VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management

Program Booklet

Incorporating

AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture (Release 4)

AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture (Release 3)

AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management (Release 3)

January 2019

This program was first implemented in January 2017.

Modification history

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Version | Status | Release Date | Comments |
| 1.2 | Current | January 2019 | New release of AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0. Electives updated |
| 1.1 | Superseded | January 2018 | Updated program information and advice. |
| 1.0 | Superseded | January 2017 | Original Program |

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Contents

[Introduction 1](#_Toc4146593)

[Program development 1](#_Toc4146594)

[Program information 1](#_Toc4146595)

[Industry overview 2](#_Toc4146596)

[Training package 2](#_Toc4146597)

[Qualifications / packaging rules 3](#_Toc4146598)

[VCE VET Program details 5](#_Toc4146599)

[Aims 5](#_Toc4146600)

[Program structure 5](#_Toc4146601)

[VCE VET Credit 6](#_Toc4146602)

[Nominal hour duration 6](#_Toc4146603)

[Duplication 7](#_Toc4146604)

[Sequence 7](#_Toc4146605)

[VCE Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program structure 8](#_Toc4146606)

[AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture 8](#_Toc4146607)

[AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture 12](#_Toc4146608)

[AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management 14](#_Toc4146609)

[ATAR Contribution 16](#_Toc4146610)

[Structured workplace learning 17](#_Toc4146611)

[SWL Recognition 17](#_Toc4146612)

[Work health and safety 18](#_Toc4146613)

[Additional information 19](#_Toc4146614)

[Pathways 20](#_Toc4146615)

[Appendix 1 − Sample programs 21](#_Toc4146616)

[Sample 1: AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture 21](#_Toc4146617)

[Sample 2: AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture 22](#_Toc4146618)

[Sample 3: AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management 23](#_Toc4146619)

[Appendix 2 − Summary of changes 1](#_Toc4146620)

Introduction

VCE VET programs are vocational training programs approved by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). VCE VET programs lead to nationally recognised qualifications, thereby offering students the opportunity to gain both the VCE and a nationally portable Vocational Education and Training (VET) certificate. VCE VET programs:

* are fully recognised within the Units 1 to 4 structure of the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) and therefore may contribute towards satisfactory completion of the VCE. VCE VET units have equal status with other VCE studies.
* may contribute to the satisfactory completion of the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)
* function within the National Training Framework.

Program development

This iteration of the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program was implemented in 2017. It must be used in conjunction with the training package qualifications AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture, AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture and AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management. This program replaces the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program published in December 2011 and all subsequent program summaries. This revision to the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program is a consequence of the revision to the AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package.

The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program provides students with the knowledge and skills to enhance their employment prospects in the agriculture, horticulture and conservation and land management industries.

Program information

This program booklet must be read in conjunction with the *VCAA VET Program Guide* and the nationally endorsed AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package.

Industry overview

Training package

The agriculture industry is made up of many different sectors, including for example: Arboriculture, Beekeeping, Beef, Crops, Dairy, Goats, Grains, Horses, Irrigation, Permaculture, Pest Management, Pigs, Poultry, Rural Merchandising and Sheep and Wool

Agriculture and Agribusiness are diverse sectors including both plant and animal based production systems along with supporting Agribusiness enterprises that supply agriculture goods and services. Job roles within the sector range from farmhands, farm business managers and include numerous agricultural service roles. This sector is a leader in the uptake of technology including the use of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and Geographical Positioning Systems (GPS).

The horticulture, conservation and land management industries are made up of many different sectors, including for example: Viticulture, Floriculture, Landscaping, Nursery, Parks and Gardens, Lands, Parks and Wildlife, Turf Management, Pest Management, Permaculture, Irrigation, Weed Management, Seed Testing, Production and Processing, Composting, Community Coordination, Natural Area Restoration and Indigenous Land Management.

Production horticulture is a very diverse industry which involves growing and harvesting fruit or vegetables. Production horticulture businesses produce fresh and dried fruit and vegetables for local markets, processing and exporting. The range of produce is vast and could include many varieties of different fruits, nuts and vegetables. Many production horticulture businesses operate as farms growing vegetables, while others are based on extensive orchards. Some businesses are intensive and grow fruit, vegetables and mushrooms in controlled environments.

Lands parks and wildlife officers, rangers and managers are involved in the management and maintenance of areas of native and cultural significance. They may be employed by government or non-government organisations. Roles will generally involve a mixture of conservation and restoration tasks as well as tourism, education, construction and pest management.

Qualifications / packaging rules

AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture

Students must achieve eighteen units of competency to gain AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture, including:

* three core units of competency
* fifteen elective units of competency, of which
* a minimum of seven units must be selected from Group A
* the remaining electives may be may be drawn from Group A, B or C.
* a maximum of 3 units may be selected from Group C.
* selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in agriculture and must be chosen to ensure the integrity of the qualification outcome at AQF level 2

This qualification provides an entry level occupational outcome in agriculture. Pathways may include employment into roles such as assistant animal attendant/stockperson, assistant farm or station hand, assistant farm or station worker.

