AHC10 QUALIFICATIONS AND AUSTRALIAN APPRENTICESHIPS GUIDE

PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE

The first version of the *Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management (AHC10) Training Package* was released in June 2011 and marked the end of a number of years of work in merging three standalone, industry specific training documents. Since the initial release, a series of changes have been made to the Training Package (qualifications modified, qualifications added) which has resulted in the endorsement and publication of several updated versions of the document. The latest release, *AHC10 - Version 8*, was endorsed by the National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) in December 2013 and published in the same month. The Training Package is under constant review by the various industry stakeholders and, from time to time, amendments will be made to reflect current work practices and the changing needs of the industry. More detailed information about the role, structure and implementation of Training Packages can be obtained from the websites of the organisations listed below. Copies of all current qualifications and ancillary information can be downloaded from the Rural Skills Australia website.

Organisation	Website Address
Rural Skills Australia	www.ruralskills.com.au
Training.gov.au *	www.training.gov.au
Agrifood Skills Australia	www.agrifoodskills.net.au

^{(*} Undertaking a role which was formerly the responsibility of the National Training Information Service (NTIS))

This document focuses on training in the production horticulture industry and is part of a much larger document that provides information about all other industry sectors in the **AHC10 Training Package** including:

- * Agriculture
- * Horticulture
- * Conservation and Land Management
- * Services: Agribusiness, Beekeeping, Commercial Seed Processing, Commercial Composting, Conservation Earthworks, Feedlot, Irrigation, Rural Machinery, Rural Merchandising, Rural Operations, Seed Production, Seed Testing, Shearing, Wool Classing and Wool Handling.

Full details of the training available in these industry sectors can also be found on the Rural Skills Australia website.

The production horticulture industry offers five qualifications – from the Certificate II level to the Diploma level.

The Agricultural and Horticultural Australian Apprenticeships Adviser Program Project is funded by the Australian Government Department of Industry through the Australian Apprenticeships Mentoring Program.

Disclaimers

- 1. The views and opinions expressed in this document are those of Rural Industry Trainee Association Inc. and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government or State and Territory Governments.
- 2. This Guide is provided for information purposes only. Rural Skills Australia will not accept responsibility or liability for the accuracy or authenticity of the contents of this Guide. The information is provided on the basis that persons using the Guide undertake responsibility for assessing the relevance and accuracy of its content. The eventual availability of specific Australian Apprenticeships pathways across States and Territories will be dependent on required processes being initiated and finalised within individual jurisdictions.



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PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE

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CERTIFICATE II IN PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE – (AHC20310)

QUALIFICATION NOTES

This qualification provides an occupational outcome in production horticulture. The qualification enables individuals to select a tree cropping, vegetable, berry production, grape growing or mushroom production context as a job focus or, in the case of mixed enterprises, both.

Job titles may include:

Farm or orchard hand Farm or orchard worker Farm or orchard labourer

PACKAGING RULES

Completion of fifteen (15) units made up of:

- a) two (2) core units
- b) a minimum of three (3) units from elective group A
- c) a minimum of seven (7) units from elective groups A or B
- d) a maximum of three (3) units may be selected from units packaged in Certificates II or III in AHC10

or

from any other currently endorsed training package or accredited course. Selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in the production horticulture industry.

CORE UNITS

Occupational Health and Safety

	NOTES
AHCOHS201A - Participate in OHS processes	
<u>Work</u>	
AHCWRK209A - Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices	
ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP A	
Biosecurity	
AHCBIO202A - Follow site quarantine procedures	
Chemicals	
AHCCHM201A - Apply chemicals under supervision	
Machinery Operation and Maintenance	
AHCMOM203A - Operate basic machinery and equipment	
Pest Management	
AHCPMG201A - Treat weeds	
AHCPMG202A - Treat plant pests, diseases and disorders	
Production Horticulture	

Soils and Media

AHCSOL201A - Determine basic properties of soil and/or growing media	
AHCSOL201A - Determine basic properties of soil and/or growing media	
7 A 1000 LZO 17 Determine basic properties of soil ana/or growing media	
9 9	

AHCPHT201A - Plant horticultural crops

AHCPHT203A - Support horticultural crop harvesting AHCPHT205A - Carry out post-harvest operations

ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP B

<u>Food</u>

FDFOP2012A	 Maintain food safety when loading, unloading and transporting food 	
FDFOP2016A	- Work in a food handling area for non-food handlers	

