



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

PSPREG504A Manage plant movement health risk

Revision Number: 3

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Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comments
3	PSP12V1	Unit descriptor, application of unit, evidence guide and range statement edited.
2	PSP04V4.2.	Layout adjusted. No changes to content.
1	PSP04V4.1	Primary release.

Unit Descriptor

This unit covers assessment of plant movement health risk and the development, implementation and monitoring of strategies to manage that risk.

It includes the specialist knowledge and skills on plants and plant products required by those involved in the inspection, monitoring and certification of plants and plant products moving intrastate and interstate within Australia; the monitoring and controlling of specific plant pests and diseases; and the provision of information on, and facilitation of interstate and international market access.

In practice, managing plant movement health risk may overlap with other public sector generalist and specialist work activities such as promoting ethical practice, compliance with legislation, coordinating risk management, undertaking negotiations, managing conflict. No licensing, legislative, regulatory or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of endorsement.

Application of the Unit

Not applicable.

Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not applicable.

Pre-Requisites

Not applicable.

Employability Skills Information

This unit contains employability skills.

Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Elements are the essential outcomes of the unit of competency.	Together, performance criteria specify the requirements for competent performance. Text in <i>bold italics</i> is explained in the Range Statement following.
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Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Assess and control plant movement health risk	1.1 The health and certification of plants and plant products moving into the country, state or territory are verified as meeting all commonwealth, state or territory requirements. 1.2 The health of plants and plant products is certified for international, interstate and/or intrastate movement in accordance with certification requirements. 1.3 Plants and plant products are inspected for pest and disease infestation and necessary treatments are recommended and monitored in accordance with organisational policy and procedures. 1.4 Clients are provided with timely and accurate information and training on requirements in relation to the movement of plants and plant products. 1.5 Compliance/accreditation/interstate certification agreements are entered into where appropriate and audited in accordance with organisational policy and procedures.
2. Identify potential risks associated with the movement of plants and plant products	2.1 Common risks associated with the interaction of production location, crop and plant pests and diseases are identified. 2.2 The implications of pre-harvest and post-harvest preventative and disinfection methods for plant and plant product health, human health and the environment are analysed. 2.3 The implications of packaging types and technologies, storage conditions and production techniques for plant and plant product health are analysed.
3. Participate in the development of strategies to manage plant movement health risk	3.1 Statistical information on plants and plant products is accessed and used in the development of risk management strategies. 3.2 Plant and plant product sector quality standards and principles are identified and applied. 3.3 Existing strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk are reviewed and updated in response to industry developments and needs. 3.4 New strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk are developed where necessary in accordance with organisational policy and procedures.
4. Implement strategies to manage plant movement health risk	4.1 Strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk are implemented in consultation with relevant industry and government bodies. 4.2 Information to facilitate compliance with risk management strategies is provided to clients in accordance with their needs in terms of its range, depth and form of presentation.
5. Monitor the outcomes of	5.1 Processes to monitor the required outcomes of strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk are

ELEMENT**PERFORMANCE CRITERIA**

**strategies to manage
plant movement
health risk**

developed in accordance with organisational policy and procedures.
5.2 The outcomes of strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk are monitored and recommendations made where possible for continuous improvement.

Required Skills and Knowledge

This section describes the essential skills and knowledge and their level, required for this unit.

Skill requirements

Look for evidence that confirms skills in:

- identifying commonly encountered varieties of fruits, vegetables, field crops, grain products, nursery stock, cut flowers and cut foliage
- recognising pest and disease infestation
- accessing and using statistical information on plants and plant products
- analysing and managing risk related to plant movement health risk
- reading complex and formal documents such as legislation, policy and procedures and applying them to work practices
- presenting information
- adjusting communication to suit different audiences
- responding to diversity, including gender and disability
- applying public sector legislation such as occupational health and safety and environment in the context of managing plant movement health risk

Knowledge requirements

Look for evidence that confirms knowledge and understanding of:

- public sector legislation including occupational health and safety, environment, privacy etc
- enabling legislation
- organisational policy and procedures
- horticultural classifications and families of plants:
 - pome
 - stone
 - solanaceae
 - curcubits
 - crucifers
 - citrus
 - berries
 - cereals
 - pulses
- basic physiology of fruits and vegetables:
 - photosynthesis
 - respiration
 - ripening
 - basic structures of fruits and vegetables
- plant and plant products sector:

- production location of plants and plant products within Australia and internationally
- seasonality of plants and plant products within Australia and internationally
- major movement of plants and plant products within Australia and internationally
- growers/packers of plants and plant products and their needs
- interstate importers and exporters of plants and plant products and their needs
- wholesalers of plants and plant products and their needs
- retailers of plants and plant products and their needs
- transporters of plants and plant products and their needs
- treatment providers (e.g. fumigators) of plants and plant products and their needs
- travellers and their needs
- human health and environmental effects of disinfestation methods for fruits, vegetables, field crops, grain products, nursery stock, cut flowers and cut foliage

Evidence Guide

The Evidence Guide specifies the evidence required to demonstrate achievement in the unit of competency as a whole. It must be read in conjunction with the Unit descriptor, Performance Criteria, the Range Statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Public Sector Training Package.

Units to be assessed together

- *Pre-requisite* units that must be achieved prior to this unit: *Nil*
- *Co-requisite* units that must be assessed with this unit: *Nil*
- *Co-assessed units* that may be assessed with this unit to increase the efficiency and realism of the assessment process include, but are not limited to:
 - PSPETHC501B Promote the values and ethos of public service
 - PSPGOV507A Undertake negotiations
 - PSPGOV508A Manage conflict
 - PSPGOV511A Provide leadership
 - PSPGOV512A Use complex workplace communication strategies
 - PSPGOV514A Facilitate change
 - PSPGOV517A Coordinate risk management
 - PSPLEGN501B Promote compliance with legislation in the public sector
 - PSPOHS501A Monitor and maintain workplace safety
 - RUHHRT529A Manage weed, pest and disease infestations

Overview of evidence requirements

In addition to integrated demonstration of the elements and their related performance criteria, look for evidence that confirms:

- the knowledge requirements of this unit
- the skill requirements of this unit
- application of the Employability Skills as they relate to this unit (see Employability Summaries in Qualifications Framework)
- management of plant movement health risk in a range of (3 or more) contexts (or occasions, over time) relating to plants and plant products that include:
 - fruits
 - vegetables
 - field crops
 - grain products
 - nursery stock, including whole plants and propagating material

- cut flowers and cut foliage

Resources required to carry out assessment

These resources include:

- legislation, policy, procedures, protocols and standards relating to inspection and monitoring
- certification requirements
- statistical information
- sample plants and plant products, both healthy and infested
- case studies and workplace scenarios to capture the range of situations likely to be encountered when managing plant movement health risk

Where and how to assess evidence

Valid assessment of this unit requires:

- an environment that closely resembles normal work practice and replicates the range of conditions likely to be encountered when managing plant movement health risk, including coping with difficulties, irregularities and break downs in routine
- management of plant movement health risk in a range of (3 or more) contexts (or occasions, over time) such as those relating to fruits, vegetables, field crops, grain products, nursery stock, cut flowers and cut foliage

Assessment methods should reflect workplace demands, such as literacy, and the needs of particular target groups, such as:

- people with disabilities
- people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people
- women
- young people
- older people
- people in rural and remote locations

Assessment methods suitable for valid and reliable assessment of this competency may include, but are not limited to 2 or more of:

- case studies
- demonstration
- observation
- portfolios
- projects
- questioning
- scenarios
- simulation or role plays
- authenticated evidence from the workplace and/or training

courses

**For consistency of
assessment**

Evidence must be gathered over time in a range of contexts to ensure the person can achieve the unit outcome and/or apply the competency in different situations or environments

Range Statement

The Range Statement provides information about the context in which the unit of competency is carried out. The variables cater for differences between States and Territories and the Commonwealth, and between organisations and workplaces. They allow for different work requirements, work practices and knowledge. The Range Statement also provides a focus for assessment. It relates to the unit as a whole. Text in ***bold italics*** in the Performance Criteria is explained here.