For further information, visit <[training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC20116](file:///E%3A/Program%20booklets/Ag%20and%20Hort/training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC20116)>.

AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture

Students must achieve fifteen units of competency to gain AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture, including:

* five core units of competency
* ten elective units of competency of which
* a maximum of 2 units may be selected from Group B.
* selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in horticulture and must be chosen to ensure the integrity of the qualification outcome at AQF level 2.

This qualification underpins a range of work functions and job roles that can lead to a horticultural trade qualification. Pathways may include employment into roles such as nursery worker, assistant landscaper, assistant parks or gardens worker.

For further information, visit <training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC20416>.

AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

Students must achieve fifteen units of competency to gain AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture, including:

* two core units of competency
* thirteen elective units of competency of which
* select at least 4 units from Group A
* the remaining elective units may be drawn from Group A, B or C
* a maximum of 2 units may be selected from Group C
* selected units must be relevant to job outcomes in conservation and land management and must be chosen to ensure the integrity of the qualification outcome at AQF level 2.

This qualification provides an occupational outcome in conservation and land management. Work would be carried out under general guidance and supervision. The qualification enables individuals to select an Indigenous land management, conservation earthworks, lands, parks and wildlife or natural area management context as a job focus or a mix of these. Pathways may include employment into roles such as assistant land management officer, assistant conservation worker, assistant parks and wildlife officer.

For further information, visit <training.gov.au/Training/Details/AHC21016>.

VCE VET Program details

Aims

The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program aims to:

* provide participants with the knowledge, skills, and competency that will enhance their employment prospects in Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management and related industries
* enable participants to gain a recognised credential and to make an informed choice of vocation or career path.

Program structure

The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program comprises three certificates II with VCE credit at Units 1 to 4 level. Certificates II are typically completed over two years.

The identified units of competency in the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program have been selected for recognition purposes and may vary from the qualification packaging rules.

AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture

The program drawn from AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture comprises 18 units of competency:

* three compulsory units of competency
* a minimum of fifteen elective units of competency.

Students may choose electives from a variety of sector specific units including (but not limited to): Biosecurity, Broadacre cropping, Irrigation, Livestock, Machinery operations, Pest management, Dairy, Pork production, Poultry, Sheering, Soil and water conservation and Wool.

AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture

The program drawn from AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture comprises 15 units of competency:

* five compulsory units of competency
* a minimum of ten elective units of competency.

Students may choose electives from a variety of sector specific units including (but not limited to): Plants, Trees, Nursery, Machinery, Landscaping, Stock control, Retail operations and Brushcutting.

AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

The program drawn from AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management comprises 15 units of competency:

* two compulsory units of competency
* a minimum of thirteen elective units of competency.

Students may choose electives from a variety of sector specific units including (but not limited to): Fauna, Land management, Natural area restoration, Lands, parks and wildlife, Plants, Business, Nursery, Machine operation and Chemicals.

VCE VET Credit

AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture

On successful completion of the program drawn from the Certificate II in Agriculture, students will be eligible for:

* the award of AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture
* recognition of up to six (6) VCE units of credit:
* four (4) units at Units 1 and 2 level
* a VCE Units 3 and 4 sequence.

VCE VET credit will accrue in the following sequence: Unit 1, 2, 3, 4, 1 and 2 and may be accumulated over more than one year.

AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture

On successful completion of the program drawn from the Certificate II in Horticulture, students will be eligible for:

* the award of AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture
* recognition of up to six (6) VCE units of credit:
* four (4) units at Units 1 and 2 level
* a VCE Units 3 and 4 sequence.

VCE VET credit will accrue in the following sequence: Unit 1, 2, 3, 4, 1 and 2 and may be accumulated over more than one year.

AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

On successful completion of the program drawn from the Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management, students will be eligible for:

* the award of AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management
* recognition of up to six (6) VCE units of credit:
* four (4) units at Units 1 and 2 level
* a VCE Units 3 and 4 sequence.

VCE VET credit will accrue in the following sequence: Unit 1, 2, 3, 4, 1 and 2 and may be accumulated over more than one year.

Nominal hour duration

Nominal hours are determined by the Victorian State Training Authority (Department of Education and Training). They reflect the anticipated time taken to deliver and assess the outcomes of a unit of competency excluding unsupervised delivery or the time taken for repeated practical application of skills.

Nominal hours are used to determine credit into the VCE or VCAL for VET units of competency.

Duplication

When a VCE VET program significantly duplicates other VCE studies or VET training in a student’s program, a reduced VCE VET unit entitlement may apply. Credit towards the VCAL may also be reduced due to duplication.