<u>Infrastructure</u>

AHCINF203A	- Maintain properties and structures	
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<u>Irrigation</u>

AHCIRG204A	- Lay irrigation and/or drainage pipes	
AHCIRG207A	- Carry out irrigation site preparation tasks	
AHCIRG208A	- Assist with the installation and maintenance of pumps and	
	flow-control devices for irrigation	
AHCIRG209A	- Carry out installation tasks for low volume irrigation	
AHCIRG210A	- Carry out installation tasks for sprinkler irrigation	
AHCIRG211A	- Assist with low volume irrigation operations	
AHCIRG212A	- Assist with sprinkler irrigation operations	
AHCIRG213A	- Assist with surface irrigation operations	
FDFWGG2013	A - Deliver injection requirements	

Machinery Operation and Maintenance

AHCMOM201A	- Operate two wheel motorbikes	
AHCMOM202A	- Operate tractors	
AHCMOM204A	- Undertake operational maintenance of machinery	
AHCMOM205A	- Operate vehicles	
AHCMOM212A	- Operate quad bikes	
FPICOT2234B	- Operate 4 X 4 vehicle	
FDFWGG2015A	A - Support mechanical harvesting operations	
FDFWGG2018A	A - Operate vineyard equipment	
MEM18001C	- Use hand tools	
MEM18002B	- Use power tools/hand held operations	
TLILIC2001A	- Licence to operate a forklift truck	
TLID2022A	- Conduct weighbridge operations	

<u>Nursery</u>

AHCNSY202A - Tend nursery plants	
AHCNSY203A - Undertake propagation activities	
FDFWGG2001A - Bench graft vines	
FDFWGG2002A - Carry out potting operations	
FDFWGG2005A - Maintain callusing environment	
FDFWGG2006A - Obtain and process rootlings	
FDFWGG2020A - Carry out hot water treatment	
FDFWGG2021A - Operate nursery cold storage facilities	
FDFWGG2022A - Take and process vine cuttings	

Production Horticulture

AHCPHT202A - Carry out canopy maintenance	
AHCPHT204A - Undertake field budding and grafting	
AHCPHT206A - Handle and move mushroom boxes	
AHCPHT207A - Perform mushroom substrate process tasks	
AHCPHT208A - Water mushroom crops	
AHCPHT209A - Produce trellis dried grapes	
FDFWGG2003A - Hand prune vines	
FDFWGG2008A - Train vines	
FDFWGG2009A - Operate specialised canopy management equipment	
FDFWGG2010A - Field graft vines	
FDFWGG2016A - Install and maintain vine trellis	

AHCWRK201A - Observe and report on weather	
AHCWRK203A - Operate in isolated and remote situations	
AHCWRK206A - Observe enterprise quality assurance procedures	
AHCWRK207A - Collect and record production data	
AHCWRK208A - Provide information on products and services	
TLID1001A - Shift materials safely using manual handling methods	

CERTIFICATE III IN PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE – AHC30610

QUALIFICATION NOTES

This qualification provides a vocational outcome in production horticulture. The qualification enables individuals to select a tree cropping, vegetable, berry production, grape growing or mushroom production context as a focus or, in the case of mixed enterprises, both.

Job titles may include:

Vegetable farm worker Orchard farm worker Mushroom farm worker Plantation worker

PACKAGING RULES

Completion of fifteen (15) units made up of:

- a) one (1) core unit
- b) a minimum of four (4) units from elective group A
- c) a minimum of seven (7) units from elective groups A or B
- d) a maximum of three (3) units may be selected from units packaged in Certificates II, III or IV in AHC10

or from any other currently endorsed training package or accredited course. Selected units must be

relevant to job outcomes in the production horticulture industry.

CORE UNIT

Occupational Health and Safety

	NOTES
AHCOHS301A - Contribute to OHS processes	

ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP A

Biosecurity

AHCBIO302A - Identify and report unusual disease or plant pest signs	
AHCBIO305A - Monitor and review biosecurity measures	

Chemicals

AHCCHM303A - Prepare and apply chemicals	
AHCCHM304A - Transport, handle and store chemicals	

<u>Irrigation</u>

AHCIRG305A - Operate pressurised irrigation systems	
AHCIRG305A - Operate pressurised irrigation systems	

Machinery Operation and Maintenance

AHCMOM304A - Operate machinery and equipment	

Pest Management

AHCPMG301A - Control weeds	
AHCPMG302A - Control plant pests, diseases and disorders	