Plant movement health risk may include:

- spread of plant pests, diseases and weeds
- negative impacts on market access for the Australian plant and plant products sectors
- increased costs of production within the Australian plant and plant products sectors
- negative environmental and social impacts

Plants and plant products may include:

- fruits
- vegetables
- field crops
- grain products
- nursery stock, including whole plants and propagating material
- cut flowers and cut foliage
- seeds
- tissue culture

Treatments may include:

- chemical (insecticides, fungicides, fumigation etc)
- physical (heat, cold treatment, physical containment or exclusion etc)
- irradiation
- surveys
- inspection and certification

Clients may include:

- growers/packers of plants and plant products
- interstate importers and exporters of plants and plant products
- wholesalers of plants and plant products
- retailers of plants and plant products
- transporters of plants and plant products
- treatment providers (e.g. fumigators) of plants and plant products
- travellers

Requirements in relation to the movement of plants and plant products

- relevant state and territory government acts and regulations on plants and plant products
- interstate plant and plant products import requirements

include:

- relevant pest, disease and weed protocols, procedures and contingency plans

Common risks may include:

- quarantine risks associated with the production location, pre-harvest and post-harvest treatment and handling, storage, transport and intrastate and interstate movement of plants and plant products

Pre-harvest preventative and disinfection methods may include:

- physical barriers (e.g. fruit bagging, netting, insect-free glasshouses)
- biological control
- use of resistant varieties
- root stock
- integrated pest management
- chemical methods (for non-organics)

Post-harvest preventative and disinfection methods may include:

- physical barriers (e.g. sealed packages and containers, shrink wrapping, insect-proof cartons, storage facilities)
- maturity at harvest
- unbroken skin at harvest
- cold storage
- hot water treatment
- fumigation for non-organics
- fumigation for organics
- chemical dips and sprays (for non-organics)
- irradiation (for non-organics)

Packaging types and technologies (for fruits, vegetables and cut flowers) may include:

- main types of packages
- sulphur pads
- ethylene absorbers
- foam padding and other methods of preventing mechanical injuries
- re-used and recycled packaging

Storage conditions (for fruits, vegetables and cut flowers) may include:

- humidity
- temperature
- modified atmosphere
- controlled atmosphere
- special or specific packaging
- fumigation and other treatments
- consideration of storage life
- consideration of shelf life
- chilling injury
- high temperature injury
- onset of post harvest disorders

(Basic nursery and cut flower) production

- propagation

techniques may include:

- watering
- fertilising
- glasshouse cultivation
- hydroponics
- re-potting
- growing media

Participation in the development of strategies may include:

- membership of work teams or project teams that review, develop, implement and monitor risk management strategies
- consultation and liaison with relevant industry and government bodies

Statistical information on plants and plant products may include:

- Australian Bureau of Statistics data on plants and plant products production and value
- Horticulture Australia Limited data on plants and plant products production and value
- relevant internal organisational data on plants and plant products

Quality standards and principles may include:

- accreditation processes for organic fruits, vegetables and grain products
- Safe Quality Food 2000 and/or equivalent systems
- Safe Quality Food 1000 for some horticulture produce particularly at grower level
- Freshcare
- AS/NZS ISO 9001:2000
- Government programs to promote 'clean and green' produce
- Government programs to promote sustainable agriculture

Strategies to manage plant and plant product movement health risk may include:

- changes to state and territory government acts and/or regulations on plants and plant products
- development or alteration of interstate plant and plant products import requirements
- development or alteration of pest, disease and weed protocols, procedures and contingency plans
- development or alteration of plant and plant product sector client service, communication, training or compliance programs

Unit Sector(s)

Not applicable.

Competency field

Regulatory.