Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 9.0. |

| AHCPLY3X2 | Incubate eggs |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to incubate eggs, including the operation and monitoring of egg setting and hatching equipment.  This unit applies to workers who apply technical knowledge and skills with discretion and judgement to incubate poultry eggs in commercial production environments. They work under broad direction, coordinate activities and solve problems related to egg incubation. Workplaces may include poultry breeding farms and egg incubation facilities.  Commonwealth and/or state/territory health and safety, animal welfare, environmental protection and biosecurity legislation, regulations and codes of practice apply to working with fertilised poultry eggs, and the use of fumigants. Requirements vary between jurisdictions.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Poultry (PLY) |

| 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. Receive and store eggs | 1.1 Identify and implement enterprise biosecurity procedures that apply to incubating eggs  1.2 Identify tasks to be undertaken from work plan  1.3 Identify health and safety hazards, and assess and control risks  1.4 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) required for the tasks  1.5 Check egg storage plant, equipment and tools in readiness to receive eggs  1.6 Unload eggs from delivery vehicle, transfer to setter trolleys and record required information, including temperature, humidity and storage period  1.7 Attach eggs to turning machine and manage eggs according to enterprise requirements  1.8 Monitor and adjust temperature, humidity and airflow to maintain required conditions  1.9 Complete ongoing records and report issues according to enterprise requirements |
| 2. Fumigate setter and/or hatcher | 2.1 Identify fumigation requirements according to work plan  2.2 Prepare fumigant and application equipment, including PPE  2.3 Fit PPE, seal room and fumigate for required period  2.4 Ventilate room or chamber to remove unsafe remnants of the fumigant prior to re-entry of staff, re-installation of equipment and placement of eggs |
| 3. Monitor and operate setter | 3.1 Calibrate temperature probes in setter according to manufacturer and/or enterprise requirements  3.2 Check and record setter readings  3.3 Recognise alarms and carry out specified sequence of operations  3.4 Operate and maintain setter to consistently meet required settings |
| 4. Transfer eggs to hatcher | 4.1 Move trollies to egg handling and transfer area according to in the sequence required by enterprise the organisation  4.2 Check temperature, humidity and airflow and adjust to maintain required conditions  4.3 Transfer eggs to hatching trays according to predetermined sequence |
| 5. Operate and monitor and operate hatcher | 5.1 Check and record temperature, humidity and airflow as required  5.2 Recognise alarms and carry out specified sequence of operations |
| 6. Complete hygiene and administration activities | 6.1 Identify hazards, assess risks and control risks prior  6.2 Select and fit appropriate PPE required for the tasks  6.3 Measure chemicals and prepare cleaning fluids safely according to supplier instructions and enterprise procedures  6.4 Check and prepare cleaning equipment  6.5 Clean and/or disinfect work areas, tools, equipment and surfaces according to enterprise health, safety, personal hygiene and biosecurity procedures  6.6 Dispose of waste according to enterprise environmental and biosecurity procedures  6.7 Maintain and store tools, equipment and machinery  6.8 Complete records and report issues according to enterprise requirements |

| 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 in enterprise procedures, forms and work standards related to egg incubation * Interpret key information available from supplier manuals for the operation and maintenance of egg incubation equipment |
| Writing | * Use industry terminology to record information related to egg incubation |
| Numeracy | * Measure, estimate and calculate quantity, weight, area, volume, ratio, and temperature |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPLY3X2 Incubate eggs | AHCPLY304 Incubate eggs | Application updated  Elements revised and/or reordered for clarity  Performance criteria added, removed or revised for clarity  Foundation Skills added  Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions 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 AHCPLY3X2 Incubate eggs |
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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 safely and efficiently incubated at least two separate batches of fertilised poultry eggs.  Each batch must include at least 20 eggs, and for each batch, the individual must have, according to enterprise requirements:   * identified and applied enterprise health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental protection procedures related to preparing plant and equipment to incubate eggs * identified egg quantities and specific requirements from work program * followed personal hygiene requirements * identified at least three different health and safety hazards, and assessed and controlled associated risks * selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) * received, transferred and stored eggs, including recording required information * monitored and operated setter, including: * calibrated temperature probes * checking, recording and adjusting settings * carried out predetermined sequence of actions in response to alarms * transferred eggs to hatcher, checked and adjusted hatcher settings to achieve required conditions * safely fumigated setter and/or hatcher and ensured safe removal of fumigant afterwards * monitored and operated hatcher * safely prepared cleaning equipment and cleaned and/or sanitised, working surfaces, equipment and tools * removed and disposed of waste * completed egg incubation records and/or reports. | |

| 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:   * key features of state/territory legislation, regulations and codes of practice for worker health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environment protection that apply to incubating poultry eggs * enterprise procedures and requirements for worker health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environment protection that apply to incubating poultry eggs * hazard identification, risk assessment and controls to minimise risks when incubating poultry eggs * requirements, methods and procedures for handling, unloading, storing, transferring and turning eggs * types, uses, cleaning, maintenance and storage of machinery, equipment and tools used in incubating operations, including temperature probe calibration * range, effects and impacts of environmental parameters on incubating eggs, including temperature, humidity and ventilation * types, handling, use and disposal of fumigating agents, including enterprise health, safety and environmental procedures for fumigants * enterprise requirements, methods and procedures for removing and disposing of waste * enterprise requirements and procedures for cleaning and maintaining egg incubation work areas * regulatory and enterprise documentation, records and reports required for incubation of poultry eggs. |

| 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 commercial poultry egg incubation facility or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * live fertilised eggs specified in performance evidence * poultry egg incubation facility, materials, resources, tools and equipment, including egg setter, hatcher and PPE specified in the performance evidence * specifications: * enterprise health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environmental protection procedures for the activities specified in the performance evidence.   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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