VETASSESS

Information sheet

Agricultural Consultant

ANZSCO: 234111 **Group A**

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

Agricultural Consultants advise farmers, agricultural businesses, rural industries and government on the production, processing and distribution of farm products.

Alternative Titles:

- Agricultural Adviser

Occupations considered suitable under this ANZSCO code:

- Agricultural Extension Officer
- Landcare Officer
- Horticultural Consultant*
- Agribusiness Consultant
- Agricultural adviser

*Employment as a horticultural consultant may be considered where the focus of the work relates to provision of advice on the processing and distribution of fruits, nuts and vegetables but not landscaping and ornamental plants.

Agricultural Consultant is a VETASSESS Group A occupation

GROUP A	Criteria for a suitable Skills Assessment		
	Comparable Bachelor degree AQF level	With highly relevant major field of study	Relevant employment duration
1	 +	 +	
Pre-qualification methodology does not apply to Group A occupations			

The information below describes the available pathways for a Skills Assessment under**Group A**. Please note that in order to achieve a suitable Skills Assessment Outcome, a suitable 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.

Qualification

This occupation requires a qualification which is assessed as comparable to the educational level an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Bachelor degree or higher*, in a field highly relevant to the nominated occupation.

Qualifications in certain science fields (Horticulture, Biotechnology, Veterinary Science, Biochemistry, Biological Life Sciences, Botany, Zoology, Soil Science, Environmental Science) may be accepted on a case-by-case basis if the study programme consists of sufficient subjects in Agricultural systems, Agronomy, Animal Science, Chemistry, Grazing systems, Plant cultivation and core subjects in their respective specialised fields. Major research projects and / or internships are important determining factors.

Highly relevant major fields of study include:

- Agricultural Science
- Animal Science and Management
- Crop Science / Agronomy
- Viticulture
- Plant and Animal Production

Employment

In Australia, there are currently no legal requirements for licensing or registration for the occupation of Agricultural Consultant.

An agricultural consultant generally provides advice to clients as an external contracted service. Clients may include farmers, growers, landowners, conservation organisations and public bodies.

As an agricultural consultant, you would usually consult on either technical or business matters. The consultancy may include advice on agricultural systems, crop and pasture science, livestock, nutrition / breeding, or improvement of production, processing and distribution of farm products.

Tasks include:

- Collecting and analysing data and samples of produce, feed, soil and other factors affecting production.
- Advising farmers and Farm Managers on techniques for improving the production of crops and livestock, and alternative agricultural options.
- Advising farmers on issues such as livestock and crop disease, control of pests and weeds, soil improvement, animal husbandry and feeding programs.
- Developing procedures and techniques for solving agricultural problems and improving the efficiency of production.