No significant duplication has been identified between the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program and other VCE studies.

Credit for a unit of competency will only be counted once towards the VCE or VCAL.

Dual Enrolments

Where students undertake multiple qualifications within the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program, care must be taken to ensure students enroll in all the units of competency only once. Credit for a unit of competency can only be counted once towards VCE or VCAL.

Sequence

Certain units of competency will complement each other, lending to coordinated delivery that minimises content overlap. Units of competency have guidelines on the different situations and delivery contexts, and a range of delivery sequences are possible.

The intention of VCE VET programs is to provide students with a qualification that meets industry expectations. The strong advice and assumption of industry bodies is that the quality of the qualification is compromised when foundation training is neglected.

The sequencing of units of competency is determined by the registered training organisation, teacher or trainer; however, it is anticipated that a number of the core units of competency will be undertaken in the first year of the program.

It should be noted that a student needs to be undertaking or have completed *AHCWHS201 Participate in work health and safety processes* prior to them engaging in Structured Workplace Learning (SWL) aligned to this program.

VCE Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program structure

AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture

| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| **Work health and safety** |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes | 20 |
| **Work** |  |  |
| AHCWRK204 | Work effectively in the industry | 20 |
| AHCWRK209 | Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices | 20 |
|  |  **Subtotal:** | **60** |
| **Elective Bank**: select a minimum of **fifteen** electives with a minimum of **300 hours**. |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP A** |
| **Biosecurity** |  |  |
| AHCBIO201 | Inspect and clean machinery for plant, animal and soil material | 20 |
| AHCBIO202 | Follow site quarantine procedures | 20 |
| **Broadacre cropping** |  |
| AHCBAC201 | Assist agricultural crop establishment | 60 |
| AHCBAC202 | Assist agricultural crop maintenance | 40 |
| AHCBAC203 | Assist agricultural crop harvesting | 60 |
| **Chemicals** |  |  |
| AHCCHM201 | Apply chemicals under supervision | 30 |
| **First aid** |  |  |
| HLTAID002 | Provide basic emergency life support | 8 |
| **Infrastructure** |  |  |
| AHCINF201 | Carry out basic electric fencing operations | 40 |
| AHCINF202 | Install, maintain and repair farm fencing | 30 |
| AHCINF203 | Maintain properties and structures | 30 |
| AHCINF204 | Fabricate and repair metal or plastic structures | 60 |
| **Irrigation** |  |  |
| AHCIRG216 | Assist with surface irrigation operations | 30 |
| AHCIRG217 | Assist with pressurised irrigation operations | 40 |
| **Livestock** |  |  |
| AHCLSK202 | Care for health and welfare of livestock | 40 |
| AHCLSK203 | Carry out birthing duties | 40 |
| AHCLSK204 | Carry out regular livestock observation | 40 |
| AHCLSK205 | Handle livestock using basic techniques | 30 |
| AHCLSK206 | Identify and mark livestock | 20 |
| AHCLSK207 | Load and unload livestock | 20 |
| AHCLSK208 | Monitor livestock to parturition | 30 |
| AHCLSK209 | Monitor water supplies | 20 |
| AHCLSK210 | Muster and move livestock | 25 |
| AHCLSK211 | Provide feed for livestock | 30 |
| **Machinery operation and maintenance** |  |
| AHCMOM202 | Operate tractors | 40 |
| AHCMOM203 | Operate basic machinery and equipment | 20 |
| AHCMOM204 | Undertake operational maintenance of machinery | 30 |
