Skills Insight

JSC | Jobs and Skills Council
Agribusiness, Fibre, Furnishing, Food, Animal and Environment Care
An Australian Government Initiative

Agriculture Trade Qualification Project

Dairy Production Specialisation

The following document explains the required units a student must complete in order to be awarded the Certificate III in Agricultural Production (Dairy Production). Noting this is based off the units and packaging rules in the draft qualification.

Units of competency listed below can be found in the qualification under Core and Elective Group B.

Typical Occupation Titles

• Agriculturist • Agriculturalist • Agricultural tradesperson • Agricultural technician • Agricultural contractor • Senior farm hand • Leading hand • Livestock handler

Occupational Profile

A person working in Dairy Production plays a key role in producing quality milk and supporting the day-to-day operation of a dairy farm. They understand how agricultural production systems operate and how production activities, inputs, labour, technology, supply chains, markets, quality assurance and stewardship interact. They apply biosecurity measures, work safely maintain production records, use agricultural technology and safely transport, store, prepare and apply agricultural chemicals where required.

Depending on the dairy production stream units chosen they may develop capability in milking livestock, coordinating and monitoring milking operations, routine servicing of milking equipment, calving and rearing of young livestock, administering livestock treatments, feeding livestock and animal welfare.

They use herd records, dairy information and farm technology to monitor milk production, animal performance and daily activities. They provide information that helps the farmer, supervisor or manager make day-to-day decisions. They understand how herd health, nutrition, welfare, biosecurity and the wider production system influence milk production, quality and long-term herd performance.

They communicate effectively with supervisors, contractors, veterinarians, nutritionists and other service providers. They work safely, maintain production records and contribute to productive, profitable and sustainable dairy farming operations. They may also support routine work activities, coordinate day-to-day tasks and contribute to the efficient running of a modern dairy farm.

Capability Theme	What They Can Do	Units of Competency
Producing Quality Milk – Group B choices • Milk livestock • Monitor milking activities • Maintain milk quality • Service dairy equipment • Support dairy production	Carry out milking activities confidently, notice problems during milking, help maintain milk quality and support efficient dairy operations.	AHCDRY202 Milk Livestock AHCDRY303 Coordinate and monitor milking operations AHCDRY304 Carry out routine service of milking equipment
Looking After the Herd – Group B choices • Monitor animal health • Administer treatments • Support animal welfare • Maintain herd wellbeing	Keep an eye on animal health, notice problems early, assist with treatments and help keep the herd healthy, productive and well cared for.	AHCLSK344 Administer treatments to livestock AHCLSK368 Comply with industry animal welfare requirements
Raising the Next Generation – Group B choices • Prepare for calving • Assist with calving • Rear young livestock • Support herd replacement	Assist with calving, caring for newborn and young animals and help raise healthy replacement stock for the future herd.	AHCLSK330 Implement procedures for calving AHCLSK357 Rear newborn and young livestock
Feeding the Herd – Group B choices • Implement feeding plans and provide suitable feed • Monitor feed and water quality • Implement soil management • Support herd performance	Help make sure animals receive suitable feed and water, recognise changes in feed quality and availability, and understand how nutrition, soils, pasture condition and fodder production affect milk production and animal condition.	AHCLSK353 Implement feeding plans for livestock AHCSOL3X01 Implement soil management processes
Monitoring Performance & Using Technology • Understand, monitor and use dairy technology • Monitor performance • Operate machinery • Maintain records	Use information from the dairy, herd records and farm technology to keep track of milk production, animal performance and day-to-day farm activities.	AHCAGB302 Keep production records for a primary production business AHCMOM317 Operate tractors with attachments AHCTEC3X01 Operate and monitor agricultural production data information technology AHCTEC3X02 Identify and recommend agricultural production system technology AHCWRK3X01 Identify and compare agricultural production systems
Keeping the Dairy Running • Work safely • Apply biosecurity • Use chemicals safely • Communicate with others • Maintain quality standards • Support daily operations	Work safely, communicate with the team, follow workplace procedures and help keep the dairy running efficiently every day.	AHCBIO303 Apply biosecurity measures AHCCHM304 Transport and store chemicals AHCCHM307 Prepare and apply chemicals to control pest, weeds and diseases AHCWHS302 Contribute to workplace health and safety processes AHCWRK318 Comply with industry quality assurance requirements AHCWRK320 Apply environmentally sustainable work practices BSBXCM301 Engage in workplace communications HLTAID011 Provide First Aid

Note: All units in ORANGE represent skills that are common across one or more industry sectors.

