



Australian Government

AHCSOL203 Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing

Release: 1

AHCSOL203 Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to assist with the sampling and testing of soil or growing media, including collecting soil or media samples, performing basic tests on soil or media samples, and completing sampling and testing activities.

The unit applies to individuals who assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing under general supervision with limited autonomy or accountability.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Soils and Media (SOL)

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. Collect soil or media samples for testing	1.1 Confirm with supervisor soil or growing media to be sampled 1.2 Select soil or growing media sampling tools and materials 1.3 Follow environmental and biosecurity procedures when sampling and testing soil and growing media, to minimise impact 1.4 Select, fit and use personal protective equipment applicable to the

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	task 1.5 Take samples as instructed 1.6 Assist with labelling and recording samples as required
2. Perform basic tests on soil or media sample	2.1 Recognise basic features of soil or growing media 2.2 Assist with testing and inspecting physical properties of samples 2.3 Assist with testing chemical properties of samples 2.4 Relate soil or growing media test results to suitability for plant requirements
3. Complete sampling and testing activities	3.1 Remove and dispose of waste material 3.2 Clean and return tools and materials to required location 3.3 Identify and report unserviceable tools and materials according to workplace procedures 3.4 Record soil or growing media test results according to workplace procedures

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 textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about soil and growing media sampling and testing
Writing	Use clear language and accurate industry terminology to prepare and record soil and media test results
Oral communication	Use clear language to confirm soil and media to be sampled and to report tool and materials unserviceability

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCSOL203 Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing	AHCSOL202 Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing	Minor changes to application Element and performance criteria added Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Not 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 AHCSOL203 Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing

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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 sampled and tested soil or growing media on at least two occasions, and has:

- selected and used soil and growing media sampling tools and material
- minimised environmental impacts associated with testing soil and media
- followed industry and workplace biosecurity procedures
- applied workplace health and safety requirements
- collected and described soil and media samples
- performed basic descriptive tests for soil or media properties
- assisted with the use of simple soil testing equipment for testing pH and salinity
- removed and disposed of waste material
- recorded soil and media test results and reported unserviceable tools and materials.

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:

- environmental impacts associated with testing soil or growing media
- industry and workplace biosecurity procedures applicable to soil and growing media testing
- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for testing soil or growing media
- principles and practices for recognising soils or growing media properties, including:
 - basic soil or media tests
 - basic soil or media chemical properties
 - basic soil or media physical properties
 - soil or media plant relationship

- soil or media sampling techniques.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - soil and growing media sampling and testing tools and materials
 - personal protective equipment applicable to soil and growing media sampling and testing
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace, and sampling and testing soil and growing media
 - industry and workplace biosecurity procedures applicable to sampling and testing soil and growing media
- relationships:
 - supervisor
- timeframes:
 - according to job requirements.

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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