| AHCMOM211 | Operate side by side utility vehicles  | 30 |
| AHCMOM217 | Operate quad bikes | 60 |
| **Pest** **management** |  |
| AHCPMG201 | Treat weeds | 40 |
| AHCPMG202 | Treat plant pests, diseases and disorders | 30 |
| **Tools and equipment** |  |
| MEM18001C | Use hand tools | 20 |
| MEM18002B | Use power tools/hand held operations | 20 |
| **Work** |  |  |
| AHCWRK201 | Observe and report on weather | 25 |
| AHCWRK205 | Participate in workplace communications | 30 |
| AHCWRK206 | Observe enterprise quality assurance procedures | 30 |
| AHCWRK207 | Collect and record production data | 30 |
| TLID1001 | Shift materials safely using manual handling methods | 20 |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP B** |
| **Artificial insemination** |  |
| AHCAIS201 | Assist with artificial insemination procedures | 20 |
| **Beekeeping** |  |  |
| AHCBEK206 | Assemble and maintain beekeeping components | 25 |
| AHCBEK207 | Prepare and use a bee smoker | 10 |
| **Broadacre cropping** |  |
| AHCBAC204 | Prepare grain storages | 40 |
| **Dairy** |  |  |
| AHCDRY201 | Milk livestock | 30 |
| **Drainage** |  |  |
| AHCDRG201 | Maintain drainage systems | 20 |
| **Horse breeding** |  |  |
| ACMHBR201\* | Check and treat horses | 40 |
| ACMEQU202\* | Handle horses safely | 100 |
| ACMHBR203\* | Provide daily care for horses | 40 |
| ACMEQU205 | Apply knowledge of horse behaviour | 60 |
| **Irrigation** |  |  |
| AHCIRG215 | Assist with low volume irrigation operations | 40 |
|  |  |  |
| **Livestock** |  |  |
| AHCLSK201 | Assist with feeding in a production system | 40 |
| AHCLSK213 | Clean out production sheds | 20 |
| AHCLSK214 | Maintain production growing environments | 30 |
| AHCLSK215 | Carry out alpaca handling and husbandry operations | 30 |
| **Pork production** |  |  |
| AHCPRK201 | Care for health and welfare of pigs | 40 |
| AHCPRK203 | Move and handle pigs | 40 |
| AHCPRK204 | Care for weaner pigs | 40 |
| **Poultry** |  |  |
| AHCPLY201 | Collect store and handle eggs from breeder flocks | 20 |
| AHCPLY202 | Maintain health and welfare of poultry | 40 |
| AHCPLY203 | Set up shed for placement of day-old chickens | 10 |
| AHCPLY204 | Collect and pack eggs for human consumption | 20 |
| AHCPLY205 | Grade and pack eggs for human consumption | 20 |
| **Production horticulture** |  |
| AHCPHT201 | Plant horticultural crops | 25 |
| AHCPHT202 | Carry out canopy maintenance | 25 |
| AHCPHT203 | Support horticultural crop harvesting | 25 |
| AHCPHT205 | Carry out postharvest operations | 25 |
| **Shearing** |  |  |
| AHCSHG201 | Crutch sheep | 40 |
| AHCSHG202 | Assist in preparing for shearing and crutching | 20 |
| AHCSHG205 | Grind combs and cutters for machine shearing | 20 |
| AHCSHG206 | Prepare handpiece and downtube for machine shearing | 20 |
| AHCSHG209 | Support alpaca shearing operations | 20 |
| **Soil and water conservation** |  |
| AHCSAW201 | Conduct erosion and sediment control activities | 40 |
| **Soils and media** |  |  |
| AHCSOL202 | Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing | 30 |
| **Pests Management** |  |
| AHCPMG309 | Apply pest animal control techniques | 60 |
| **Water** |  |  |
| AHCWAT201 | Set up, operate and maintain water delivery systems for compost | 40 |
| **Wool** |  |  |
| AHCWOL201 | Pen sheep | 10 |
| AHCWOL202 | Perform board duties | 80 |
| AHCWOL203 | Carry out wool pressing | 10 |
| AHCWOL204 | Undertake basic skirting of alpaca fleece | 20 |
|  |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP C** |
| AHCCHM101 | Follow basic chemical safety rules | 10 |
| AHCLSK316 | Prepare livestock for competition | 90 |
| AHCLSK317 | Plan to exhibit livestock | 80 |
| AHCNSY203  | Undertake propagation activities  | 30 |
| AHCPCM201 | Recognise plants | 40 |
| AHCPGD201  | Plant trees and shrubs | 20 |
| **Minimum for Units 1 to 4:** | **360** |