Capability themes are used to describe the major areas of work undertaken by agricultural tradespeople. They are provided to illustrate the occupational outcomes supported by the qualification and are not packaging groups or endorsed components of the qualification.

Feedback to consider

Are all the minimally required skills and knowledge listed below?

What is missing?

What is not needed?

Under each unit title in green is an explanation of what outcomes the worker will learn.

Dairy Production

AHCDRY202	Milk Livestock *Carry out milking operations by preparing equipment, handling livestock, and collecting milk safely and hygienically*
AHCDRY303	Coordinate and monitor milking operations *Coordinate and monitor milking operations to ensure efficient production, milk quality and livestock health*
AHCDRY304	Carry out routine service of milking equipment *Carry out routine servicing and maintenance of milking equipment to support safe, efficient and reliable dairy operations*
AHCLSK330	Implement procedures for calving *Implement calving procedures by preparing, monitoring and supporting livestock during birth and aftercare*
AHCLSK344	Administer treatments to livestock *Administer livestock health treatments and veterinary medicines to support animal health and wellbeing under supervision*
AHCLSK353	Implement feeding plans for livestock *Implement livestock feeding plans by monitoring animal condition, assessing pasture, and providing appropriate nutrition*
AHCLSK357	Rear newborn and young livestock *Rear newborn and young livestock by feeding, caring for and monitoring their health and development*
AHCLSK368	Comply with industry animal welfare requirements *Comply with animal welfare requirements to ensure livestock are handled and managed humanely*
AHCAGB302	Keep production records for a primary production business *Keep accurate farm records to support decision-making, track production activities and meet audit or compliance requirements*
AHCBIO303	Apply biosecurity measures *Apply biosecurity measures to prevent, identify and respond to biosecurity risks in agricultural workplaces*
AHCCHM304	Transport and store chemicals

	Transport, store and manage chemicals safely in line with regulatory and workplace requirements
AHCCHM307	Prepare and apply chemicals to control pest, weeds and diseases *Prepare and apply chemicals safely and effectively to control pests, weeds and diseases*
AHCMOM317	Operate tractors with attachments *Safely operate and maintain tractors with attachments to carry out farm work*
AHCSOL3X01	Implement soil management processes *Implement and monitor soil management practices to maintain soil health and support productive, sustainable farming*
AHCTEC3X01	Operate and monitor agricultural production data information technology *Use digital systems to collect, monitor and analyse farm data, and use information to improve production decisions*
AHCTEC3X02	Identify and recommend agricultural production system technology *Research, assess and recommend farm technologies (machinery, equipment or digital tools) to improve production outcomes*
AHCWHS302	Contribute to workplace health and safety processes *Work safely by following procedures, identifying hazards, and helping manage risks on farm*
AHCWRK318	Comply with industry quality assurance requirements *Follow farm quality and industry standards, keep records, and identify and fix issues that affect product quality*
AHCWRK320	Apply environmentally sustainable work practices *Use resources (like water, fuel and chemicals) efficiently on farm, reduce waste, and meet environmental and biosecurity requirements in day-to-day work*
AHCWRK3X01	Identify and compare agricultural production systems *Understand how agricultural production systems operate and how production activities, technology, markets and other factors interact to influence outcomes*
BSBXCM301	Engage in workplace communications *Communicate effectively with supervisors, co-workers and contractors to coordinate work, share information and report issues.*
HLTAID011	Provide First Aid *Respond to emergencies by providing first aid, including CPR and basic treatment, until medical help arrives*

To provide feedback on the units (skills and knowledge) that make up the Dairy Production specialisation please go to the qualification document and leave a comment.
You can also email your feedback to lucinda@skillsinsight.com.au.

Skills Insight

JSC | Jobs and Skills Council
Agribusiness, Fibre, Furnishing, Food, Animal and Environment Care
An Australian Government Initiative

Skills Insight is a Jobs and Skills Council funded by the Australian Government Department of Employment and Workplace Relations.