Production Horticulture

AHCPHT303A - Implement a post-harvest program	
AHCPHT304A - Harvest horticultural crops mechanically	

AHCPHT306A - Establish horticultural crops	
AHCPHT310A - Coordinate horticultural crop harvesting	
Moule	
<u>Work</u>	
AHCWRK313A - Implement and monitor environmentally sustainable work	
practices	
<u>, </u>	
ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP B	
<u>Biosecurity</u>	
AHCBIO301A - Work effectively in an emergency disease or plant pest response	
AHCBIO303A - Carry out emergency disease or plant pest control procedures at infected premises	
AHCBIO304A - Carry out movement and security procedures	
7.1.102.1000 II. Cultily dat motormore directions procedured	
Chemicals	
·	
AHCCHM301A - Conduct fumigation in enclosed spaces	
AHCCHM302A - Fumigate soil using chemicals	
Besteven	
<u>Drainage</u>	
ALICADO COMA Install dusing us quetares	1
AHCDRG301A - Install drainage systems AHCDRG302A - Measure drainage system performance	
AHCDRG303A - Troubleshoot drainage systems	
The state of the s	
Hydroponics	
AHCHYD301A - Implement a maintenance program for hydroponic systems	
AHCHYD302A - Install hydroponic systems	
<u>Irrigation</u>	
AHCIRG301A - Implement a maintenance program for an irrigation system	
AHCIRG307A - Implement a maintenance program for an impation system AHCIRG302A - Install irrigation systems	
AHCIRG303A - Measure irrigation delivery system performance	
AHCIRG306A - Troubleshoot irrigation systems	
Machinery Operation and Maintenance	
	1
AHCMOM301A - Coordinate machinery and equipment maintenance and repair	
AHCMOM302A - Perform machinery maintenance AHCMOM305A - Operate specialised machinery and equipment	
AHCMOM305A - Operate specialised machinery and equipment AHCMOM315A - Operate chemical application machinery and equipment	
FDFWGG3008A - Operate a mechanical grape harvester	
FDFWGG3013A - Operate spreading and seeding equipment	
Nursery	
FDFWGG3004A - Coordinate nursery activities	
FDFWGG3005A - Perform field nursery activities	
FDFWGG3009A - Monitor and maintain nursery plants FDFWGG3011A - Perform shed nursery activities	
1 DT WOODOTTA - T GHOITH SHEW HUISETY ACTIVILIES	1
Pest Management	
AHCPMG303A - Maintain biological cultures	
AHCPMG304A - Release biological agents	
<u>Production Horticulture</u>	

AHCPHT301A - Carry out a crop regulation program

AHCPHT305A - Regulate crops	
AHCPHT307A - Prepare raw materials and compost the feedstocks	
AHCPHT308A - Prepare value added compost based products	
AHCPHT309A - Supervise mushroom substrate preparation	
FDFWGG3002A - Coordinate canopy management activities	
FDFWGG3006A - Coordinate hand pruning activities	

AHCWRK302A - Monitor weather conditions	
AHCWRK303A - Respond to emergencies	
AHCWRK305A - Coordinate work site activities	
AHCWRK306A - Comply with industry quality assurance requirements	
AHCWRK308A - Handle bulk materials in storage area	

<u>CERTIFICATE IV IN PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE</u> – (AHC40310)

QUALIFICATION NOTES

This qualification allows individuals to develop post-trade skills and knowledge to become specialists within the production horticulture industry. It is designed to meet the needs of supervisors or team leaders in the production horticulture industry.

The qualification enables individuals to select a tree cropping, vegetable, berry or flower production, grape growing or mushroom production context as a job focus or, in the case of mixed enterprises, both.

Job titles may include:

Farm team leader Farm supervisor

PACKAGING RULES

Completion of twelve (12) units made up of:

- a) one (1) core unit
- b) a minimum of three (3) units from elective group A
- c) a minimum of five (5) units from elective groups A or B
- d) a maximum of three (3) units may be selected from units packaged in Certificates III, IV or Diploma

AHC10 or from any other currently endorsed training package or accredited course. Selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in the production horticulture industry.