Prerequisite units of competency

\* ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture

| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| AHCPCM201 | Recognise plants | 40 |
| AHCPMG201 | Treat weeds | 40 |
| AHCPMG202  | Treat plant pests, diseases and disorders | 30 |
| AHCSOL202 | Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing  | 30 |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes | 20 |
|  |  **Subtotal:** | **155** |
| **Elective Bank**: select a minimum of **ten** electives with a minimum of **205 hours**. |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP A** |
| AHCARB201 | Apply a range of treatments to trees | 30 |
| AHCCHM201 | Apply chemicals under supervision | 30 |
| AHCINF203 | Maintain properties and structures | 30 |
| AHCINF204 | Fabricate and repair metal or plastic structures | 60 |
| AHCIRG215 | Assist with low volume irrigation operations | 40 |
| AHCIRG217 | Assist with pressurised irrigation operations | 40 |
| AHCLSC201 | Assist with landscape construction work | 30 |
| AHCLSC202 | Construct low-profile timber or modular retaining walls | 50 |
| AHCLSC203 | Install aggregate paths | 20 |
| AHCLSC204 | Lay paving | 30 |
| AHCLSC205 | Install tree protection devices | 20 |
| AHCMOM202 | Operate tractors | 40 |
| AHCMOM203 | Operate basic machinery and equipment | 20 |
| AHCMOM204 | Undertake operational maintenance of machinery | 30 |
| AHCMOM211 | Operate side by side utility vehicles | 30 |
| AHCMOM212 | Operate quad bikes | 60 |
| AHCNSY201 | Pot up plants | 20 |
| AHCNSY202 | Care for nursery plants | 30 |
| AHCNSY203 | Undertake propagation activities | 30 |
| AHCNSY204 | Maintain indoor plants  | 20 |
| AHCPCM202 | Collect, prepare and preserve plant specimens | 30 |
| AHCPGD201 | Plant trees and shrubs | 20 |
| AHCPGD202 | Prepare and maintain plant displays | 35 |
| AHCPGD203 | Prune shrubs and small trees  | 35 |
| AHCPGD204 | Transplant small trees  | 20 |
| AHCPGD206 | Conduct visual inspection of park facilities  | 20 |
| AHCTRF201 | Assist with turf construction  | 30 |
| AHCTRF202 | Prepare turf surfaces for play  | 40 |
| AHCTRF203 | Renovate grassed areas  | 30 |
| AHCWRK201 | Observe and report on weather | 25 |
| AHCWRK204 | Work effectively in the industry  | 20 |
| AHCWRK205 | Participate in workplace communications  | 30 |
| AHCWRK206 | Observe enterprise quality assurance procedures  | 30 |
| AHCWRK207 | Collect and record production data  | 30 |
| AHCWRK208 | Provide information on products and services | 60 |
| AHCWRK209 | Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices | 20 |
| FWPFGM2207 | Undertake brushcutting operations | 40 |
| FWPHAR2206 | Operate a mobile chipper/mulcher | 30 |
| MEM18001C | Use hand tools | 20 |
| MEM18002B | Use power tools/hand held operations  | 20 |
| SIRRINV002  | Control stock  | 35 |
| SIRRRTF001 | Balance and secure point-of-sale terminal  | 20 |
| SIRXCEG001 | Engage the customer  | 30 |
| SIRXIND002  | Organise and maintain the store environment  | 20 |
| SIRRMER001 | Produce visual merchandise displays | 35 |
| SIRXPDK001  | Advise on products and services | 30 |
| SIRXSLS001 | Sell to the retail customer  | 20 |
| SIRXSLS002 | Follow point-of-sale handling procedures | 20 |
| TLID1001 | Shift materials safely using manual handling methods  | 20 |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP B** |
| AHCPER206 | Plant and maintain permaculture crops | 30 |
| AHCPER208 | Harvest permaculture crops | 30 |
| AHCPHT201 | Plant horticultural crops | 25 |
| AHCPHT203 | Support horticultural crop harvesting | 25 |
| **Minimum for Units 1 to 4:** | **360** |

AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes  | 20 |
| AHCWRK209 | Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices | 20 |
|  |  **Subtotal:** | **40** |
| **Elective Bank**: select a minimum of **thirteen** electives with a minimum of **320 hours**. |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP A** |
| **Fauna** |  |  |
| AHCFAU201 | Recognise fauna | 40 |
| **Indigenous land management** |  |
| AHCILM201 | Maintain cultural places | 20 |
| AHCILM202 | Observe and report plants or animals | 40 |
| AHCILM203 | Record information about Country | 40 |
| **Natural area restoration** |  |
| AHCNAR201 | Carry out natural area restoration works | 40 |
| AHCNAR202 | Maintain wildlife habitat refuges | 40 |
| AHCNAR305 | Collect native seed | 40 |
| **Lands, parks and wildlife** |  |
| PUALAW001B | Protect and preserve incident scene | 20 |
| Parks and gardens |  |
| AHCPGD201 | Plant trees and shrubs | 20 |
| AHCPGD206 | Conduct visual inspection of park facilities | 20 |
| **Pest Management** |  |
| AHCPMG201 | Treat weeds | 40 |
| AHCPMG202 | Treat plant pests, diseases and disorders | 30 |
| **Plants** |  |
| AHCPCM201 | Recognise plants | 40 |
| AHCPCM202 | Collect, prepare and preserve plant specimens | 30 |
| **Soil and water conservation** |  |
| AHCSAW201 | Conduct erosion and sediment control activities  | 40 |
| **Work** |  |  |
| AHCWRK202 | Observe environmental work practices | 20 |
| AHCWRK203 | Operate in isolated and remote situations | 40 |
| AHCWRK204 | Work effectively in the industry | 20 |
| AHCWRK205 | Participate in workplace communications | 30 |
| SITXCCS002 | Provide visitor information | 35 |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP B** |
| **Biosecurity** |  |  |
| AHCBIO201 | Inspect and clean machinery for plant, animal and soil material | 20 |
| **Business** |  |  |
| BSBWOR204 | Use business technology | 20 |
| BSBINM201 | Process and maintain workplace information  | 30 |
| **Chemicals** |  |  |
| AHCCHM201 | Apply chemicals under supervision | 30 |
| **First aid** |  |  |
| HLTAID002 | Provide basic emergency life support | 12 |
| HLTAID003 | Apply first aid | 18 |
| HLTAID005 | Provide first aid in remote situation | 24 |
| **Infrastructure** |  |  |
| AHCINF201 | Carry out basic electric fencing operations | 40 |
| AHCINF202 | Install, maintain and repair farm fencing | 30 |
| AHCINF203 | Maintain properties and structures | 30 |
| **Landscape** |  |  |
| AHCLSC201 | Assist with landscape construction work | 30 |
| AHCLSC203 | Install aggregate paths | 20 |
| AHCLSC205 | Install tree protection devices | 20 |
| **Machinery operation and maintenance** |  |
| AHCMOM202 | Operate tractors | 40 |
| AHCMOM203 | Operate basic machinery and equipment | 20 |
| AHCMOM204 | Undertake operational maintenance of machinery | 30 |
| **Nursery** |  |  |
| AHCNSY202 | Care for nursery plants | 30 |
| AHCNSY203 | Undertake propagation activities | 30 |
| **Soils and media** |  |  |
| AHCSOL202 | Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing | 30 |
| **Work** |  |  |
| AHCWRK201 | Observe and report on weather | 25 |
| AHCWRK206 | Observe enterprise quality assurance procedures | 30 |
| AHCWRK207 | Collect and record production data | 30 |
| AHCWRK208 | Provide information on products and services | 60 |
| TLID1001 | Shift materials safely using manual handling methods | 20 |
| **ELECTIVE GROUP C** |
| AHCNAR307 | Read and interpret maps | 40 |
| SITTGDE002 | Work as a guide | 90 |
| **Minimum for Units 1 to 4:** | **360** |

