

# Pest Management Project



## Summary of Feedback, Responses and Actions

14 March 2018

This report summarises the feedback from consultation for one new unit of competency developed to enhance the current training package components. These will be included in the *AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package*.

### Unit

1. *AHCPMG3XX Apply poison baits for vertebrate pest control in rural and environmental landscapes*

The draft unit of competency above was available for broader stakeholder consultation and feedback between 5 February and 12 March, 2018. Eleven feedback responses were received during the feedback period, representing the following stakeholders.

Industry Sector	States Represented	Total Number
Industry Association (Ind Assoc)	National, Qld,	2
Registered Training Organisation (RTO)	WA, Qld	2
Industry business (Ind)	Qld (3), Ind Vic	4
Government Agency (Gov)	Vic, Qld(2)	3
<b>Total</b>		<b>11</b>

Below is a summary of the issues raised and how these issues have been dealt with. This involves a consideration of the information provided, views of industry stakeholders where known, and views provided by the people who are part of the Subject Matter Expert Working Group process. Resolutions are constructed to take into account the needs and views of stakeholders to the extent possible, and to comply with the Standards for Training Package 2012. The resolutions may represent a compromise on one or more stakeholder views with the aim of a workable outcome for industry, Government agencies and Training Providers.

Units of Competency

Stakeholder sector	Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
<b>One (1) new unit of competency</b>		
<p>1. Ind Assoc (2) RTO WA, RTO Qld, Ind Qld (3), Ind Vic, Gov Vic, Gov Qld(2)</p>	<p><b>AHCPMG3XX Apply poison baits for vertebrate pest control in rural and environmental landscapes</b></p> <p><b>Ind Assoc, RTO WA, Gov Qld, Ind Vic</b>, provided positive feedback for the unit and expressed support for the development and outcome. No further action taken</p> <p><b>Gov Qld</b> provided editing advice for the title as it was felt it could be misinterpreted. Recommended more than one type of bait/poison/location be assessed in the Performance Evidence. Minor editing change to health and safety reference in the PE. Expressed concern that the title of the unit (and Cert III) may pose concern to a professional association with a like name.</p> <p><b>Gov Vic</b> Provided editing advice for Performance Criteria 3.1, 3.6 and Knowledge Evidence</p> <p><b>RTO Qld</b> Provided editing advice for Application for clarity. Commented on the term abundance. Sought clarity on Performance Criteria 1.7, recommended editing change to 4.6. Commented on Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions.</p> <p><b>Ind Assoc Qld</b> Commented on Application supporting purpose for Cert III. Commented on Performance Criteria 3.3, 3.5.</p> <p><b>Ind Qld (3)</b> two expressed general support for the unit content but all three had concern for the role this unit</p>	<p>Revisions have been made to the <b>Title, Application, Performance Criteria, Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence.</b></p> <p>Use of the word <b>Feral</b> has been removed from the unit as it infers to some in the industry a domesticated animal that has “gone rogue” and may exclude native animal pests. The term “<b>vertebrate pest</b>” has been used for consistency across the unit.</p> <p>The <b>title</b> has been <b>edited</b> to reflect <b>recommended changes.</b></p> <p><b>Feedback for the number of practical demonstrations in the Performance Evidence.</b> There was general support for the unit to practically assess in one situation or context. It was however acknowledged that there was a need for greater understanding in other poisons and techniques. The Knowledge Evidence component aims to capture this diversity and is required to be assessed by RTO’s to ensure all graduates are aware of these alternatives.</p> <p><b>Feedback on assessment issues.</b> Preparation of baits - The unit does not specify if the bait is prepared from raw materials and combined with poison. In those states where the treatment of substrate is carried out by government agencies, other authorised individuals, or commercially prepared baits (i.e. canid ejectors, prepared and dried meat etc.) the PC still requires the baits to be “prepared” for use from the supplier (e.g. removed from packaging, organise required quantities, unwrap, access and handle the baits for use etc.) while working in suitable location and in compliance with legislative requirements. In those states where it is legal to purchase poisons and treat substrate with the poison then this too can be assessed as part of the bait preparation process.</p> <p><b>Feedback on delivery and assessment.</b> Concern was raised about how to deliver and assess some components (e.g. transport baits safely, handling real poisons, working in workplace conditions, length of course etc.). The unit of competency is a statement of competence not a course or delivery and assessment strategy. These delivery and assessment</p>

Stakeholder sector	Comments and Identified Issues	Consideration and Proposed Resolution
	<p>may play in regulations and licencing and effect on current and future landholders using baits.</p>	<p>issues are part of the role of the RTO who designs the course and timing to ensure they provide a real, or realistic work environment in which to train and assess to meet the outcomes of the unit.</p> <p><b>Feedback on State and Territory regulations and licencing.</b>  Skills Impact contacted Greg Misfud on behalf of the individuals who raised this concern as Greg had invested considerable time with Skills Impact to develop this new unit. Greg has reaffirmed to us that the unit has been created to close a training gap that has been evident for many years in the pest management qualification and it has not been developed for the purpose of State and/or Territory regulatory requirements and licencing.</p>