



Australian Government

AHCSHG213 Shear sheep to novice level

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 Release 11.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to catch, handle and shear sheep under supervision to novice level.

Novice level is defined as shearing a minimum of 40 adult merino sheep or 50 adult crossbred sheep per day to industry standards.

This unit applies to individuals who work under general supervision and exercise limited autonomy with some accountability for their own work.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety, biosecurity, animal welfare and environmental sustainability regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Shearing (SHG)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Set up shearing handpiece	1.1 Check shearing equipment for correct operation according to workplace standards 1.2 Assemble comb and cutter on handpiece according to

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	manufacturer specifications 1.3 Set lead and throw for comb and cutter 1.4 Set tension to enable comb and cutter to cut wool cleanly with minimum friction 1.5 Lubricate working surfaces and moving parts 1.6 Identify potential and existing hazards in the workplace and report to supervisor or wool harvesting team members
2. Follow health and fitness procedures	2.1 Prepare for exercises to warm up the body 2.2 Perform back, shoulder, leg, arm and abdomen stretches 2.3 Recognise the necessities of hydration, nutrition and rest periods
3. Catch sheep for shearing	3.1 Select, use and maintain suitable personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly according to workplace standards 3.2 Catch sheep and move to required location in line with workplace, work health and safety (WHS), industry and animal welfare standards 3.3 Position sheep for shearing in line with workplace standards
4. Remove fleece	4.1 Activate handpiece and position in readiness for shearing operations 4.2 Shear section of sheep in position suitable to the individual's competence and in line with WHS 4.3 Shear the six basic positions in sequence 4.4 Minimise injury to sheep and treat injuries where required in line with animal welfare standards 4.5 Minimise second cuts and contamination in line with animal welfare standards 4.6 Release sheep safely from the board into the count-out pens 4.7 Maintain shearing effort to achieve the required minimum rate per day to acceptable standard, and tally sheep shorn in line with workplace procedures 4.8 Follow workplace biosecurity and environment policies

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	Estimate and apply time requirements to achieve the required output

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCSHG213 Shear sheep to novice level	AHCSHG203 Shear sheep to novice level	Application wording clarified Changes and reorder to performance criteria for clarification Foundation skills information added Changes to performance evidence to specify volume and frequency Knowledge evidence specificity added, and other wording clarified Assessment conditions clarified	Equivalent

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 AHCSHG213 Shear sheep to novice level

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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:

- shorn and tallied a minimum of 40 adult merino sheep or 50 adult crossbred sheep per eight-hour day to industry standards
- communicated workplace issues on at least two occasions.

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:

- shearing machinery required and their respective functions
- health and fitness procedures for shearing, including:
 - warm-up
 - stretches
 - good hydration, nutrition and rest periods
- safe and humane handling techniques for catching, moving, shearing and releasing sheep according to WHS and animal welfare requirements
- basic industry agreed techniques and positions in shearing sequence, including:
 - belly
 - back leg and undermine
 - neck
 - first shoulder transition
 - long blow
 - neck second shoulder
 - last side
- basic anatomy of male and female sheep as it relates to the safe, humane removal of wool
- common sheep diseases, including:

- zoonotic
- parasitic
- other
- humane treatment of animals, including:
- stitch a sheep
- application of pain relief
- workplace tallying methods for shorn sheep
- personal protective equipment (PPE), and when and how it should be used
- federal and/or state shearing awards and agreements associated with shearing sheep
- workplace policies associated with the novice shearer job role in a shearing shed, including:
 - biosecurity
 - environment
 - employment and work health and safety legislation
 - animal welfare standards and codes of practice
- effective communication with team and supervisor to ensure steady shearing workflow
- teamwork principles, including:
 - working towards a common goal
 - communicating effectively and cooperatively
 - embracing diversity
- where to access shearing equipment manufacturer specifications.

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 workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - equipment and materials appropriate for shearing sheep
 - animals for shearing
- relationships:
 - supervisor
 - wool harvesting team members.

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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