and their role in soil food web and atmosphere
 - importance of biodiversity, fauna and native flora on biodynamic farms
 - calcium-clay-silica polarities
 - crop and animal rotation systems and manuring practices
 - cultivation methods
 - etheric and astral forces and how they relate to biodynamics
- strategies for planning and promoting an organic and biodynamic enterprise and its products
- setting up trials and testing procedures used to assess biodynamic methods and products
- quality standards applicable to biodynamic produce
- paradigms of various farming systems: biodynamics, organics and permaculture, and holistic management
- formulation, use and storage of biodynamic preparations, including the selection and use of materials and equipment
- scheduling and planting calendar for production
- relationship between soil, microbes, plant, animal and human health
- research in biodynamics principles and practices
- role of water in biodynamic and organic production and methods of water retention
- pests, diseases and pest plant management in an organic and biodynamic system
- principles, practices and inputs allowable under the National Standard for Organic and Bio-Dynamic Produce.

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 a biodynamic farm or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - tools and equipment used for managing biodynamic production
 - personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - workplace policies, procedures, processes

- biodynamic and organic industry standards and codes of practice
- timeframes:
 - according to etheric and astral forces.

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

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>