



Australian Government

AHCORG509 Prepare and manage organic or biodynamic certification

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 investigate and access information to support conversion to organic or biodynamic production, conduct a risk assessment, implement Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)-based procedures and manage customer feedback for a certified organic or biodynamic farm.

The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge, and take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They analyse and synthesise information, and analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.

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. Investigate and access information sources and support for conversion to organic or biodynamic	1.1 Establish contact with organic producers and marketers of organic products 1.2 Identify and access sources of support and advice

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
production	1.3 Review and assess relevance and reliability of reference materials 1.4 Review certification requirements from accrediting bodies 1.5 Select accrediting body according to organic farm production system 1.6 Investigate roles and responsibilities of stakeholders for accrediting body and government agencies
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 reducing potential contamination into a certification preparation plan
3. Develop and implement Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP)-based procedures	3.1 Identify and document production processes for supply chain according to accrediting body and national standards for organic and biodynamic production 3.2 Verify quality of production output with organic and statutory product standards 3.3 Identify and document corrective actions or improvements to processes and activities 3.4 Develop and implement procedures for monitoring and reviewing processes and compliance 3.5 Integrate a food safety management program according to production process
4. Manage customer feedback	4.1 Develop and implement procedures to obtain, analyse and respond to stakeholder feedback on quality and integrity of organic product 4.2 Develop and monitor product recall procedures, and communicate to stakeholders

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 standards 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

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCORG509 Prepare and manage organic or biodynamic certification	AHCORG508 Prepare the enterprise for organic or biodynamic certification	Updated title to reflect industry outcomes Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria for brevity and clarity Changes to Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions for clarity Foundation Skills added	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 AHCORG509 Prepare and manage 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
- identified critical points in supply chain where organic or biodynamic integrity may be compromised
- implemented and monitored effective risk management for those parts of supply chain under farm control
- identified and documented practices and strategies to minimise 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:

- organic and biodynamic certification process
- standards and codes of practice for organic and biodynamic production
- chain of custody of products and exposure to non-compliance
- workplace hazard assessment and critical control point principles and risk management, including:
 - procedures for conducting and documenting a risk assessment
- health and food safety requirements for farm produce
- labelling requirements for domestic and export markets
- market for organic produce, including the organic movement and organic industry
- principles of organic or biodynamic agriculture
- procedures and responsibilities for product recall
- 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:
 - role of the government, certification bodies and inspectors.
 - support, including agricultural extension officers and training programs.

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:
 - literature, publications and internet sources of information relevant to organic or biodynamic certification
 - certification process requirements
- specifications:
 - standards and codes of practice for organic and biodynamic production
- relationships:
 - stakeholders
- 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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