ATAR Contribution

Students who receive a Units 3 and 4 sequence for the VCE VET programs in Agriculture, Horticulture or Conservation and Land Management may be eligible for an increment towards their ATAR. Increments for unscored VCE VET programs are calculated at 10% of the fourth study score in the primary four scaled studies). The increment is awarded by the Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC).

Further information can be found on the VTAC website:

* Study rules: <[www.vtac.edu.au/results-offers/atar-explained/study-rules](http://www.vtac.edu.au/results-offers/atar-explained/study-rules)>.
* Study groupings: <[www.vtac.edu.au/results-offers/atar-explained/study-groupings](http://www.vtac.edu.au/results-offers/atar-explained/study-groupings.html)>.

The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program does not offer scored assessment.

Structured workplace learning

The VCAA has determined that structured workplace learning (SWL) is an appropriate and valuable component of all VCE VET programs. SWL involves on-the-job training in which students are required to master a designated set of skills and competencies related to VCE VET programs.

Schools/RTOs are also strongly encouraged to contact the Local Learning and Employment Network (LLEN) in their area. LLENs work with secondary schools, RTOs, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) institutes, Adult and Community Education (ACE) providers and local employers to coordinate work placements for school-based apprenticeships and traineeships, SWL and work experience.

SWL complements the training undertaken at the school/RTO. It provides the context for:

* enhancement of skills development
* practical application of industry knowledge
* assessment of units of competency, as determined by the RTO
* Increased employment opportunities.

The VCAA strongly recommends that students undertake a minimum of 80 hours SWL for the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land management programs. SWL should be spread across the duration of the training program.

Further details regarding SWL, the SWL Portal and the Department of Education and Training *SWL Manual* is available on online: [<www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/careers/work/Pages/structuredlearning.aspx](http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/teachingresources/careers/work/Pages/structuredlearning.aspx)>.

The *SWL Manual* outlines roles and responsibilities of the student, parent, employer and principal; procedures and guidelines for placing students in the workplace; and relevant policy and legislation. The manual also has a link to Ministerial Order 55 and the SWL Arrangement form.

SWL Recognition

Structured workplace learning recognition (SWLR) involves the development and maintenance of the workplace learning record (WLR) by the student and is accessed at school. The completion of the WLR is a requirement for recognition by the VCAA for VCE and VCAL credit. The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land management programs offers SWLR. Further details are available at: <[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vet/publications/swlr/recognition.aspx](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vet/publications/swlr/recognition.aspx)>.

Work health and safety

Schools/RTOs must ensure that Work Health and Safety (WHS) issues are fully addressed in the training program.

The principal is responsible for ensuring the school meets its responsibilities for students in SWL arrangements.

Where the student will be employed under an SWL arrangement, the principal must be satisfied that the student is undertaking training in the WHS unit of competency before the arrangement can be entered into.

Students must be informed of the significance of work-related hazards. They must understand the need for, and the nature of, workplace risk controls such as safe working procedures and the use of personal protective clothing and equipment.

Schools must also be satisfied, through their review of the acknowledgment provided by employers on the SWL Arrangement form, that the workplace in question and the activities proposed will not expose a student to risk during their structured work placement.

Employers must view their duty of care towards students as essentially no different from that owed to their employees. They must understand that students cannot be expected to possess the judgment or maturity to undertake any task that presents potential risk. This means that no student may be exposed at any time to dangerous plant machinery, equipment, substances, work environments or work practices.

