



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

AHCSHG404A Manage shearing and crutching operations

Release: 1

AHCSHG404A Manage shearing and crutching operations

Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit covers the management of shearing and crutching operations and defines the standard required to: prepare for shearing; organise mobs into order of shearing; supervise clip preparation and pressing; identify and remove potential sources of contamination; organise mob cut outs and maintain supply of livestock; complete clip documentation and provide feedback to grower.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	This unit applies to professional wool classers or shed managers.
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not Applicable

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	This unit contains employability skills.
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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Not Applicable

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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1. Plan and implement shearing and crutching operations	1.1.Flock owner/manager is consulted about requirements and informed of planning issues. 1.2.Order of mobs is determined for shearing and crutching according to enterprise requirements. 1.3.Staffing needs are determined according to legislative requirements and negotiated with grower/contractor. 1.4.Staff are allocated duties and given necessary directions. Shed equipment and materials are arranged in accordance with Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) requirements and quality management system. 1.5.Shearing/crutching plan is implemented and adjusted as conditions change.
2. Implement shearing plan and monitor work flow	2.1.Board is kept clear and fleeces are thrown ready for skirting. 2.2.Non-fleece wools are removed and packed as directed. 2.3.Shed staff are given directions for skirting, and fleece to skirting ratio is monitored. 2.4.Directions are issued for closing off bins and lines for mob cut-outs. 2.5.Enterprise requirements with regard to safe workplace and positive environmental practices are complied with according to OHS and quality management system.
3. Supervise wool pressing	3.1.Wool presser is directed on order for pressing and procedures to minimise contamination. 3.2.Wool presser is consulted to monitor the rate of build-up in lines. 3.3.Pressing instructions are issued which reduce mixed bales, while meeting code of practice requirements for uniformity within lines. 3.4.Bale weights are monitored to ensure efficiencies are achieved for the grower. 3.5.Bales are branded in line with code of practice requirements. 3.6.Wool book is monitored for accuracy, legibility and kept up to date at all times.
4. Provide feedback to grower on clip performance and	4.1.Staff performance in clip preparation is reported on. 4.2.Mob characteristics are related to work flow and clip

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
shearing and crutching operations	preparation. 4.3. Possible improvements to wool handling facilities are reported. 4.4. Equipment effectiveness and maintenance requirements are reported to grower. 4.5. Lines made and bale details are related to mob characteristics. 4.6. Lotting advice is explained to grower/ manager. 4.7. Wool clip documentation is completed and presented to grower for signature.

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- plan and implement shearing operations
- organise and schedule staff and work tasks
- supervise staff and monitor productivity
- identify and remove potential workplace hazards
- implement risk management strategies
- monitor wool flow and clip preparation
- press wool, record bale details and brand bales
- monitor environmental impacts and implement control measures
- use literacy skills to read, interpret and follow organisational policies and procedures, develop sequenced written instructions, record accurately and legibly information collected and select and apply procedures to a range of tasks
- use oral communication skills/language competence to fulfil the job role as specified by the organisation including questioning, active listening, asking for clarification, negotiating solutions and responding to a range of views
- use numeracy skills to estimate, calculate and record routine and more complex workplace measures and data
- use interpersonal skills to work with others and relate to people from a range of cultural, social and religious backgrounds and with a range of physical and mental abilities.

Required knowledge

- supervisory procedures with regard to operations and personnel

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- staff management including team building and conflict resolution
- industry requirements with regard to hygiene and safety for shearing facilities and equipment
- planning and implementation processes
- completing workplace documentation
- employment agreements, processes and requirements
- OHS and environmental legislation, codes of practice and enterprise requirements.

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE	
The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.	
Overview of assessment	
Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit	The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy holistically all of the requirements of the performance criteria and required skills and knowledge and include achievement of the following: • prepare for shearing • organise mobs into order of shearing • supervise clip preparation and pressing • identify and remove potential sources of contamination • organise mob cut outs and maintain supply of livestock • complete clip documentation and provide feedback to grower.
Context of and specific resources for assessment	Competency requires the application of work practices under work conditions. Selection and use of resources for some worksites may differ due to the regional or enterprise circumstances.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT	
The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole.	
Operations may include:	• shearing and crutching operations for merino and crossbred clips, as well as for goat and alpaca shearing.

Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Shearing
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		

Competency field

Competency field	
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