Modification history

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

| AHCPCM404 | Recommend plants and cultural practices |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify client preferences and requirements, and select and advise on plants for specific situations.  The unit applies to individuals who apply specialist skills and knowledge to recommending plants and cultural practices. This includes applying and communicating non-routine technical solutions to predictable and unpredictable 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. Identify client preferences and requirements | 1.1 Use interpersonal skills to engage client and identify needs  1.2 Confirm with the client the purpose of the planting, and cultural and environmental factors of the intended planting site  1.3 Use botanical and common names to describe plants |
| 2. Select plants to suit specific situations | 2.1 Research plants and their growth and performance characteristics that suit the specific situation, using authoritative sources  2.2 Research local workplace and district requirements for planting site  2.3 Use problem-solving techniques to compare, assess and evaluate available plants  2.4 Determine the best choice based on reasoned argument, appropriate evidence, sound principles and client needs |
| 3. Advise on plants for specific situation | 3.1 Explain performance characteristics and particular planting, cultural and maintenance requirements to the client  3.2 Address client concerns and questions and refer to the original supplier of the plant where necessary  3.3 Record and report cultural practice recommendations |

| 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 textual information from a range of sources to identify relevant and key information about plants and related cultural practices |
| Oral communication | * Use clear language with clients to gather information, address concerns and questions, and explain plant performance characteristics and particular planting, cultural and maintenance requirements |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPCM404 Recommend plants and cultural practices | AHCPCM401 Recommend plants and cultural practices | Minor changes to application  Minor changes to performance criteria  Foundation skills added  Assessment requirements updated | Not 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 AHCPCM404 Recommend plants and cultural practices |
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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 recommended plants and cultural practices on at least two occasions, and has:   * conducted literature and industry research, and collated and analysed findings on plant species and cultivars, their characteristics and requirements * complied with local workplace and district requirements * selected plants that suit client preferences and suitability for the site * explained to the client work health and safety requirements or basic safety precautions relevant to the establishment and ongoing maintenance of plants * documented client preferences and site particulars * reported recommendations to the client that detailed the types of plants chosen and their requirements. | |

| 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 for recommending plants and their cultural practices, including: * customer service and communication skills * features of plant species and cultivars * innovation and recent practices in plant selection, use and performance * plant nomenclature, including family, genus, species and cultivar, for the range of plants recommended by the workplace * practical understanding of the physiology of the range of plants supplied and recommended by the workplace, and their comparative growth and performance characteristics in response to different cultural and environmental factors * principles and practices for the establishment and maintenance of plants * soil characteristics, particularly in relation to the geographical and climatic region of the intended planting site * local workplace and district requirements relevant to the intended planting site. |

| 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: * planting, cultural and maintenance requirements * specifications: * local workplace and district requirements relevant to the intended planting site * relationships: * clients.   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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