CORE UNIT

Occupational Health and Safety

	NOTES
AHCOHS401A - Maintain OHS processes	
ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP A	
Chemicals	
AHCCHM401A - Minimise risk in the use of chemicals	
AHCCHM402A - Plan and implement a chemical use program	
<u>Irrigation</u>	
AHCIRG408A - Schedule irrigations	
<u>Plants</u>	
AHCPCM401A - Recommend plants and cultural practices	
AHCPCM402A - Develop a soil health and plant nutrition program	

Production Horticulture

AHCPHT402A - Develop a crop regulation program	
AHCPHT404A - Implement and monitor a horticultural crop harvesting program	

Nursery

AHCNSY401A - Plan a growing-on program	
AHCNSY402A - Plan a propagation program	

Soils and Media

AHCSOL401A - Sample soils and interpret results	
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ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP B

Business

AHCI	BUS404A - Operate within a budget framework
AHCI	BUS405A - Participate in an e-business supply chain

<u>Food</u>

FDFTEC3001A - Participate in a HACCP team*	
* Prerequisite: FDFFS2001A - Implement the food safety	
program and procedures	
FDFFS3001A - Monitor the implementation of quality & food safety program	
* Prerequisite: FDFFS2001A - Implement the food safety	
program and procedures	

<u>Irrigation</u>

AHCIRG402A - Determine hydraulic parameters for an irrigation system	
AHCIRG404A - Implement an irrigation related environmental protection program	
AHCIRG405A - Plan and coordinate gravity fed irrigation systems	

Organic Production

AHCORG401A - Manage biodynamic production	
AHCORG403A - Manage organic soil improvement	

Production Horticulture

AHCPHT401A - Assess olive oil for style and quality	
AHCPHT403A - Develop harvesting and processing specifications to produce	
an olive oil	
AHCPHT405A - Manage mushroom substrate preparation	
AHCPHT406A - Control Phase II mushroom substrate process	
AHCPHT407A - Manage mushroom crop development	
AHCPHT408A - Oversee vineyard practices	

Soils and Media

AHCSOL402A - Develop a soil use map for a property	

AHCWRK401A - Implement and monitor quality assurance procedures
AHCWRK402A - Provide information on issues and policies
AHCWRK403A - Supervise work routines and staff performance

DIPLOMA OF PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE - (AHC50310)

QUALIFICATION NOTES

The Diploma of Production Horticulture reflects the role of personnel working on production horticulture farms. The qualification can be contextualised for a tree cropping, vegetable, berry or flower production or mushroom production context as a job focus or, in the case of mixed enterprises, both.

Job titles may include:

Production horticulture farm manager

PACKAGING RULES

Completion of ten (10) units made up of:

- a) a minimum of two (2) units from elective group A
- b) a minimum of six (6) units from elective groups A or B
- c) a maximum of two (2) units may be selected from units aligned to Certificate IV or above in AHC10

from any other currently endorsed training package or accredited course. Selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in the production horticulture industry.

ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP A

Plants

	NOTES
AHCPCM501A - Diagnose plant health problems	
<u>Production Horticulture</u>	
AHCPHT502A - Develop a horticultural production plan	
AHCPHT503A - Manage a controlled growing environment	
<u>Hydroponics</u>	
AHCHYD501A - Develop a plan for a hydroponic system	
Soils and Media	
AHCSOL501A - Monitor and manage soils for production	

ELECTIVE UNITS GROUP B

Biosecurity

AHCBIO501A - Manage active operational emergency disease or plant pest sites	
AHCBIO502A - Manage the implementation of an emergency disease or plant	
pest control program	

Business

AHCBUS501A - Manage staff	
AHCBUS502A - Market products and services	
AHCBUS503A - Negotiate and monitor contracts	
AHCBUS505A - Develop a marketing plan	
AHCBUS506A - Develop and review a business plan	
AHCBUS507A - Monitor and review business performance	
AHCBUS508A - Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	
BSBRSK501B - Manage risk	
TLIL5019A - Implement and monitor transport logistics	
TLIR4002A - Source goods/services and evaluate contractors	
TLIR4003A - Negotiate a contract	

Chemicals

<u>Onomicalo</u>	
AHCCHM501A - Develop and manage a chemical use strategy	
<u>Drainage</u>	
AHCDRG501A - Design drainage systems	
<u>Hydroponics</u>	
AHCHYD501A - Develop a plan for a hydroponic system	
<u>Irrigation</u>	
AHCIRG502A - Design irrigation system maintenance and monitoring programs	
AHCIRG503A - Design irrigation, drainage and water treatment systems	
AHCIRG504A - Develop an irrigation and drainage management plan	
Machinery Operation and Maintenance	
AHCMOM501A - Manage machinery and equipment	
AHCMOM502A - Implement a machinery management system	
Organic Production	
AHCORG501A - Develop an organic management plan	
AHCORG502A - Prepare the enterprise for organic certification	
<u>Plants</u>	
AHCPCM505A - Conduct environment and food safety risk assessment of plant nutrition and soil fertility programs	
<u>Water</u>	
AHCWAT501A - Design water treatment systems	
AHCWAT502A - Manage water systems	

