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 X.0 |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0 |

| AHCPER2X5 | Harvest crops in a permaculture system |
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| Application | This unit provides the skills and knowledge required to recognise crop maturity and harvest crops commonly used in a permaculture systems, requiring an understanding of grading characteristics, maintaining quality and the effect of adverse weather conditions on harvesting operations.  This unit applies to individuals who work under supervision and exercise limited autonomy with some accountability for their own work. They undertake defined activities and work in a structured context.  No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Permaculture (PER) |

| Elements | Performance Criteria |
| --- | --- |
| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1. Assess plants for harvest | 1.1 Identify crops to be harvested according to the harvesting plan  1.2 Determine crop maturity and confirm with supervisor  1.3 Confirm conditions are conducive for harvesting operations |
| 2. Prepare equipment for harvesting | 2.1 Select tools, equipment and machinery for harvesting operations  2.2 Carry out pre-operational and safety checks on tools, equipment and machinery according to manufacturer specifications  2.3 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE) |
| 3. Harvest the crop | 3.1 Harvest crop safely according to workplace safety procedures  3.2 Harvest and handle crop to prevent damage and maintain quality  3.3 Sort and grade crop into containers according to harvesting plan  3.4 Clean and maintain harvesting tools, equipment and machinery |
| 4. Complete crop harvesting work | 4.1 Employ safe manual handling techniques throughout harvesting operations  4.2 Move and stack containers to minimise damage to crop  4.3 Maintain temperature of crop according to harvesting plan  4.4 Transport crop from field to processing or storage area  4.5 Maintain containers in good working order |

| 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 harvesting plans and procedures to ensure compliance with work requirements and quality standards |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPER2X5 Harvest crops in a permaculture system | AHCPER208 Harvest permaculture crops | Title change to clarify the unit intent  Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria for brevity and clarity | 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 AHCPER2X5 Harvest crops in a permaculture system |
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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 harvested at least one crop and has:   * assessed crops and conditions for harvest * prepared resources and materials for crop harvest operations * carry out harvest operations safely without damage to crop * prepared, operated and maintained harvesting equipment * graded, packed into containers and stored harvested crop. | |

| 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:   * permaculture principles related to harvesting * principles of sustainable horticultural practices * crops commonly used in permaculture systems * indicators of crop maturity for harvesting * impact of environmental conditions on crop harvesting including: * weather impact on crop * safe access to harvest site * harvesting techniques, including: * selective picking or hand picking ripe from unripe * tree shaking * picking leaves rather than whole plants * cutting plants and allowing to regrow (for example, leeks, spring onions) * thinning or removing weak or diseased plants from among healthy ones * end of season crop extension harvesting (for example, hanging tomato plants to ripen indoors) * equipment and machinery used in harvesting * sorting and grading, including: * removing out-of-type crop * removing physically damaged, unhealthy, rotten or immature crop * grading of the crop according to variety, size, length, colour, maturity, blemishes, bud count and quality, being subject to seasonal and market forces * storage, transportation and grading of crops, including containers and their maintenance * methods of waste disposal with minimal impact on the environment * safe work practices when harvesting, grading and storing crops. |

| 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 permaculture property with maturing crops or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * use of tools and equipment for harvesting * use of personal protective equipment * use of crops to harvest * Use of containers and storage site * specifications: * use of workplace procedures and processes * use of manufacturer operating instructions for equipment * use of workplace instructions * use of grading standards for harvested crops * relationships: * supervisor * timeframes: * according to ripening time specified in harvesting plan.   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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