



Australian Government

AHCPER219 Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system

Release: 1

AHCPER219 Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system

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 plant and maintain plants in a permaculture cropping system involving site preparation, handling and planting of a range of planting materials, and the maintenance of crops in the field.

This unit applies to individuals who work under supervision and exercise limited autonomy with some accountability for their own work. They undertake defined activities and work in a structured context.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Permaculture (PER)

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 plant permaculture crops	1.1 Confirm work requirements with supervisor 1.2 Select and prepare tools and equipment 1.3 Identify plant materials to be planted 1.4 Identify safety hazards and implement controls according to workplace procedures 1.5 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
2. Prepare the site for planting	2.1 Tend to residual material on site according to permaculture planting plan 2.2 Apply soil treatments or amendments according to supervisor instructions 2.3 Implement plant protection strategy according to instructions 2.4 Mark out planting pattern according to permaculture planting plan
3. Carry out planting operations	3.1 Select planting material according to plan 3.2 Maintain viability of planting material 3.3 Handle and transport planting material to site 3.4 Carry out planting according to permaculture planting plan
4. Maintain plants	4.1 Apply treatments to plantings according to the permaculture planting plan 4.2 Water plantings according to irrigation schedule 4.3 Train and protect plants according to permaculture planting plan

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
Numeracy	Use volumetric and area calculations to determine application rates of permaculture treatments

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCPER219 Plant and maintain crops in	AHCPER206 Plant and maintain	Title change to clarify unit intent	Not equivalent

a permaculture system	permaculture crops	Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria for clarity Changes to Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions for clarity Addition of Foundation Skills	
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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 AHCPER219 Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system

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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 planted and maintained at least two (2) crops in a permaculture system and has:

- selected and prepared plant material, tools and equipment
- prepared site for planting
- planted according to permaculture planting plan
- trained and protected plantings, including the use of supports and guards
- maintained soil moisture according to irrigation plan
- applied treatments to planting site.

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:

- permaculture principles and practices related to planting operations, including:
 - planting in natural groupings or guilds
 - utilising plant partnerships such as vines on corn crops
 - planting mixed species and interplanting with companion species
 - avoiding soil compaction or disturbance
 - utilising chickens to plough and prepare ground for planting
 - avoiding water, seed or weed leakages from the system
- handling residual materials sustainably on the planting site, including:
 - previous crops
 - weeds
 - detritus
- principles of sustainable horticultural practices

- planting techniques
- basic plant nutrition
- soil improvement and nutrient maintenance, including:
 - minerals, including rock dusts
 - organic matter
 - manures, appropriate fertilisers and composts
 - foliar feeds or fertigation
 - vermicompost and worm castings
 - planting of a temporary green manure or cover crop
 - legume plantings or interplantings
 - sheet mulches
- companion planting
- plant growth and development
- methods of waste disposal causing minimal impact on the environment
- safe work practices in the workplace.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated in a permaculture garden system or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - permaculture tools and equipment
 - personal protective equipment
 - planting materials
 - irrigation/watering system
 - treatments, guards, support systems for training and maintaining plantings
- specifications:
 - workplace safety procedures
 - access to manufacturer operating instructions for tools and equipment
 - access to safety data sheets
 - workplace instructions and planting plans
- relationships:
 - supervisor.

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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