On the first morning of their placement, students should be introduced to their supervisor and provided with a formal induction to the workplace. This will include first aid, emergency and incident reporting arrangements.

The student should be given an orientation tour of the workplace and any excluded areas or activities should be pointed out. Students should be instructed to report without delay anything they feel may be unsafe. They should be encouraged to ask for help or further instruction if they are not sure of the correct way to carry out any task.

Close supervision of students undertaking SWL is essential. Supervisors nominated by the employer must understand all requirements for safely managing the student’s activities. Supervisors must understand that a student may not fully grasp information or instruction the first time they are told. They should encourage students to ask for help if they have forgotten or if they experience difficulty in putting information into practice.

The WorkSafe Victoria website makes available useful resources: <[www.worksafe.vic.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/)>.

AHCMOM212 Operate Quad Bikes – Safety Advice

The following Health and Safety advice listed below from the Department of Education and Training outlines the requirements for any students undertaking AHCMOM212 Operate quad bikes.

* Personal protective equipment (PPE) should include enclosed footwear, preferably safety boots. Other PPE (such as gloves and appropriate clothing) should be considered in relation to specific tasks and the risks involved.
* Quad bikes must not be used on public roads, even for short periods. If they are to be used on public roads, the bikes must be registered, the driver must be at least 18 years of age and be the holder of an appropriate car licence, and specific travel restrictions apply. A learner permit holder is not permitted to drive a Type 1 special work vehicle (SWV1 body type). See VicRoads for more information: <[www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/registration/new-registration/register-non-compliant-vehicles/special-work-vehicles](http://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/registration/new-registration/register-non-compliant-vehicles/special-work-vehicles)>.
* Because the registration requirement is a strict requirement if vehicles are used on public roads, it is recommend that Schools require providers supply quad bikes that are registered.

Although rollover protection is not a legal requirement there is a clear community expectation that equipment used in training conform to contemporary safety standards, and the Department could find it difficult to demonstrate due diligence under the Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 if the equipment does not meet these standards. It is recommended that this be a standard requirement for suppliers of the equipment unless there are valid reasons to the contrary.

WorkSafe Victoria has published a handbook on quad bikes which is available at: <www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/resources/quad-bikes-farms-handbook-workplaces>.

Another publication which provides appropriate advice is at: <hondaworkrange.com.au/safety>.

Additional information

For updates or information relating to this program refer to:

* the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program web page: <[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vet/programs/agrhortconlm/agrhortconlm](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/vet/programs/agrhortconlm/agrhortconlm.aspx)>.
* the *VCAA* - *Bulletin*: <[www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/correspondence/index.aspx](http://www.vcaa.vic.edu.au/Pages/correspondence/index.aspx)>.

Pathways

The VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program opens up many different training and employment pathways. The VCAA recommends study at the lower levels to develop industry foundation skills before moving to higher level qualifications.

Certificate II in Agriculture

Certificate II in Horticulture

Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

**Certificate IV**

Diploma of Agriculture

Diploma of Horticulture

Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management

Advanced Diploma of Conservation and Land Management

Bachelor of Agriculture

Bachelor of Agricultural Science

Bachelor of Horticulture

Bachelor of Agribusiness

**Certificate II**

**Pathways**

Certificate IV in Agriculture

Certificate IV in Agribusiness

Certificate IV in Horticulture

Certificate IV in Conservation and Land Management

Certificate II in Production Horticulture

Certificate II in Arboriculture

Certificate II in Shearing

Certificate II in Landscaping

Certificate III in Agriculture

Certificate III in Horticulture

Certificate III in Conservation and Land Management

Certificate III in Lands, Parks and Wildlife

Certificate III in Retail Nursery

Certificate III in Pork Production

Certificate III in Sports Turf Management

**Higher Education**

**Diploma**

**Adv Diploma**

**Certificate III**

**Certificate II**

Appendix 1 − Sample programs

Sample 1: AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture

This sample program allows for:

* completion of AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture
* VCE Units 1, 2, a Units 3 and 4 sequence and an additional Unit 1.
* completion over two years.

Year 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes | 20 |
| AHCWRK204 | Work effectively in the industry | 20 |
| AHCWRK209 | Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices | 20 |
| AHCINF201 | Carry out basic electric fencing operations | 40 |
| AHCINF202 | Install, maintain and repair farm fencing | 30 |
| AHCMOM202 | Operate tractors | 40 |
| AHCLSK202 | Care for health and welfare of livestock | 40 |
| AHCLSK205 | Handle livestock using basic techniques | 30 |
| AHCLSK211 | Provide feed for livestock | 30 |
| MEM18002B | Use power tools/hand held operations | 20 |

Year 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| AHCBAC202 | Assist agricultural crop maintenance | 40 |
| AHCCHM201 | Apply chemicals under supervision | 30 |
| AHCIRG216 | Assist with surface irrigation operations | 30 |
| AHCLSK209 | Monitor water supplies | 20 |
| AHCLSK210 | Muster and move livestock | 25 |
| AHCMOM211 | Operate side by side utility vehicles  | 30 |
| AHCDRY201 | Milk livestock | 30 |
| HLTAID002 | Provide basic emergency life support | 8 |
| **Total Sample Program Hours:** | **513** |

Sample 2: AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture

This sample program allows for:

* completion of AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture
* VCE Units 1, 2, a Units 3 and 4 sequence.
* completion over two years.

