



Australian Government

AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan

Release: 1

AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to locate and access assistance, and design an organic management plan (OMP) or biodynamic management plan (BMP), develop soil fertility plan and soil, weed, integrated pest and disease, animal health and environmental sub-plan's and integrate and finalise the OMP or BMP.

The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge to the development of an OMP or BMP and take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They analyse and synthesise information and demonstrate deep knowledge in a specific technical area. They analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, health and safety in the workplace requirements, animal welfare and legislative and regulatory requirements, organic standards, sustainability and biosecurity practices.

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>

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. Locate and access assistance in developing the OMP or BMP	1.1 Locate and access sources of support and advice including agricultural extension officers and training programs 1.2 Assess industry publications for their value in informing decision making 1.3 Seek and consider contributions of work colleagues and others during planning process 1.4 Access information from certifier and relevant organic or biodynamic standards for planning requirements
2. Design the organic farming system to be described in the OMP or BMP	2.1 Develop or obtain map of property to be covered by the plan 2.2 Determine time scale to be addressed in plan 2.3 Collect information on soil fertility and management, and weed, pest, disease and animal health status and their interrelationships to serve as benchmarks for development of management options 2.4 Obtain regional catchment targets for land, water and biodiversity and identify those applicable to property and sub-catchment 2.5 Identify components of OMP or BMP that need to be developed 2.6 Develop suitable format for planning documents 2.7 Identify risks to organic integrity for the farm enterprise and outline strategies to manage these risks
3. Develop soil fertility plan	3.1 Undertake or commission a soil fertility assessment of farm production areas 3.2 Map soil types and topography on farm plan 3.3 Develop and document soil fertility plan that amends soil chemistry, soil structure and soil biology, based on assessment of soil test results, enterprise performance, overall budget and intended cropping/grazing regime 3.4 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles 3.5 Document plan according to established format
4. Develop soil management sub-plan	4.1 Determine suitability of land for production based on soil type, slope, aspect and previous use 4.2 Develop soil management plan to enhance soil structure and prevent compaction and water logging 4.3 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standard for

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles 4.4 Document sub-plan according to established format 4.5 Identify farm management practices and strategies that enhance soil fertility
5. Develop weed management sub-plan	5.1 Identify problematic weed species and observe weeds as an indicator of soil health 5.2 Identify life cycles of weeds species to inform management options 5.3 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles 5.4 Develop integrated farming strategies and cultural practices for managing weeds 5.5 Document sub-plan according to established format
6. Develop and design an integrated pest and disease management sub-plan	6.1 Collect and document evidence of pest and disease burden in farming system 6.2 Observe and monitor pests and diseases and their life cycles 6.3 Evaluate evidence of pest and disease burden to develop strategy for management 6.4 Evaluate pests, diseases and beneficial flora and fauna as indicators of farming system health 6.5 Identify options for addressing pest and disease issues, including improving soil health, cultural practices and system redesign 6.6 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles 6.7 Document sub-plan according to established format
7. Develop animal health and management sub-plan	7.1 Identify regional and farm-based animal health issues 7.2 Identify options for preventative actions aimed at establishing and maintaining optimal animal health 7.3 Identify options for treating animal health issues 7.4 Develop a sustainable grazing management plan that addresses feed requirements, stocking densities and meets regional catchment land and soil condition targets where applicable 7.5 Develop an animal management program that ensures compliance

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	to organic standards or agro-ecological principles 7.6 Document sub-plan according to established format
8. Develop an environmental management sub-plan	8.1 Identify environment and climate issues 8.2 Identify options for addressing environment and climate issues 8.3 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standards for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles 8.4 Document sub-plan according to established format
9. Integrate and finalise the OMP or BMP	9.1 Integrate sub-plans for soil fertility and management, and weed, pest, disease, animal health, and environmental management 9.2 Develop and implement record-keeping system to track various components of the plan as they are put into practice and reviewed 9.3 Review and update OMP or BMP annually noting any changes to farm practices

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	- Interpret information regarding the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles, and planning requirements - Identify and interpret information regarding soil fertility and management, and weed, pest, disease and animal health status - Identify and interpret information on regional catchment targets for land, water and biodiversity applicable to property and sub-catchment
Oral communication	Initiate discussions with work colleagues and others, using clear language to plan and communicate plan
Numeracy	- Access and analyse data for input to OMP or BMP - Document time scale and costs of implemented strategy
Navigate the world of	Identify and describe own workplace requirements associated with

Skill	Description
work	own role and area of responsibility
Interact with others	Use appropriate language and communication skills to disseminate information within work team

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan	AHCORG501 Develop an organic management plan	Title updated Performance criteria clarified Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Equivalent unit

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 AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0.

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 developed two biodynamic or organic management plans on at least two different occasions and has:

- identified and developed required components of an organic management plan (OMP) or biodynamic management plan (BMP) for a property
- identified and used interrelationships between soil, plant, animal health and environmental management and farming system's resilience when developing plan
- identified options for prevention and treatment of risks
- applied appropriate regional catchment targets
- documented the plan in compliance with certification standard requirements.

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:

- principles of organic agriculture, especially fundamental role of soil health
- principles of sustainable production
- requirements and components of an OMP and BMP
- organic and biodynamic certification standard requirements.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represent workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - industry publications relevant to OMP or BMP
 - OMP or BMP certifier information

- map of property
- farm production area soil fertility assessment
- specifications:
 - National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles
- relationships:
 - work colleagues
- timeframes:
 - according to the job requirements.

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>