



Australian Government

SFICRO301 Support hatchery and juvenile crocodile care

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with SFI Seafood Industry Training Package Version 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to support hatchery and juvenile crocodile operations, including monitoring the collection and care of hatchlings and juvenile crocodiles.

The unit applies to individuals who work in farms, wildlife parks or research facilities and have responsibility for hatchlings and juvenile crocodiles, working under broad direction and having limited responsibility for the work of others.

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

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Crocodiles (CRO)

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. Prepare for crocodile hatchery production	1.1 Identify crocodile hatchery program aims 1.2 Confirm hatchery labour and equipment requirements with relevant personnel 1.3 Identify risk factors that could affect hatchery operations, and plan

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	to minimise risk
2. Incubate crocodile eggs to hatch	2.1 Prepare clutches of eggs to be placed into the incubator according to standard operating procedures (SOPs) 2.2 Examine crocodile eggs during stages of embryo development to estimate embryo age and detect and remove dead specimens to prevent contaminating the incubator 2.3 Monitor the incubation environment according to SOPs and hygiene standards to maximise survival rates 2.4 Identify and monitor eggs close to hatching, and follow SOP processes to minimise risks of premature hatching 2.5 Assist crocodile hatchlings from eggs when clutches are ready to hatch 2.6 Record incubation environment and hatching processes according to SOPs 2.7 Identify and conduct appropriate euthanasia methods for weak or deformed hatchlings according to the relevant codes of practice 2.8 Transfer hatchlings to appropriate pre-prepared hatchling pens
3. Prepare to conduct care activities with hatchling and juvenile crocodiles	3.1 Determine appropriate crocodile protection legislation or regulation, codes of practice and biosecurity issues associated with working with crocodiles in a controlled environment 3.2 Gather required equipment, including personal protective equipment (PPE) to prepare for work with juvenile crocodiles in a controlled environment according to workplace health and safety standards
4. Feed hatchling and juvenile crocodiles	4.1 Identify the nutritional needs of hatchling and juvenile crocodiles in a controlled environment according to the relevant codes of practice to ensure health and good skin quality 4.2 Prepare food and food supplements according to storage and food safety requirements 4.3 Feed hatchling and juvenile crocodiles following SOPs 4.4 Maintain feeding records according to workplace SOPs, and report any observed feeding abnormalities

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
5. Maintain hatchling and juvenile crocodile pens	5.1 Remove excess food and record leftover amount according to SOPs 5.2 Clean crocodile pens according to SOPs and relevant codes of practice 5.3 Monitor and maintain the water quality and temperature requirements according to SOPs 5.4 Record maintenance processes according to workplace processes
6. Conduct hatchling and juvenile crocodile stock administrative activity	6.1 Check for completeness of pen cleaning and disposal of waste materials according to workplace procedures, biosecurity and environmental requirements 6.2 Update records and report any abnormal observations or events, including deaths, to supervisor 6.3 Check condition and storage of tools and equipment, and report repair and maintenance requirements to supervisor

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 technical information relating to crocodile hatchlings
Writing	Complete workplace records legibly and accurately using correct technical terminology
Oral communication	Communicate in a clear, concise and culturally sensitive manner
Numeracy	Estimate quantities of feed and containers

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
SFICRO301 Support hatchery and juvenile crocodile care	Not applicable	Unit has been created to address an emerging skill required by industry	Newly created

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=e31d8c6b-1608-4d77-9f71-9ee749456273>

Assessment Requirements for SFICRO301 Support hatchery and juvenile crocodile care

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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:

- carried out crocodile egg incubation support activity on at least five occasions
- carried out hatchling and juvenile crocodile care activity on at least five occasions.

In doing the above, there must also be evidence that the individual has:

- applied risk assessment processes and put controls in place to mitigate hatchling survival risks
- followed hatchling and juvenile crocodile biosecurity and regulatory guidelines
- treated hatchling and juvenile crocodiles humanely
- complied with crocodile risk and safety standards
- conducted stock administrative activity
- maintained accurate records on hatchery and juvenile crocodile operations.

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:

- key facts about crocodile hatchlings physiology and developmental process
- crocodile egg incubation and monitoring
- hatchling and juvenile crocodile care processes in compliance with the relevant codes of practice, standard operating procedures (SOPs) and workplace procedures
- assessment of body condition and health of hatchling and juvenile crocodiles
- reasons for poor crocodile survival rates, including:
 - inappropriate husbandry
 - disease
 - inappropriate nutrition
 - inappropriate pen maintenance

- inappropriate incubation conditions
- injury
- genetics
- cleaning and hygiene requirements for hatchery operations
- safe and humane crocodile handling techniques and procedures
- the principles of crocodile welfare and ethics as set out in relevant codes of practice
- the importance of crocodile skin quality and what this means in the handling of hatchling and juvenile crocodiles
- diseases that can affect hatchlings and juvenile crocodiles
- workplace health and safety practices related to crocodile operations
- culturally sensitive communication protocol
- relevant legislation, including biosecurity control measures.

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 controlled crocodile environment that includes a crocodile hatchery, or in an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - hatchling and juvenile crocodiles
 - monitoring equipment
- specifications:
 - SOPs for hatchery and juvenile crocodile operations, including advice on health and safety, hygiene and environmental requirements
- relationships:
 - relevant personnel.

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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