



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCPCM406 Develop a soil health and plant nutrition program

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 6.0.

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 a soil health and plant nutrition program on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety, and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- accessed and analysed information on regional site factors
- assessed the physical, chemical and biological characteristics of soils
- assessed the physical, nutritional and health requirements of plants
- developed a soil, plant and water testing program
- researched and analysed findings on plant nutritional requirements, nutrients available from soils and other growth media, and environmental implications of program
- developed a program to achieve appropriate soil conditions and nutrient availability for plant growth, incorporating a soil health and plant nutrition plan
- selected suitable management practices, soil amendments, additives and fertilisers
- negotiated, budgeted and documented soil health and plant nutrition plans
- communicated plans, site procedures and schedules to staff
- monitored soil health and plant nutrition program.

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 and practices of soil health and plant nutrition, including:
 - characteristics of soil and other growth media types, their uses and additives to enhance available nutrition for specific plants
 - main simple and compound fertiliser products available to workplace, including analysis, solubility, salt index, application rates and costs

- methods of nutrient uptake by plants, and favourable conditions for effective uptake to occur
- nutrients and water required by plants grown within workplace, and effects of nutrient deficiency and toxicity on individual plant species and varieties
- visual and other symptoms of nutrient deficiency and toxicity on individual plant species and varieties
- organic matter, pest and disease, and nutrient interactions in soil and nutrient cycling
- types of relationships between soil and growth media characteristics and availability of nutrients to plants, including macro and micro elements
- types of site evaluation techniques, and methods of sampling and analysing soils and other growth media
- soil amendments commonly required to treat soil problems experienced by the workplace
- workplace health and safety and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program.

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:
 - site and climate data, and environmental context information relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
 - industry publications and internet sources of information relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
- specifications:
 - workplace health and safety and environmental and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures relevant to developing a soil health and plant nutrition program
- relationships:
 - staff, suppliers, contractors, appropriate personnel and management
- timeframes:
 - according to 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>