



Australian Government

AHCPER220 Harvest crops in a permaculture system

Release: 1

AHCPER220 Harvest 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 provides the skills and knowledge required to recognise crop maturity and harvest crops commonly used in permaculture systems, requiring an understanding of grading characteristics, maintaining quality and the effect of adverse weather conditions on harvesting operations.

The 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. Assess plants for harvest	1.1 Identify crops to be harvested according to the harvesting plan 1.2 Determine crop maturity and confirm with supervisor 1.3 Confirm conditions are conducive for harvesting operations
2. Prepare equipment for harvesting	2.1 Select tools, equipment and machinery for harvesting operations 2.2 Carry out pre-operational and safety checks on tools, 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>
	and machinery according to manufacturer specifications 2.3 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. Harvest the crop	3.1 Harvest crop safely according to workplace safety procedures 3.2 Harvest and handle crop to prevent damage and maintain quality 3.3 Sort and grade crop into containers according to harvesting plan 3.4 Clean and maintain harvesting tools, equipment and machinery
4. Complete crop harvesting work	4.1 Employ safe manual handling techniques throughout harvesting operations 4.2 Move and stack containers to minimise damage to crop 4.3 Maintain temperature of crop according to harvesting plan 4.4 Transport crop from field to processing or storage area 4.5 Maintain containers in good working order

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 harvesting plans and procedures to ensure compliance with work requirements and quality standards

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCPER220 Harvest crops in a permaculture system	AHCPER208 Harvest permaculture crops	Title change to clarify the unit intent Minor changes to Application and	Not equivalent

		Performance Criteria for brevity and 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 AHCPER220 Harvest 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 harvested at least one crop and has:

- assessed crops and conditions for harvest
- prepared resources and materials for crop harvest operations
- carried out harvest operations safely without damage to crop
- prepared, operated and maintained harvesting equipment
- graded, packed into containers and stored harvested crop.

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 related to harvesting
- principles of sustainable horticultural practices
- crops commonly used in permaculture systems
- indicators of crop maturity for harvesting
- impact of environmental conditions on crop harvesting, including:
 - weather impact on crop
 - safe access to harvest site
- harvesting techniques, including:
 - selective picking or hand picking ripe from unripe
 - tree shaking
 - picking leaves rather than whole plants
 - cutting plants and allowing to regrow
 - thinning or removing weak or diseased plants from among healthy ones
 - end of season crop extension harvesting

- equipment and machinery used in harvesting
- sorting and grading, including:
 - removing out-of-type crop
 - removing physically damaged, unhealthy, rotten or immature crop
 - grading of the crop according to variety, size, length, colour, maturity, blemishes, bud count and quality, being subject to seasonal and market forces
- storage, transportation and grading of crops, including containers and their maintenance
- methods of waste disposal with minimal impact on the environment
- safe work practices when harvesting, grading and storing crops.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - skills must be demonstrated on a permaculture property with maturing crops or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - tools and equipment for harvesting
 - personal protective equipment
 - crops to harvest
 - containers and site to store harvest
- specifications:
 - workplace procedures and processes
 - manufacturer operating instructions for equipment
 - workplace instructions
 - grading standards for harvested crops
- relationships:
 - supervisor
- timeframes:
 - according to ripening time specified in harvesting plan.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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