Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with the FBP Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Training Package Version 3.0. |

| FBPCHE5XX4 | Ripen artisan cheese |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to ripen different types of artisan cheeses. The process is also referred to as cheese maturation or affinage.  This unit applies to cheesemakers who have responsibility for overseeing the ripening of cheese, adapting the process where required to suit the specified outcome, and complying with workplace health and safety, food safety, recordkeeping and quality assurance requirements for the cheese making and ripening process.  No occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. However, legislative and regulatory requirements for food processing exist, so local requirements must be checked. All work must comply with Australian food safety standards and relevant codes of practice. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Cheese (CHE) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Prepare for cheese ripening | 1.1 Identify cheese type to be ripened  1.2 Identify properties sought through ripening process  1.3 Identify conditions for ripening including temperature, humidity, aeration conditions, time  1.4 Identify make parameters and processes for the cheese and prepare ripening sheet, showing reference parameters for that cheese type  1.5 Record all actual ripening parameters and processes on the ripening sheet, as they occur, in line with regulatory requirements  1.6 Prepare cheese for ripening, including wrapping as required |
| 2. Monitor ripening | 2.1 Check conditions for ripening including racks to be used, humidity, temperature, and aeration  2.2 Place cheese for ripening  2.3 Inspect cheese through ripening process  2.4 Take samples and test for appearance, pH, salt, texture, consistency, colour  2.5 Carry out treatments required of specific maturation process  2.6 Turn and rotate cheese to ensure ripening is even  2.7 Identify and communicate optimal ripening stage and ongoing care requirements for the cheese, including with cheese buyers and sellers |
| 3. Problem solve issues with ripening | 3.1 Identify defects in cheese through the maturation process  3.2 Make adjustments to conditions to correct defects wherever possible  3.3 Maintain records of cheese maturation  3.4 Record any wastage that occurs throughout maturation |

| 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. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Reading | * Interpret maturation requirements from a variety of sources to consolidate information for cheese production |
| Writing | * Document details of maturation, including weights, temperature, humidity, pH, salt and organoleptic parameters |
| Navigate the world of work | * Problem solve issues as they arise |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| FBPCHE5XX4 Ripen artisan cheese | Not applicable | New unit | No equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=78b15323-cd38-483e-aad7-1159b570a5c4 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for FBPCHE5XX4 Ripen artisan cheese |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has set up conditions and processes to ripen at least one soft cheese and one hard cheese. | |

| Knowledge Evidence |
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| 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:   * the environments used for maturing cheese * ripening processes, including interior ripening and surface ripening * the effect that temperature and humidity have on the maturation process and product quality * surface treatments carried out during maturation, such as washed rind, dry scraped * various wraps used for ripening * set up and composition of shelving for maturation of cheese * organoleptic properties of different cheeses throughout the maturation process, for quality products and for the identification of defects * typical tests carried out during ripening * typical testing equipment * ripening agents * typical ripening times for different types of cheese * the requirement to turn cheese during maturation * microbial contaminants of cheese (lipolytic bacteria, yeasts, moulds, bacillus, listeria, Escherichia coli, salmonella, coliforms and staphylococci) and their impact on cheese quality * contamination risk of inoculants and contaminants * yeasts and moulds and other microorganisms of significance in cheese maturation * cross contamination risks when working with blue and washed rind mould cheeses * record keeping requirements of cheese maturation * Food Standards Code in relation to dairy processing * state/territory, Commonwealth and industry requirements relevant to food processing. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real food processing workplace * resources, equipment and materials: * cheese to be ripened * suitable environment for ripening cheese.   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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