



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCPER408 Implement and monitor animal health and welfare programs for a permaculture system

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence that they can:

- provide information to clients, workers or animal owners about animal health and welfare
- implement animal health and welfare procedures
- monitor animal health and welfare procedures performed by others
- maintain animal health and welfare records
- provide training in understanding and using records for the health and welfare of animals in a permaculture system

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- permaculture principles, ethics and practices relating to integrated animal systems, such as:
 - minimising effort for maximum effect
 - multiple uses for each element in the system
 - using more than one way to provide important functions
 - re-using and valuing resources and energy
 - animal welfare and freedom from cruelty as part of care for the earth
 - encouraging productivity of the system
 - seeing solutions not problems
 - preventing waste and loss of resources from the system
- animal health and welfare requirements, practices and procedures, such as:
 - maintenance of animal housing, enclosures and fencing, covering hygiene and welfare

- ensuring availability of suitable forage, fodder and supplementary feedstuffs, and adjusting stocking rates, ranging and rotation schedules to suit
- Coordinating the following integration of animal ranging and maintenance with plant production systems: ranging in orchard to manure trees, reducing weeds, controlling pests, eating windfall fruit, tractor systems, composting manures and housing litter and maintaining firebreaks
- researching, assessing, implementing and monitoring supplementary stock feed requirements, feeding quantities and schedules
- researching and applying organic alternatives for treating stock in compliance with organic certification authorities, which may include herbal and homoeopathic treatments, mineral and vitamin supplements and permitted medications
- developing appropriate handling procedures to reduce stress
- harvesting, sourcing and handling the following useable products: milking, collecting eggs
- providing range areas for shade and shelter from climatic extremes through appropriate planting, including forage and fodder plants.
- equipment, including feeders and waterers, and back-up systems and alarms in case of equipment failure.
- lighting
- ventilation including fresh air, dust filters, humidity, and noxious gases.
- temperature, including cooling and heating, extreme weather conditions
- protection from predators, vermin, fires and floods.
- food with diet containing adequate nutrients
- water, including sufficient drinkable water to meet livestock requirements and monitoring water quality.
- health and distress, with signs of ill-health or distress in animals (as evidenced by behavioural changes) including reduced food and water intake, reduced production, changes in the nature and level of their activity, abnormal condition or changed physical features.
- prevention of infectious disease and internal and external parasitism.
- transport of growing and adult livestock
- animal physiology
- animal emergencies, such as:
 - injury
 - disease
 - failure of feeding or watering systems
 - poisoning
 - tick fever
 - birthing difficulties
 - escapement from housing or enclosures
 - predator attack
 - natural disasters such as bushfire, flooding, severe storm, other extreme weather event

- relevant animal welfare legislation and codes of practice
- animal health and welfare records, such as:
 - farm livestock records
 - daily harvest/yield records (eggs, milk)
 - feeding schedules and rosters
 - rotation schedules and successional grazing regimes
 - accident and emergency reports
 - entries into data base or other management software
 - worker records and reports
 - emergency reports
 - animal morbidity
 - work procedures and practices
 - seasonal factors and weather records
 - questioning client and/or workers
 - observations from inspecting animal systems
 - operational practices such as bedding change rotation, cell grazing, alternating flocks
- industry animal health requirements
- legislative requirements, such as:
 - compliance with council ordinances
 - planning approval
 - licence from government agency
 - animal welfare legislation
 - workplace legislation and awards

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs. Assessors must also have a nationally accredited Certificate IV or Diploma of Permaculture. Completion of a Permaculture Design Course (PDC) or non-accredited Permaculture Diploma is not sufficient at this level.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>