Modification history

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

| AHCPER2X4 | Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to plant and maintain plants in a permaculture cropping system involving site preparation, handling and planting of a range of planting materials and the maintenance of crops in the field.  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 licensing, legislative or certification requirements 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. Prepare to plant permaculture crops | 1.1 Confirm work requirements with supervisor  1.2 Select and prepare tools and equipment  1.3 Identify plant materials to be planted  1.4 Identify safety hazards and implement controls according to workplace procedures  1.5 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment |
| 2. Prepare the site for planting | 2.1 Tend to residual material on site according to permaculture planting plan  2.2 Apply soil treatments or amendments according to supervisor instructions  2.3 Implement plant protection strategy according to instructions  2.4 Mark out planting pattern according to permaculture planting plan |
| 3. Carry out planting operations | 3.1 Select planting material according to plan  3.2 Maintain viability of planting material  3.3 Handle and transport planting material to site  3.4 Carry out planting according to permaculture planting plan |
| 4. Maintain plants | 4.1 Apply treatments to plantings according to the permaculture planting plan  4.2 Water plantings according to irrigation schedule  4.3 Train and protect plants according to permaculture planting plan |

| 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 |
| Numeracy | * Use volumetric and area calculations to determine application rates of permaculture treatments |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCPER2X4 Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system | AHCPER206 Plant and maintain permaculture crops | Title change to clarify unit intent  Minor changes to Application and Performance Criteria for 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 AHCPER2X4 Plant and maintain crops in a permaculture system |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has planted and maintained at least 2 crops in a permaculture system and has:   * selected and prepared plant material, tools and equipment * prepared site for planting * planted according to permaculture planting plan * trained and protected plantings, including the use of supports and guards * maintained soil moisture according to irrigation plan * applied treatments to planting site. | |

| 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 and practices related to planting operations, including: * planting in natural groupings or guilds * utilising plant partnerships such as vines on corn crops * planting mixed species and interplanting with companion species * avoiding soil compaction or disturbance * utilising chickens to plough and prepare ground for planting * avoiding water, seed or weed leakages from the system * handling residual materials sustainably on the planting site, including: * previous crops * weeds * detritus * principles of sustainable horticultural practices * planting techniques * basic plant nutrition * soil improvement and nutrient maintenance, including: * minerals, including rock dusts * organic matter * manures, appropriate fertilisers and composts * foliar feeds or fertigation * vermicompost and worm castings * planting of a temporary green manure or cover crop * legume plantings or interplantings * sheet mulches * companion planting * plant growth and development * methods of waste disposal causing minimal impact on the environment * safe work practices in the workplace. |

| 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 permaculture garden system or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * use of tools and equipment * use of personal protective equipment * use of planting materials * use of irrigation/watering system * use of treatments, guards, support systems for training and maintaining plantings * specifications: * use of workplace safety procedures * use of manufacturer operating instructions for tools and equipment * access to safety data sheets * use of workplace instructions and planting plans * relationships: * supervisor   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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