



Australian Government

AHCPER332 Maintain integrated plant and animal systems

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 maintain an integrated plant and animal system, undertake maintenance, and maintain records of activities, including climate, soil, plants and animals commonly found on permaculture properties and typical permaculture solutions for water management and soil maintenance and improvement.

The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work, including limited responsibility for the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources and complete routine activities.

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. Plan maintenance of integrated plant and animal systems	1.1 Read and interpret design specifications for permaculture property maintenance approaches and strategies 1.2 Identify and assess maintenance requirements for integrated plant and animal system 1.3 Consult stakeholders for input on maintenance activities according

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	to permaculture property requirements 1.4 Select, check and prepare tools, equipment, machinery and materials for maintenance activities 1.5 Identify health and safety hazards, assess risk and implement controls according to workplace procedures 1.6 Arrange maintenance activities and movement through production areas to minimise disturbance and degradation
2. Undertake maintenance activities	2.1 Maintain a clean and safe work environment 2.2 Schedule maintenance activities according to maintenance plan 2.3 Implement measures to mitigate degradation and disturbance of elements within the permaculture system 2.4 Monitor activities of work team and visitors to mitigate risks to production
3. Complete maintenance activities	3.1 Manage surplus materials and waste according to workplace procedures 3.2 Clean and store tools, equipment and machinery according to workplace procedures and manufacturer instructions 3.3 Update records and reports of maintenance activities according to workplace procedures

Foundation Skills

Foundation Skills essential to performance are explicit in the performance criteria of this unit of competency.

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCPER332 Maintain integrated plant and animal systems	AHCPER303 Maintain integrated plant and animal systems	Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria for clarity Changes to Performance	Equivalent

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
		Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions for clarity Addition of Foundation Skills	

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 AHCPER332 Maintain integrated plant and animal systems

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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, on at least three (3) occasions, maintained an integrated plant and animal system and has:

- planned maintenance activities for a permaculture integrated plant and animal system
- implemented maintenance activities according to plans
- mitigated risk to permaculture elements, including:
 - soils and soil compaction
 - plants and animals in the system
 - waterways and water storage
 - other key elements within ecosystem
- identified safety hazards and assessed risks and implemented controls during maintenance activities
- maintained records and reports on completion of maintenance activities.

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:

- integrated plant and animal systems, including:
 - gardens, orchards, organic farms, woodlots and forests that include animals in free range or rotational systems
 - balanced ecosystems where the needs of all species are met
 - systems where poultry provide fertility, pest control and other services to plants
 - frogs, birds and other wild creatures attracted to the garden to maintain ecological balance
 - patterns seen in nature, including stacking and layering of plants in a forest used in deliberate design

- plants and animals commonly found on permaculture properties
- plant groups and vegetation structures
- permaculture practices, including:
 - composting of weeds
 - chop and drop practices
 - feeding weeds to animals
 - soil support and enhancement strategies
 - animal husbandry strategies
- permaculture design information, including:
 - permaculture site plan
 - components of integrated plant and animal systems
- role of animals in improving soil, recycling nutrients, managing ‘weedy’ plants and controlling pests and diseases
- plants as indicators and improvers
- typical permaculture solutions to water catchment and storage for integrated plant and animal systems
- recycling of materials and waste
- workplace health and safety, including:
 - typical hazards and risks
 - controls
- communication strategies with work team and visitors
- importance of records in permaculture systems.

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 system with integrated plants and animals or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - plants and animals
 - tools and equipment for maintaining plant and animal systems
 - personal protective equipment
 - materials and consumables for maintenance activities
- specifications:
 - workplace health and safety procedures
 - manufacturer operating instructions for tools and equipment
 - workplace maintenance instructions
- relationships:
 - team member.

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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