Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 2 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 6.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

| AHCPCM503 | Specify plants for landscapes |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop a client brief, select and specify landscape plants, and present a report.  The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge to specify plants for landscapes, and take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They analyse and synthesise information, and analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.  All work is carried out to comply with workplace procedures, health and safety in the workplace requirements, legislative and regulatory requirements, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Plant Culture and Management (PCM) |

| 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. Develop a client brief | 1.1 Discuss and clarify client needs and objectives  1.2 Identify purposes of the landscape and client expectations  1.3 Establish plant selection criteria  1.4 Consult with client to finalise agreement of the brief |
| 2. Determine the suitability of a plant for a purpose | 2.1 Inspect the site and determine planting area  2.2 Select species and cultivars according to the size and aspect of the site  2.3 Consider and apply environmental conditions to the functional characteristics of the plant  2.4 Determine the suitability of the soil for the plants selected  2.5 Evaluate and document plant selection and rationale |
| 3. Select plants | 3.1 Select plants according to client brief and their suitability for the intended purpose  3.2 Determine plant function for the precise location within the plan  3.3 Make recommendations for soil improvements for the selected plant species  3.4 Match species and cultivars according to plant selection criteria for species-specific characteristics  3.5 Identify plant species appropriate for the site  3.6 Research relevant reference sources  3.7 Recommend plant species or cultivars for replacement or new plantings  3.8 Document plant selections, selection criteria and notes on quality expectations and specifications |
| 4. Specify plants | 4.1 Evaluate selection criteria for mature plants against capability and availability of transplanted plants  4.2 Assess final selections against the specified soil, site location and client brief, and confirm with client  4.3 Assess selected plants for quality and quantities outlined in the specifications  4.4 Check materials, soils and growing media for specified quality  4.5 Record quality checks on delivered plants and product |
| 5. Correlate and present a report | 5.1 Gather and correlate records for client report  5.2 Document and present client report to the client |

| 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 | * Identify and interpret information regarding plant species, cultivars growing requirements, environmental conditions and functional characteristics |
| Writing | * Document client brief |
| Oral communication | * Initiate discussions with client, using clear language to discuss and clarify client needs, objectives and expectations, finalise brief, confirm plant selections and present client report |
| Numeracy | * Calculate quantity of plants, products, soil and growing media for input into plant selection and specifications |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPCM503 Specify plants for landscapes  Release 2 | AHCPCM503 Specify plants for landscapes  Release 1 | Performance criteria clarified  Foundation skills added  Assessment requirements updated | Equivalent |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72> |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for AHCPCM503 Specify plants for landscapes |
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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 specified plants for landscapes on at least one occasion, and has:   * developed a client brief on client needs, objectives and expectations, the purpose of the landscape and plant selection criteria * conducted site inspections and site assessments * compiled a database of plant specimens and characteristics * evaluated and determined plant selections * identified and selected from a range of plants appropriate to the site * researched plant reference sources * documented plant selection and specifications * used comparative techniques * assessed quality and quantity of plants and materials meet specifications * selected and checked soils and growing media * recorded plant and product quality checks * documented and presented client report. | |

| 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:   * principles and practices of specifying plants for landscapes, including: * basic physiology and life cycle of pests and diseases * botany, plant morphology, physiology, taxonomy and nomenclature * methods of data capture * plant identification techniques * soil characteristics, particularly in relation to the local region * soil and growing media selection techniques * symptoms of plant pests and diseases. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * industry publications and internet sources of information on plant species, cultivars growing requirements, environmental conditions and functional characteristics * relationships: * client * timeframes: * according to job requirements.   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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