Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| Release 1 | This version released with FBP Food, Beverage and Pharmaceutical Training Package version 3.0. |

| FBPTEC4XX9 | Prepare starter cultures for fermentation |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare for the fermentation of food or beverages, including producing a starter culture. This unit applies to those workers who have responsibility for overseeing the production of fermented food and/or beverages and the quality assurance requirements associated with those products.No occupational licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication. However, legislative and regulatory requirements for fermented food processing, and commercial sale of food and beverage products, exist so local requirements must be checked. All work must comply with Australian food safety standards and relevant codes of practice.  |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Technical (TEC) |

| 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. Set up for fermentation | 1.1 Identify hazards in the fermentation process and manage risks1.2 Clean and sanitise equipment and environment according to workplace procedures1.3 Identify specification for product1.4 Confirm availability of raw materials to prepare starter1.5 Check quality of raw materials meets specification for end product |
| 2. Produce starter | 2.1 Check the integrity of the yeast, bacteria and/or fungi to ensure it is clear of contamination2.2 Inoculate cultivation medium with yeast, bacteria and/or fungi, specific to product specification2.3 Mix medium with yeast, bacteria and/or fungi2.4 Keep mix warm for specified time, in line with product requirements2.5 Control temperature and humidity to facilitate enzyme activity2.6 Stop fermentation process when starter medium reaches desired texture or appearance2.7 Record details of process for traceability, in line with organisational and regulatory requirements2.8 Cool and store starter for future use |

| Foundation SkillsThis 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 skills | * Convert units involving multiples and submultiples
* Use fractions, decimals, proportions and percentages to determine responses to results
* Use volumes (ml, L) and weights (mg, g, kg) to describe product quantities
* Calculate dose (mg), average mass, mass percentage, density, moisture, relative and absolute humidity
* Determine ratios, such as mass to mass, mass to volume and volume to volume percentages
* Calculate concentration, such as g/100mL, mg/L and dilution ml/L
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| Get the work done | * Think through options to identify and respond to atypical results of tests
* Trace and source obvious cause of artefact or malfunction
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| Unit Mapping Information |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| FBPFTEC4XXX Prepare starter cultures for fermentation |  | New unit | No equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=78b15323-cd38-483e-aad7-1159b570a5c4 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for FBPTEC4XX9 Prepare starter cultures for fermentation |
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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 prepared for fermentation by producing a starter culture on two separate occasions for the same product, that consistently meets specifications for the product. |

| 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:* fermented products that require a starter culture to begin the fermentation process
* products that are fermented with:
* yeast, including beer, cider, wine, sour dough bread
* bacteria (lactic acid fermentation which does not always require a starter), including sauerkraut, kimchi, olives, fermented vegetables, cultured condiments, cultured dairy products, non-dairy kefir
* fungi, including koji, miso, soy sauce, tempeh, natto
* yeast and bacteria SCOBY, including kombucha, vinegar, kefir grains
* bacteria and fungi, including cheese
* yeast, bacteria and fungi, including milk kefir, sake
* ideal temperature to promote enzyme activity, relevant to starter culture
* specific starters used for different products, including symbiotic culture of bacteria and yeast (SCOBY) for kombucha
* contaminants that may affect different types of starters
* natural starters versus commercial starters
* typical basic tests, equipment and methods relevant to process, such as temperature, pH and humidity
* sanitation requirements and purpose
* instruments and measurements used for typical tests including thermometer probe, pH meter, hygrometer and calibration requirements for each
* acceptable parameters for typical test results
* anaerobic pathogen risks associated with fermentation processes
* effect pH has on the maturation process
* air circulation requirements of specific products
* possible effects of temperature fluctuations, relative humidity and air circulation on product
* relationship between pH, water activity (Aw) and humidity
* workplace and/or legal traceability requirements
* interpretation of test results, including simple calculations
* methods for controlling atypical outcomes of tests, relevant to process.
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| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions: * physical conditions:
* skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents a real fermented food or beverage production environment
* resources, equipment and materials:
* raw materials and equipment to produce starter
* test equipment
* specifications
* specification for product.

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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