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 |

| AHCORG402 | Manage organic livestock production |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to integrate livestock production into an organic production system according to animal welfare and biosecurity legislation, national standards for organic and biodynamic production and agro-ecological principles.  The unit applies to individuals who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others within know parameters and use discretion and judgment in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.  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. Prepare to manage animal health and welfare | 1.1 Investigate and consider natural behaviours, requirements and welfare of animals when planning for organic livestock production  1.2 Identify production requirements and environment of farm  1.3 Identify and select genetic varieties of animals best suited to production requirements and environment  1.4 Develop animal health management strategies for farm |
| 2, Manage animal health and welfare | 2.1 Communicate and implement animal health management strategy to work team  2.2 Monitor livestock for health and welfare  2.3 Manage livestock according to certified organic standards and biosecurity procedures  2.4 Conduct animal husbandry and transport according to animal welfare principles and organic certification requirements  2.5 Maintain livestock records required for organic certification |
| 3. Develop and implement supplementary feed requirements | 3.1 Identify feed gaps and requirements for supplementary feed taking into account seasonal conditions and drought  3.2 Incorporate on-farm supplementary feed strategies including fodder crops, agroforestry or standing hay paddocks into the annual program for animal feed and on-farm sustainability  3.3 Implement good storage practises for feed inputs to ensure quality is maintained  3.4 Purchase and use nutritional inputs in the feed program that meet relevant Organic Standards and/or agro-ecological principles where applicable |
| 4. Develop a sustainable grazing strategy | 4.1 Determine feed requirements, carrying capacity and stocking rate for farm according to seasonal variability, livestock needs and sustainability requirements  4.2 Determine indicators and benchmarks for sustainable pasture, land and soil use for farm  4.3 Identify grazing infrastructure required according to planned grazing outcomes  4.4 Incorporate infrastructure requirements into farm improvement program  4.5 Develop a planned grazing system according to optimal livestock health, productivity and grazing requirements |
| 5. Implement a sustainable grazing strategy | 5.1 Optimise soil and plant health to provide a nutrient-dense and balanced diet for livestock  5.2 Implement and monitor grazing system to ensure productivity and sustainability  5.3 Implement strategies for controlling weeds in pastures according to Organic Standards and agro-ecological principles  5.4 Maintain records of grazing activity according to workplace procedures and Organic Standards |
| 6. Manage farm fertility for the livestock enterprise | 6.1 Estimate level of nutrients exported from farm  6.2 Implement soil fertility monitoring program  6.3 Manage soil nutrient levels and balance according to Organic Standards and agro-ecological principles  6.4 Eliminate risk of weed and chemical contamination of farm according to Organic Standards and agro-ecological principles  6.5 Maintain records of soil fertility according to workplace procedures and Organic 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 | * Critically analyse organic production principles, standards and certification procedures to ensure compliance with organic livestock production |
| Writing | * Develop procedural material for organic livestock production using clear industry specific language in order to convey explicit information for production requirements |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCORG402 Manage organic livestock production  Release 2 | AHCORG402 Manage organic livestock production  Release 1 | Minor changes to Application  split, re-sequenced and minor edits to Elements and Performance criteria for clarity and improved structure | 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 AHCORG402 Manage organic livestock production |
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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 on at least one occasion managed livestock production for an organic farm and has:   * monitored and maintained animals in an organic production system * provided a suitable diet and living environment for animals according to Standards for Organic Livestock Production and agro-ecological principles * integrated animals into an organic production system * managed animal health and welfare * managed grazing of animals to enhance soil health and fertility   implemented enterprise environmental sustainability practices and organic 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:   * organic standards and certification requirements * organic agriculture and agro-ecological principles * animal health, pests, parasites and diseases and their control * relevant animal welfare code of practice * grazing management, including: * pasture identification and assessment * feed budgeting * planned grazing strategies * carrying capacity and sustainable pasture utilisation * pasture, land and soil condition and indicators of fertility, including: * soil-testing * plant testing * observation of plant growth * management options for animal health based on an understanding of pest life cycles, genetic selection and acquired immunity * permitted, restricted and prohibited inputs and activities for soil, plant and animal health as specified in the national standards for organic and biodynamic livestock production, including: * recycling * optimising nutrient availability in soil * sourcing fertility inputs * work health and safety and animal welfare legislation and codes of practice. * record keeping practices for farm and organic certification. |

| 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 an organic farm or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * use of tools, equipment and machinery * use of input materials and consumables * use of personal protective equipment * specifications: * use of workplace policies and procedures * use of manufacturer operating instructions for equipment and machinery * access to safety data sheets * use of workplace livestock production specifications * access to specific organic and biodynamic standards * relationships: * team member.   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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