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 XX |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0 |

| AHCORG507 | Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to access assistance, develop sub plans for soil fertility, weeds, integrated pest and diseases, animal health and environment and to integrate into the design of an organic management plan (OMP) or biodynamic management plan (BMP).  The unit applies to individuals who apply specialised skills and knowledge, and take personal responsibility and exercise autonomy in undertaking complex work. They analyse and synthesise information and demonstrate deep knowledge in a specific technical area. They analyse, design and communicate solutions to sometimes complex problems.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Organic Production (ORG) |

| 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. Locate and access assistance in developing OMP or BMP | 1.1 Locate and access sources of support and advice  1.2 Assess industry publications for their value in informing decision making  1.3 Seek and consider contributions of work colleagues and others during planning process  1.4 Access information from certifier and organic or biodynamic standards |
| 2. Design the organic farming system to be described in the OMP or BMP | 2.1 Acquire property map  2.2 Determine time scale to be addressed in plan  2.3 Establish benchmark position for soils, pests, diseases and animal health for farm property  2.4 Obtain regional catchment targets for land, water and biodiversity for property and sub-catchment  2.5 Identify components of OMP or BMP to be developed  2.6 Develop format for planning documents  2.7 Identify risks to organic integrity for the farm enterprise and outline strategies to manage risk |
| 3. Develop soil fertility plan | 3.1 Conduct a soil fertility assessment of farm production areas  3.2 Map soil types and topography on farm plan  3.3 Identify and assess options for soil fertility plan  3.4 Identify inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles  3.5 Document soil fertility plan according to format |
| 4. Develop soil management sub-plan | 4.1 Determine soil physical and chemical characteristics and suitability for production  4.2 Develop soil management plan to improve soil characteristics  4.3 Identify inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles  4.4 Document soil management sub-plan according to format  4.5 Identify farm management practices and strategies to enhance soil conditions |
| 5. Develop weed management sub-plan | 5.1 Observe and identify weed species and their indication of soil health  5.2 Identify life cycles of weeds species to inform management options  5.3 Identify inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles  5.4 Develop integrated farming strategies and cultural practices for managing weeds  5.5 Document weed management sub-plan according to format |
| 6. Develop and design an integrated pest and disease management sub-plan | 6.1 Collect and document evidence of pest and disease incursion in farming system  6.2 Observe and monitor pests and diseases and their life cycles  6.3 Evaluate pest and disease impact  6.4 Evaluate pests, diseases and beneficial organisms as indicators of farming system health  6.5 Identify options for addressing pests and diseases  6.6 Identify inputs according to the National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles  6.7 Document integrated pest and disease management sub-plan according to established format |
| 7. Develop animal health and management sub-plan | 7.1 Identify regional and farm-based animal health issues  7.2 Identify options for preventative actions for maintaining optimal animal health  7.3 Identify options for treating animal health issues  7.4 Develop a sustainable grazing management plan  7.5 Develop an animal management program that ensures compliance to organic standards or agro-ecological principles  7.6 Document animal health and management sub-plan according to established format |
| 8. Develop an environmental management sub-plan | 8.1 Identify environment and climate issues  8.2 Identify options for addressing environment and climate issues  8.3 Identify appropriate inputs according to the National Standards for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles  8.4 Document environmental management sub-plan according to established format |
| 9. Integrate and finalise the OMP or BMP | 9.1 Collate and integrate sub-plans into OMP or BMP  9.2 Develop and implement record-keeping system to track components of plan  9.3 Review and update OMP or BMP annually |

| 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 information for National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles, and planning requirements * Identify and interpret information on regional catchment targets for land, water and biodiversity applicable to property and sub-catchment |
| Oral communication | * Initiate discussions with work colleagues and others, using clear language to discuss and communicate plan |
| Numeracy | * Access and analyse data for input to OMP or BMP * Document time scale and costs of implemented strategy |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan  Release 2 | AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan  Release 1 | 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 AHCORG507 Develop an organic or biodynamic management plan |
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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 developed biodynamic or organic management plans on at least two different properties and has:   * identified and developed required components of organic management plan (OMP) or biodynamic management plan (BMP) for each property * established benchmark position from past practices for weeds, pest, disease and animal health status and their interrelationships * conducted a soil fertility assessment which must include: * soil physical and chemical test results * interrelationships between soil, plant, animal health and environment * current soil condition and past management practices * developed a soil fertility and soil management sub plans based on assessment of soil tests and observations which must include: * amendments to soil chemistry * soil structure * soil biology * developed a weed management sub-plan, * developed and designed an integrated pest and disease management sub-plan * developed an animal health and management sub-plan * develop an environmental management sub-plan * compiled sub plans and documented the organic management plan (OMP) or biodynamic management plan (BMP) according to organic certification standards. | |

| 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:   * principles of organic agriculture, * fundamental role of soil health, including: * soil type * slope and aspect * previous use * soil structure * compaction * drainage and water logging * soil biology and soil food web, and the role of bacteria, fungi and protozoa * organic soil nutrition and fertiliser management * role of green manures and organic matter * principles of sustainable production * requirements and components of an OMP and BMP * organic and biodynamic certification standards * integrated organic pest and disease management, including: * cultural practices * certified organic pest and disease products * system design * soil health impact on pests and diseases * biological control * cultural practices * system design * soil health and pests and diseases * management and farming system's resilience * animal grazing management, including: * feed requirements * stocking densities * regional catchment land and soil condition targets. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represent workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * industry publications relevant to OMP or BMP * OMP or BMP certification standards * maps of property * soil fertility assessment * specifications: * National Standard for Organic and Biodynamic Produce or agro-ecological principles * relationships: * work colleagues.   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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