



Australian Government

AHCORG508 Prepare the enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification

Release: 1

AHCORG508 Prepare the enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification

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 investigate and access information to support conversion to organic or biodynamic production, conduct a risk assessment, implement hazard analysis critical control point (HACCP) based procedures and manage customer feedback.

The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge to prepare an enterprise for organic certification 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>

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1. Investigate and access information sources and support for conversion to organic or biodynamic production	1.1 Establish contact with other organic producers and marketers of organic products 1.2 Identify and use other sources of support and advice including agricultural extension officers and training programs 1.3 Assess literature, publications and internet sources of information to support decision-making for usefulness and reliability 1.4 Obtain certification process requirements from certification bodies and select appropriate certifier 1.5 Investigate roles and responsibilities of inspector, certifier and accreditation bodies, including role of government departments
2. Conduct a risk assessment of the site	2.1 Identify and document previous land use and chemicals applied on the site 2.2 Undertake and document risk assessment for potential on-farm contaminants 2.3 Assess potential contamination risk from off-farm land use and agricultural practices 2.4 Incorporate risk management procedures to minimise potential contamination from internal and external sources into a certification preparation plan
3. Develop and implement hazard analysis critical control point (HACCP) based procedures	3.1 Identify and document production processes and activities, and those sections of supply chain under the businesses control, according to certification body requirements and the National Standard for Organic or Biodynamic Produce 3.2 Identify, document and compare quality, organic and statutory product standards to be met to actual standards achieved by product and workplace 3.3 Identify and document corrective actions or improvements to processes and activities 3.4 Develop and implement procedures and processes for monitoring and annual review, including an internal review protocol where appropriate 3.5 Integrate a food safety management program where required
4. Manage customer feedback	4.1 Develop and implement procedures to obtain, analyse and respond to customer feedback on quality and integrity of organic product 4.2 Develop and monitor product recall procedures and communicate

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	to relevant parties

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 or biodynamic Produce, and certification requirements
Oral communication	Initiate discussions with agricultural extension officers, work colleagues and others, using clear language to inform the development of a site certification preparation plan
Navigate the world of work	Identify and describe own workplace requirements associated with own role and area of responsibility
Interact with others	Use appropriate language and communication skills to disseminate information within work team and to relevant parties

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCORG508 Prepare the enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification	AHCORG502 Prepare the enterprise for organic certification	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 AHCORG508 Prepare the enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification

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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 prepared an enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification on at least one occasion and has:

- identified requirements for organic certification and applied them to the workplace
- identified critical points in supply chain at which the organic or biodynamic integrity of the product may be compromised
- implemented and monitored effective risk management for those parts of supply chain under their control
- identified and documented practices and strategies to minimise the risk of contamination and non-conformance with organic or biodynamic standards
- developed an operational plan for conversion to organic or biodynamic production.

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:

- certification process
- chain of custody
- Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) principles and risk management
- health and food safety requirements and issues
- labelling requirements for domestic and export markets
- market for organic produce, including the organic movement and organic industry
- National Standard for Organic or Biodynamic Produce
- principles of organic or biodynamic agriculture
- procedures and responsibilities in the case of product recall
- procedures for conducting and documenting a risk assessment
- regulatory requirements and their domestic and international contexts
- role of quality management systems in organic industry including documentation and record keeping requirements

- working knowledge of the regulated organic industry, including the role of the government, certification bodies and inspectors.

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:
 - literature, publications and internet sources of information relevant to organic or biodynamic certification
 - certification process requirements
- specifications:
 - National Standard for Organic or Biodynamic Produce
- 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.

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