VETASSESS

Information sheet

Dairy Cattle Farmer

ANZSCO: 121313 **Group B**

About this document

- The following Information Sheet is for your reference only and should be used as a guide to assist with your Skills Assessment application to VETASSESS. This information is subject to change.
- Please note that a Skills Assessment of the qualification involves assessment of both the qualification level and content. Qualifications are assessed according to the guidelines published by the Australian Government Department of Education.
- The employment assessment involves determining the skill level and relevance of the tasks undertaken.
- Integrity checks may be conducted to verify the qualification and employment claims made in an application.

Job description

Plans, organises, controls, coordinates and performs farming operations to breed and raise dairy cattle for milk, meat and breeding stock.

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Share Dairy Farmer
- Sharemilker
- Stud Dairy Cattle Farmer
- Dairy Herd Manager

Dairy Cattle Farmer is a VETASSESS Group B occupation

This occupation requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the educational level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher.

Applicants can fulfil the assessment criteria for this occupation in four different ways.

GROUP B	Criteria for a suitable Skills Assessment			
	Minimum comparable Bachelor or higher degree AQF level	With highly relevant major field of study	Additional highly relevant qualifications	Highly relevant employment duration
1	AQF +	+	N/A +	1 YEAR minimum
2	AQF +	No highly relevant major +	AQF Minimum AQF Diploma level with highly relevant major +	2 YEARS minimum
3	AQF +	No highly relevant major +	No additional highly relevant qualifications +	3 YEARS minimum
	Pre-qualification methodology can apply to Group B occupations			
	Highly relevant employment duration	With or without highly relevant major field of study	Additional highly relevant qualifications	Comparable Bachelor degree AQF level
4	5 YEARS minimum + 1 YEAR minimum Within last 5 years	+ N/A +	N/A +	AQF

Description of Pathways

The information below describes the available pathways for a Skills Assessment under **Group B**. Please note that in order to achieve a suitable Skills Assessment Outcome, a positive assessment for both qualifications and employment is required.

Pathway 1

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher degree and in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **one** year of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Pathway 2

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher degree and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

An additional qualification in a highly relevant field of study at a minimum AQF Diploma level is required. Additional qualifications in a highly relevant field of study include those comparable to the AQF Diploma or AQF Advanced Diploma or AQF Associate Degree or AQF Graduate Diploma.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **two** years of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

For example, an applicant for the occupation Quality Assurance Manager completed a non-relevant AQF Bachelor qualification in April 2024 and later completed an AQF Diploma in Quality Management in May 2026. The applicant commenced employment with the organisation in May 2024 and remains employed there.

Under Pathway 2, the applicant satisfies the minimum educational requirement for a Group B occupation through the AQF Bachelor qualification. Accordingly, employment is counted from the completion date of the Bachelor qualification, meaning employment from May 2024 onwards may be considered toward both the required Qualifying Period (QP) and any remaining eligible period for the points test.

As the later Diploma qualification is highly relevant to the occupation, the applicant may access the reduced employment requirement applicable under Pathway 2. In this case, only two years of QP are required, and that employment may be counted from the post-Bachelor period rather than from the Diploma qualification completion date.

Pathway 3

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher degree and in a field not highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **three** years of post-qualification employment at an appropriate skill level, undertaken in the last five years,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Pathway 4

This pathway requires a qualification assessed as comparable to the education level of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher degree with or without a highly relevant major field of study to the nominated occupation.

Bachelor degree or higher degree includes AQF Master Degree or AQF Doctoral Degree.

In addition, it is essential for applicants to meet the following employment criteria:

- at least **six** years of employment at an appropriate skill level that includes at least **one** year of highly relevant employment within the last five years before applying,
- working 20 hours or more per week, and
- highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Qualification

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Agriculture
- Animal Husbandry
- Dairy Farming
- Dairy Science
- Livestock Production
- Agricultural Economics
- Agribusiness
- Ruminant Nutrition
- Animal Hygiene

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Employment Criteria

Highly relevant tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Breeding and raising livestock for the production of honey, meat, milk, skins, eggs and wool
- Monitoring and maintaining the health and condition of livestock
- Providing pastures and fodder to maintain appropriate nutritional level
- Moving livestock to optimise feeding opportunities
- Organising and conducting farming operations such as catching, drenching and milking livestock, sterilising machines, and collecting, grading and packaging produce
- Directing and overseeing general farming activities such as maintaining pens, sheds and cages, fertilising, controlling pests and weeds, and growing fodder
- Maintaining fences, equipment and water supply systems
- Organising the sale, purchase and transportation of livestock and produce
- Maintaining and evaluating records of farming activities, monitoring market activity and planning production accordingly
- Managing business capital including budgeting, taxation, debt and loan management
- May select, train and supervise staff and contractors