Year 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| AHCPCM201 | Recognise plants | 40 |
| AHCPMG201 | Treat weeds | 40 |
| AHCPMG202  | Treat plant pests, diseases and disorders | 30 |
| AHCSOL202 | Assist with soil or growing media sampling and testing  | 30 |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes | 20 |
| AHCARB201 | Apply a range of treatments to trees | 30 |
| AHCLSC205 | Install tree protection devices | 20 |

Year 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| AHCMOM203 | Operate basic machinery and equipment | 20 |
| AHCNSY201 | Pot up plants | 20 |
| AHCNSY202 | Care for nursery plants | 30 |
| AHCNSY203 | Undertake propagation activities | 30 |
| AHCPGD201 | Plant trees and shrubs | 20 |
| AHCPGD203 | Prune shrubs and small trees  | 35 |
| AHCPGD204 | Transplant small trees  | 20 |
| AHCPHT201 | Plant horticultural crops | 25 |
| **Total Sample Program Hours:** | **405** |

Sample 3: AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management

This sample program allows for:

* completion of AHC21016 Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management
* VCE Units 1, 2, a Units 3 and 4 sequence.
* completion over two years.

Year 1

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| **Unit 1 to 4** |
| **Compulsory:** |
| AHCWHS201 | Participate in work health and safety processes  | 20 |
| AHCWRK209 | Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices | 20 |
| AHCFAU201 | Recognise fauna | 40 |
| AHCNAR201 | Carry out natural area restoration works | 40 |
| AHCPGD201 | Plant trees and shrubs | 20 |
| AHCPGD206 | Conduct visual inspection of park facilities | 20 |
| AHCPCM201 | Recognise plants | 40 |

Year 2

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| AHCSAW201 | Conduct erosion and sediment control activities  | 40 |
| AHCWRK202 | Observe environmental work practices | 20 |
| AHCWRK203 | Operate in isolated and remote situations | 40 |
| AHCBIO201 | Inspect and clean machinery for plant, animal and soil material | 20 |
| AHCCHM201 | Apply chemicals under supervision | 30 |
| AHCMOM203 | Operate basic machinery and equipment | 20 |
| AHCWRK201 | Observe and report on weather | 25 |
| AHCNAR307 | Read and interpret maps | 40 |
| **Total Sample Program Hours:** | **435** |

Appendix 2 − Summary of changes

The following tables summarises changes to the VCE VET Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management program structures for 2019.

Units of competency on the left hand side of the table existed in the 2018 program but were removed for 2019.

Units of competency on the right hand side of the table were introduced to the program in 2019.

Units that appear in the 2018 and 2019 columns in the same row are equivalent. The unit in the 2019 column supersedes the unit in the 2018 column.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **2018** | **2019** |
| **AHC20116 Certificate II in Agriculture** |
| **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** | **Code** | **Unit title** | **Nominal hours** |
| AHCMOM212 | Operate quad bikes | 60 | AHCMOM217 | Operate quad bikes | 60 |
| AHCBEK201 | Support beekeeping work | 20 |  |  |  |
| AHCBEK202 | Use a bee smoker | 10 | AHCBEK207 | Prepare and use a bee smoker | 10 |
| AHCBEK203 | Open and reassemble a beehive | 20 |  |  |  |
| AHCBEK204 | Construct and repair beehives | 25 | AHCBEK206 | Assemble and maintain beekeeping components | 25 |
| AHCHBR201A | Monitor horse health and welfare | 40 | ACMHBR201\* | Check and treat horses | 40 |
|  |  |  | ACMEQU202\* | Handle horses safely | 100 |
| AHCHBR203A | Provide daily care for horses | 40 | ACMHBR203\* | Provide daily care for horses | 40 |
|  |  |  | ACMEQU205 | Apply knowledge of horse behaviour | 60 |
|  | An asterisk (\*) next to the unit code indicates that there are prerequisite requirements which must be met when packaging the qualification.Prerequisite units of competency \* ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour |
| **AHC20416 Certificate II in Horticulture** |
| SIRXADM001A | Apply retail office procedures  | 20 |  |  |  |
| SIRXFIN002A | Perform retail finance duties  | 25 |  |  |  |
| SIRXICT001A | Operate retail technology  | 20 |  |  |  |
| SIRXMER201 | Merchandise products | 30 | SIRRMER001 | Produce visual merchandise displays | 35 |