



Australian Government

AHCSOL303 Implement soil improvements for garden and turf areas

Release: 2

AHCSOL303 Implement soil improvements for garden and turf areas

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide information about and determine its suitability for garden beds or turf areas and determine ameliorants or additives to improve it.

This unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources. All work is carried out to comply with workplace procedures.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil.

Unit Sector

Soil (SOL)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element	Performance criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Prepare and collect soil samples for testing	1.1 Determine reasons for testing of soil 1.2 Prepare tools and materials for collecting samples 1.3 Take samples according to recognised sampling techniques 1.4 Label and record samples
2. Determine physical characteristics of	2.1 Conduct tests for texture and structure on the samples 2.2 Determine soil colour and the presence of organic matter

Element	Performance criteria
sample	2.3 Determine characteristics of soil profile where required 2.4 Determine depth of topsoil and determine if sufficient for the requirements of the plants to be installed 2.5 Determine the ability of soil to drain or retain water 2.6 Assess the physical characteristics of soil and determine improvements needed
3. Determine chemical characteristics of sample	3.1 Conduct tests for pH and salinity 3.2 Determine the suitability of soil for particular plants 3.3 Determine the soil's fertility and the need for additional fertiliser or other amendments 3.4 Determine the chemical characteristics of soil and improvements needed
4. Prepare soils for planting or replanting	4.1 Improve physical characteristics of garden or lawn areas as required 4.2 Adjust pH and salinity of soil in garden or lawn areas as required 4.3 Incorporate additional soil as needed to establish final levels 4.4 Finish soil level and consolidate ready for planting according to planting plans and enterprise procedures

Foundation Skills

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

Range of Conditions

Unit Mapping Information

Unit is not equivalent to AHCSOL302A Construct a soil profile.

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

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

Assessment Requirements for AHCSOL303 Implement soil improvements for garden and turf areas

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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:

- conduct tests to determine soil physical properties of texture and structure
- conduct tests to determine soil chemical properties of pH and salinity
- make observations about fertility, mineral and organic matter content based on sample colour
- make observations about soil drainage and water holding capacity
- make recommendations to improve soils based on results of simple soil tests

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- principles and practices for providing information on soils or growing media
 - physical properties of soils and media
 - chemical properties of soils and media
 - products and processes for improving soils and media
 - sample collection, testing and methods used to perform tests
 - water holding capacity and readily available water
 - organic matter in soil and media
 - soil ameliorants and improvement techniques
 - nutrient availability in soils

Assessment Conditions

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs.

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