Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 8.0. |

| AHCPRK3X3 | Care for weaner pigs |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to care for weaner pigs, including their accommodation, feeding, health and welfare.  This unit applies to individuals who apply technical knowledge and skills with discretion and judgement to care for pigs in pork production environments. They work under broad direction, coordinate activities and solve problems related to pig welfare. Work environments may include indoor and outdoor pork production systems.  Commonwealth and/or state/territory health and safety, animal welfare, environmental protection and biosecurity legislation, regulations and codes of practice apply to keeping and working with pigs. Requirements vary between jurisdictions.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Pork (PRK) |

| 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. Prepare accommodation for weaners | 1.1 Select, clean and/or disinfect and prepare accommodation for weaner pigs according to pig requirements and enterprise procedures, including safety and security  1.2 Check and/or adjust temperature, ventilation, humidity and other environmental conditions to meet pig needs  1.3 Check and prepare feeders and drinkers according to manufacturer instructions and/or enterprise requirements  1.4 Check for signs of pests and/or predators according to enterprise procedures  1.5 Resolve, record and report issues according to enterprise procedures |
| 2. Carry out weaner pig operations | 2.1 Identify hazards, and assess and control risks related to weaner pig operations  2.2 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) according to enterprise safety and biosecurity requirements  2.3 Group pigs into viable groups to achieve optimal productivity  2.4 Monitor pig behaviour, welfare and health daily,  2.5 Action and/or report issues according to enterprise procedures, and treat according to Farm Treatment Plan or Approved Medication List  2.6 Provide water and feed according to established feeding plan and schedule  2.7 Report abnormal or unexpected mortalities as required  2.8 Remove dead pigs and record according to enterprise biosecurity and environmental requirements |
| 3. Transition weaners to grower or other facility | 3.1 Identify pigs that are ready for transition to grower facilities  3.2 Separate pigs not fit to load and take appropriate actions according to enterprise policy  3.3 Complete documentation clearly, accurately and promptly  3.4 Move pigs to grower facility or load onto transport vehicle as required, using safe and low stress handling techniques |

| 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 pig care * Interpret key information available from pig feeding plan, Farm Treatment Plan and Approved Medication List |
| Writing | * Record pig health and treatments accurately using industry terminology |
| Numeracy | * Estimate and calculate quantity, weight, volume, ratio, and temperature |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPRK3X3 Care for weaner pigs | AHCPRK204 Care for weaner pigs | AQF indicator in unit code changed to reflect unit outcomes  Application updated  Performance criteria added for worker health and safety  Other Performance criteria added 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 AHCPRK3X3 Care for weaner pigs |
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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 effectively cared for at least two different groups of weaner pigs. For each group, the individual must have:   * identified at least two hazards, and assessed and controlled and/or reported associated risks * selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) * used safe and low stress animal handling techniques to care for weaner pigs * identified and applied enterprise health and safety, infection control, biosecurity and environmental protection procedures * maintained weaner pig environments, including: * checked and prepared feeders and drinkers are operational * cleaned and/or disinfected food handling equipment and/or housing area * identified and reported pest and/or predator activity * disposed of waste materials according to environmental requirements * monitored feed and water quantity, quality and availability * fed according to weaner pig requirements, including monitored feeding and drinking patterns * monitored and reported basic pig health and identified signs of: * ill health, injury or distress * abnormal or depressed appetite * non-routine behaviour * abnormal discharge   The individual must also have:   * treated at least two pigs according to enterprise requirements, including: * administered treatments according to Farm Treatment Plan or Approved Medication List * demonstrated safe handling and positioning of self to reduce risks to pigs, self and others * safely stored or disposed of materials used for treatments according to enterprise health, safety and biosecurity requirements * documented at least two treatments provided to pigs, including their withholding period and/or export slaughter interval   In addition to the above, the individual must have removed and/or disposed of a dead or non-viable pig according to enterprise biosecurity and environmental 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:   * awareness of state/territory legislation, regulations and codes of practice for worker health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environment protection that apply to caring for weaner pigs * enterprise procedures and requirements for worker health and safety, animal welfare, biosecurity and environment protection that apply to caring for weaner pigs * hazard identification, risk assessment and controls to minimise risks when caring for weaner pigs * key care, health and welfare requirements for weaner pigs * common types of infrastructure, enclosures and equipment used to house and care for weaner pigs in indoor and outdoor farming systems, including: * pig shed, pens or paddock infrastructure * features, functions and benefits * safety and operational checks * cleaning and disinfection requirements * maintenance requirements * checking pig feeders and drinkers * optimal range, effects and impacts of ventilation, temperature, humidity and other environmental parameters on weaner pig health and welfare * safe and low stress techniques for handling and restraining weaner pigs, including injured and ill pigs * requirements, methods and procedures for weaning piglets * requirements, methods and procedures for formation of viable weaner groups, and the impacts of a viable group on individual pig health and production, including consideration of pig weight, sex and stocking density * key features of pig anatomy and body functions * physical needs of pigs, including food, water, protection from weather and predators * signs of common weaner pig ill heath, diseases and injuries, and detection methods including: * irregular behaviour, including self-isolation, lethargy, loss of appetite and drinking * checks including weight and breathing rate * limp in step, straight tail, head tilt and body tremors * checking skin for red patches, scabs, bleeding, lesions, swelling, open wounds and unusual discharges from eyes, nose and genitalia * abnormal faeces * nutritional requirements of weaner pigs * methods and procedures for feeding and watering weaner pigs * criteria and methods of assessing optimal stocking densities of weaner pigs * criteria for assessing suitability of weaner pigs for transition to grower facilities, including Fitness to Load guidelines * requirements, methods and procedures for removal and disposal of pig carcasses, including enterprise biosecurity and environmental considerations * types, uses and procedures of relevant veterinary and health care treatments of weaner pigs * withholding periods of veterinary chemicals and medicines and rationale for withholding periods * types, safe handling, use and disposal of cleaning agents and disinfectants commonly used in weaner pig care including related work health and safety and environmental requirements * zoonoses, including erysipelas, leptospirosis, ringworm and influenza * key features of typical enterprise recording and reporting requirements related to pig care |

| 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 pork production site * resources, equipment and materials: * live pigs specified in performance evidence * pig care infrastructure, materials, resources, tools and equipment, including PPE specified in the performance evidence * specifications: * enterprise procedures for pig care, health and welfare, worker health and safety, and biosecurity 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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