Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with AMP Australian Meat Processing Training Package Version 8.0. |

| AMPQUA3X16 | Collect and prepare standard samples |
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| Application | This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to collect and prepare standard microbiological samples.  This unit applies to individuals who work in the meat industry who are required to collect samples for testing. This task may be carried out by supervisors, quality assurance officers or meat inspectors. Samples may be processed in-house or dispatched to external laboratories for testing.  All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, in accordance with state/territory health and safety, food and meat safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Quality Assurance (QUA) |

| 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 for sample collection | 1.1 Identify and confirm type of sample required prior to collection  1.2 Identify hazards and workplace controls associated with the sample  1.3 Identify prescribed procedures to ensure representative sampling |
| 2. Use aseptic techniques | 2.1 Use specified personal protective equipment  2.2 Prepare the work area for safe and effective sample transfer  2.3 Select equipment and materials specified by the procedure  2.4 Ensure equipment is clean and sterilised to prevent contamination  2.5 Organise equipment to minimise contamination during manipulations |
| 3. Perform sample collection | 3.1 Collect samples in accordance with workplace procedures  3.2 Preserve sample integrity throughout all aspects of sampling  3.3 Place samples in suitable containers and label to clearly identify sample type, location, date and any other workplace-specific information  3.4 Recognise and report unusual or non-standard observations made during sampling  3.5 Maintain sampling equipment in clean, safe and sterile working order |
| 4. Handle, store and dispatch samples | 4.1 Record sample information according to workplace requirements  4.2 Where laboratories are used store and preserve sample, check sample label is clear and in accordance with laboratory procedures  4.3 Dispatch sample, store and preserve samples requiring analysis by external laboratories in accordance with laboratory procedures  4.4 Dispose of unwanted samples in accordance with workplace and hygiene standards |

| 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 | * Follow standard procedures for collecting, handling and dispatching test samples |
| Oral communication | * Interact with laboratory staff about test requirements, using industry terminology |
| Numeracy | * Interpret test results |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AMPQUA3X16 Collect and prepare standard samples | AMPR321 Collect and prepare standard samples | Unit code updated  Performance Criteria clarified  Element 2 added  Foundation Skills added  Performance Evidence, Knowledge Evidence and Assessment Conditions revised | Not equivalent |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet:  [https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5e2e56b7-698f-4822-84bb-25adbb8443a7](https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5e2e56b7-698f-4822-84bb-25adbb8443a7%20) |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for AMPQUA3X16 Collect and prepare standard samples |
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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 collected and prepared standard samples for analysis on at least two separate occasions, including:   * used aseptic techniques * followed workplace and regulatory requirements for sample collection and preparation * labelled samples appropriately. | |

| 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:   * pathogens likely to occur in meat and meat processing environments * procedures for collecting, handling and storing specimens in accordance with laboratory procedures and legislative requirements * use of aseptic techniques in collecting samples * sterilisation techniques * how sample collection is coordinated with workplace activities * importance of obtaining representative samples and how this can be achieved * procedures for documenting all pertinent sample information in the required format * relevant workplace health and safety requirements * steps in preparing samples and sub-samples to comply with required procedures * workplace procedures to recognise sampling equipment and, as required, maintain it in a sterile condition * procedures for safe disposal of unwanted samples. |

| 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 in a meat processing workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * personal protective clothing and equipment * sampling equipment * meat or meat product for sampling * specifications: * sampling procedures * relationships: * interactions with work team and supervisor.   Assessment for this unit must include at least three forms of 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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