AHCWRK501A - Plan, implement and review a quality assurance program	
AHCWRK511A - Develop workplace policy and procedures for sustainability	
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DIPLOMA OF VITICULTURE – (AHC51513)

QUALIFICATION NOTES

This qualification is designed to meet the needs of managers in the viticulture industry.

Job titles may include:

Viticulture farm manager

PACKAGING RULES

Completion of ten (10) units made up of:

- a) four (4) core units
- b) three (3) elective units from the elective list below
- c) three (3) additional units from the elective list below or from units packaged in Certificate IV, Diploma or Advanced Diploma in AHC10 or from any other currently endorsed training package or accredited course. Selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in the viticulture industry.

CORE UNITS

Business

	NOTES
AHCBUS501A - Manage staff	
<u>Plants</u>	
AHCPCM501A - Diagnose plant health problems	
Production Horticulture	
AHCPHT504A - Develop a grape production plan	
Soils and Media	
AHCSOL501A - Monitor and manage soils for production	
ELECTIVE UNITS	

Biosecurity

AHCBIO501A - Manage active operational emergency disease or plant pest sites	
AHCBIO502A - Manage the implementation of an emergency disease or plant	
pest control program	

Broad Acre Cropping

AHCBAC505A - Plan and manage long-term weed, pest and/or disease control	
in crops	

Business

AHCBUS502A - Market products and services	
AHCBUS503A - Negotiate and monitor contracts	
AHCBUS505A - Develop a marketing plan	
AHCBUS506A - Develop and review a business plan	
AHCBUS507A - Monitor and review business performance	
AHCBUS508A - Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	
BSBRSK501B - Manage risk	
TLIL5019A - Implement and monitor transport logistics	
TLIR4002A - Source goods/services and evaluate contractors	

Chemicals

AHCCHM501A - Develop and manage a chemical use strategy	

Drainage

<u> </u>
AHCDRG501A - Design drainage systems
<u>Irrigation</u>
AHCIRG502A - Design irrigation system maintenance and monitoring programs
AHCIRG503A - Design irrigation, drainage and water treatment systems
AHCIRG504A - Develop an irrigation and drainage management plan
Machinery Operation and Maintenance
AHCMOM501A - Manage machinery and equipment
AHCMOM502A - Implement a machinery management system
Natural Area Restoration
AHCNAR506A - Develop and implement sustainable land use strategies
Occupational Health and Safety
AHCOHS501A - Manage OHS processes
Organic Production
AHCORG501A - Develop an organic management plan
AHCORG502A - Prepare the enterprise for organic certification
Production Horticulture
AHCPHT505A - Evaluate wine
AHCPHT506A - Manage a wine making process
<u>Water</u>
AHCWAT502A - Manage water systems
<u>Work</u>

AHCWRK501A - Plan, implement and review a quality assurance program

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What is a Training Package?

A training package is a set of nationally endorsed and recognized competencies and qualifications that are used to describe the level of knowledge and skills required by an individual to work effectively in the workplace. Training packages are developed and endorsed by industry through national Industry Skills Councils and are designed to meet the training needs of a specific industry, industry sector or enterprise.

Each training package is made up of three key components each of which is endorsed by the National Skills Standards Council (NSSC). The three 'components' are: - Competency Standards; Assessment Guidelines and Qualifications Framework.

Responsibility for the development, implementation and on-going review of the Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package (AHC10) rests with AgriFood Skills Australia. AgriFood Skills Australia is one of a number of Industry Skills Councils that work in conjunction with industry, industry representative bodies, training organisations, affiliated organisations in each of the States and Territories and other interested parties to undertake this work. For more detailed information about the role and responsibilities of AgriFood Skills Australia within the industry training sector and, for specific information about training packages in particular, visit their website at www.agrifoodskills.net.au.

The Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package (AHC10) is a relatively new training package and is the result of several years of planning, extensive industry consultation, product development and on-going review. The training package is the amalgamation of three earlier and quite separate training packages namely the Rural Production Training Package, the Amenity Horticulture Training Package and the Conservation and Land Management Training Package all of which had been the basis for training delivery in their respective industry sectors since 2002/03. The first version of the AHC10 Training Package was released in June 2011 and since then the document has been updated a number of times as part of an on-going review process.

The training pathway chart, which is a part of this information package, is designed to provide an insight into the qualification pathways, the various points of entry into the training and the levels of qualifications available in the agricultural industry sector.

How to Gain a Qualification

There are four ways of obtaining a qualification from the Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package (AHC10):

- 1. Australian Apprenticeships an employment based training arrangement that combines practical work experience with an underpinning theory based component. Training is delivered utilising a variety of different delivery methods by a Registered Training Organisation that also assesses the Australian Apprentice and awards an appropriate qualification on successful completion.
- **2. Skills Recognition** this is a process whereby individuals gather evidence to demonstrate their skills and knowledge base and, if deemed competent, may be awarded an appropriate qualification (e.g. Certificate IV in Agribusiness).
- **3.** Study with a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) by enrolling in any of the qualifications listed in the Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package (AHC10) at an appropriate TAFE College, private Registered Training Organisation or Agricultural College.
- **4.** Complete a VET in Schools Qualification normally at the Certificate I and II level while participating in compulsory schooling.



The Importance of Gaining a Qualification

Owning, managing or working in any enterprise or organization associated with the agriculture, horticulture and conservation and land management industries provides individuals with the opportunity to acquire knowledge and develop skills related to those industries. A person who has had hands on experience in the workplace may have performed a number of different tasks such as, the safe handling of stock, the control and application of chemicals, the maintenance of parks and gardens, financial tasks associated with the running of a business or perhaps, the management of employees and contractors and will have acquired both knowledge and skills as a consequence of that experience. These skills may be highly valued in the general workforce but, in many instances, individuals may not have the formal documentation to demonstrate the extent of the knowledge and skills they have acquired. This often puts them at a disadvantage when applying for jobs. Without the support of the relevant documentation some job applicants may lack the confidence and ability to convey the full scope of their knowledge and skills to a prospective employer. *Obtaining a qualification can assist in overcoming this problem and open up a host of employment opportunities*.

When thinking about job and career opportunities there are national training and qualification pathways in agriculture, horticulture and conservation and land management that individuals can follow to pursue their employment and career interests. Details of the range of qualifications available and the industry specific pathways are included at the end of this booklet.

A number of jobs in industry require a person to have a prescribed qualification in order to perform the duties of the job. For example, some Departments of Agriculture require that their Technical and Quarantine Officers are graduates with Certificate III or Certificate IV level qualifications in agriculture. Similarly, many training institutions require their teaching staff to hold a Diploma or Advanced Diploma level qualification. *Having a qualification can greatly enhance an individual's career prospects*.

Individuals may receive credit for studies they have undertaken at a TAFE College or Registered Training Organisation in relation to higher level studies. Some tertiary institutions will accept or recognize the completion of higher level AHC10 qualifications to gain entry and/or credit into various degree programs. Individuals are advised to check available arrangements, if any, with individual tertiary institutions.

What is Skills Recognition?

Skills Recognition is the formal acknowledgement of the skills, knowledge and competencies that a person has acquired through previous formal or informal training, work experience and/or life experience. For a fee a person can apply to have their skills assessed by a qualified assessor against the national competencies for the industry and can be awarded a qualification, or part of a qualification, based on their practical knowledge and experience. The skills recognition process helps overcome the need for people to spend unnecessary time in the classroom going over work that they already know. For example, a person who has spent time working in a farming environment may have acquired a range of skills related to their experience (e.g. the operation and maintenance of machinery, the handling of chemicals, the management of livestock). These skills can be assessed as part of the Skills Recognition process and can contribute towards a qualification. Skills Recognition processes are sometimes referred to as Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) processes or Recognition of Current Competency (RCC) processes.

For further information on skills recognition contact a TAFE college, private Registered Training Organisation or an Agricultural College.



Rural Skills Australia - Contact Details

Rural Skills Australia has representatives in each of the States and the ACT who can be contacted for advice on matters relating to the *Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package*.

National Office

Rural Skills Australia Level 2, NFF House 14 – 16 Brisbane Ave BARTON ACT 2600

Locked Bag 9 KINGSTON ACT 2604

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