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. |

| AHCBAC310 | Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to maintain pastures and crops for livestock production.  The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for own work including limited responsibility for the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection and use of available resources and complete routine activities.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Broad Acre Cropping (BAC) |

| 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. Monitor & assess agricultural pasture and crop condition, growth and requirements | 1.1 Monitor pasture/crop for condition and record observations  1.2 Assess pasture/crop condition against expected growth and vigour and report variance to supervisor  1.3 Identify, monitor and report weeds, pests and diseases impacting pasture/crop  1.4 Monitor soil fertility and plant nutrition according to growing plan  1.5 Establish sites for regular measurement of soil moisture according growing plan  1.6 Assess moisture levels and calculate soil water percentage  1.7 Report observations of pasture or crop development to supervisor  1.8 Identify work health and safety hazards, assess risk and implement controls according to workplace procedures |
| 2. Undertake pasture and crop health operations | 2.1 Select, check, use and maintain personal protective equipment  2.2 Contribute to plant health management strategies and growth issues  2.3 Select and use equipment to apply treatments  2.4 Apply specialist treatments for growth stages following label instructions and specialist advice  2.5 Use technology to ensure efficient performance of operations  2.6 Conduct required chipping or spot spraying  2.7 Assess, record and report pasture and crop growth stages and keys  2.8 Apply water as required in irrigated situations according to moisture levels  2.9 Consider adverse environmental impact when performing pasture/crop operations |
| 3. Complete cleaning and hygiene operations | 3.1 Clean and maintain equipment according to hygiene and biosecurity procedures  3.2 Dispose of waste according to workplace, biosecurity and environmental procedures  3.3 Complete records and documentation according to workplace procedures |
| 4. Implement grazing strategies | 4.1 Contribute to pest management program using livestock to conduct stubble and fallow weed control  4.2 Implement grazing program to maintain pasture and crop production for grazing  4.3 Respond to changes in quantity and quality of available pasture and crop with appropriate grazing management |

| 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 work plans and strategies to elicit maintenance tasks and activities for pasture and crops |
| Numeracy | * Calculate rates of application crop treatments and fertilisers, and calibrate equipment and machinery to deliver specified rates |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCBAC310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production  Release 2 | AHCBAC310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production  Release 1 | Changes to Application. Changes to sequencing and editing of Performance Criteria. Added Foundation Skills. Updated Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions | 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 AHCBAC310 Maintain pastures and crops for livestock production |
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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 on at least one occasion maintained and pasture or crop for livestock production and has:   * detected differences and variations in pasture and crop growth including: * crop growth * nutrient status * health and condition * presence of pest and/or diseases * reported variance to crop/pasture to the supervisor * observed and reported health, nutrition and growth of the pasture and crop * monitored pests and disease in pastures and crops * assessed pastures and crop maturity * applied treatments and fertilizers according to plan * measured and assessed soil moisture and related data to crop requirements using soil probe or other measuring tools * applied technology to ensure most efficient performance of operations * implemented grazing strategy including: * monitored productivity and feed intake of grazing livestock * assessed impact of grazing on pasture and crop productivity * managed weed growth * followed workplace health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental policies and procedures. | |

| 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:   * operation and maintenance of pastures and forage crops, including: * potential hazards associated with the operation of basic tools, equipment and machinery * general machine maintenance procedures * machinery operating principles and safe operating methods * role of technology in improving efficiency * environmental impacts associated with the operation of machinery and equipment including principles of controlled traffic farming (CTF) * workplace record keeping and reporting procedures for pasture and forage crops * principles of growing pastures and forage crops, including: * symptoms of pasture and crop lacking health and vigour * signs of pest and disease infestation, moisture stress and nutrient deficiencies * hygiene requirements for equipment that comes into contact with the pastures and crops * pest control in pastures and crops, including: * types and uses of herbicides, insecticides and other pesticides * pest control methods including, chemicals, non-chemical and cultural practices * integrated pest management (IPM) * work health and safety and pesticides, legislation * livestock grazing habits and strategies including: * weed control * pasture maintenance * health and welfare of livestock * workplace animal welfare, environmental and biosecurity policies and procedures. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated on a farm with livestock or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * livestock for grazing * use of tools, equipment and machinery for maintaining pasture and forage crops * use of personal protective equipment * specifications: * use of workplace policies, procedures, processes * access to safety data sheets for treatments * use of workplace plans and specifications * relationships: * supervisor.   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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