



Australian Government

AHCORG410 Manage organic livestock 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.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to integrate livestock production into an organic production system according to animal welfare and biosecurity legislation, national standards for organic and biodynamic production, and agroecological principles.

The unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others within known parameters, and use discretion and judgment in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Organic Production (ORG)

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 manage animal health and welfare	1.1 Investigate and consider natural behaviours, requirements and welfare of animals when planning for organic livestock production 1.2 Identify production requirements and environment of farm 1.3 Identify and select genetic varieties of animals best suited to production requirements and environment

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.4 Develop animal health management strategies for farm
2. Manage animal health and welfare	2.1 Communicate and implement animal health management strategy to work team 2.2 Monitor livestock for health and welfare 2.3 Manage livestock according to certified organic standards and biosecurity procedures 2.4 Conduct animal husbandry and transport according to animal welfare principles and organic certification requirements 2.5 Maintain livestock records required for organic certification
3. Develop and implement supplementary feed requirements	3.1 Identify feed gaps and requirements for supplementary feed, taking into account seasonal conditions and drought 3.2 Incorporate on-farm supplementary feed strategies, including fodder crops, agroforestry or standing hay paddocks, into the annual program for animal feed and on-farm sustainability 3.3 Implement good storage practices for feed inputs to ensure quality is maintained 3.4 Purchase and use nutritional inputs in the feed program that meet relevant Organic Standards and/or agroecological principles where applicable
4. Develop a sustainable grazing strategy	4.1 Determine feed requirements, carrying capacity and stocking rate for farm according to seasonal variability, livestock needs and sustainability requirements 4.2 Determine indicators and benchmarks for sustainable pasture, land and soil use for farm 4.3 Identify grazing infrastructure required according to planned grazing outcomes 4.4 Incorporate infrastructure requirements into farm improvement program 4.5 Develop a planned grazing system according to optimal livestock health, productivity and grazing requirements
5. Implement a sustainable grazing strategy	5.1 Optimise soil and plant health to provide a nutrient-dense and balanced diet for livestock 5.2 Implement and monitor grazing system to ensure productivity and sustainability

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	5.3 Implement strategies for controlling weeds in pastures according to Organic Standards and agroecological principles 5.4 Maintain records of grazing activity according to workplace procedures and Organic Standards
6. Manage farm fertility for the livestock enterprise	6.1 Estimate level of nutrients exported from farm 6.2 Implement soil fertility monitoring program 6.3 Manage soil nutrient levels and balance according to Organic Standards and agroecological principles 6.4 Eliminate risk of weed and chemical contamination of farm according to Organic Standards and agroecological principles 6.5 Maintain records of soil fertility according to workplace procedures and Organic Standards

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	Critically analyse organic production principles, standards and certification procedures to ensure compliance with organic livestock production
Writing	Develop procedural material for organic livestock production using clear industry specific language in order to convey explicit information for production requirements

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCORG410 Manage organic	AHCORG402 Manage organic	Minor changes to Application	Equivalent

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
livestock production	livestock production	Split, re-sequenced and made minor edits to Elements and Performance Criteria for clarity and improved structure Changes to Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions for clarity Foundation Skills added	

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 AHCORG410 Manage organic livestock production

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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, on at least one occasion, managed livestock production for an organic farm and has:

- monitored and maintained animals in an organic production system
- provided a suitable diet and living environment for animals according to Standards for Organic Livestock Production and agroecological principles
- integrated animals into an organic production system
- managed animal health and welfare
- managed grazing of animals to enhance soil health and fertility
- implemented enterprise environmental sustainability practices and organic standards.

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:

- organic standards and certification requirements
- organic agriculture and agroecological principles
- animal health, pests, parasites and diseases and their control
- relevant animal welfare code of practice
- grazing management, including:
 - pasture identification and assessment
 - feed budgeting
 - planned grazing strategies
- carrying capacity and sustainable pasture utilisation
- pasture, land and soil condition and indicators of fertility, including:
 - soil-testing
 - plant testing

- observation of plant growth
- management options for animal health based on an understanding of pest life cycles, genetic selection and acquired immunity
- permitted, restricted and prohibited inputs and activities for soil, plant and animal health as specified in the national standards for organic and biodynamic livestock production, including:
 - recycling
 - optimising nutrient availability in soil
 - sourcing fertility inputs
- work health and safety and animal welfare legislation and codes of practice.
- record-keeping practices for farm and organic certification.

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 an organic farm or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - tools, equipment and machinery used for organic livestock production
 - input materials and consumables
 - personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - workplace policies and procedures
 - manufacturer operating instructions for equipment and machinery
 - safety data sheets
 - workplace livestock production specifications
 - specific organic and biodynamic standards
- relationships:
 - team member.

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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