

BEEKEEPER/APIARIST

BEEKEEPER EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS

AHC21216 - Certificate II in Rural Operations

This qualification provides an occupational outcome for industries and agencies in rural and regional Australia. Depending on the units selected individuals can be employed not only in rural industries but also other rural and regional sectors, such as local government, tourism, hospitality, transport, construction, community services, information technology and metals. This qualification provides the opportunity to select units that are relevant to working in the Honey Bee industry as a new starter with limited experience.

AHC31818 - Certificate III in Beekeeping

This qualification describes the skills and knowledge of a honeybee (Apiarist) beekeeper, including the establishment of beehives and apiaries, the transport of live bees and the management of bees for honey production and/or provision of pollination services.

Traineeships generally take between twelve to twenty-four months to complete and require the successful completion of all units of competence in this qualification as well as meeting employer expectations for attendance and application in the workplace.

AHC41019 - Certificate IV in Agribusiness

This qualification reflects the role of workers who are responsible for the administration and day to day business operations of an agricultural or horticultural production enterprise.

At this level, workers may be required to supervise and lead other workers or teams and be involved in some decision-making. Work may take place in a range of industry sectors and in complex, regularly changing environments.

AHC60319 - Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management

This qualification reflects the role of individuals working in a range of agribusiness leadership or consulting roles. The role reflects the need for agribusiness specific expertise in planning and analysis, managing supply chains, financial and human resource management together with an emphasis on return on investment.

At this level, workers utilise significant theoretical agribusiness knowledge and provide leadership and strategic direction across multiple enterprises.

Agribusiness leaders and consultants analyse, design and execute judgements using wide-ranging technical, conceptual and managerial competencies. Their knowledge base may be highly specialised or broad within the agribusiness field.

These individuals are often accountable for group outcomes and for the overall performance of agricultural or horticultural production enterprises.

Bachelor of Agricultural Science

The undergraduate agriculture degree focuses on Australian and global production issues facing farmers, agribusiness and the environment. Whether you choose to study online or in person, you'll be trained across all major biological and agribusiness disciplines that underpin modern agricultural industries. In this degree, you'll also study contemporary, relevant subjects and gain real-world industry experience through our Agricultural Industry Internship program.

For further information or advise contact

mae@agrifooditab.com.au



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CAREER PATHWAYS/SPECIALISATIONS

Beekeeping is the maintenance of native and/or honeybee colonies, commonly kept in hives by humans. A commercial beekeeper keeps bees to collect their honey and other products that the hive produces for sale, to pollinate crops, and/or to produce bees for sale to their beekeepers. Beekeeping is a form of animal husbandry that involves managing colonies of bees to be productive, preventing infections from various pests and disease and checking for exotic pests and diseases. Some areas of specialisation that you may like to consider are listed below -

Pollinations services

Pollination services are the paid use of domestic honeybees to pollinate crops. Australia currently has a very small market for pollination services, with an estimated 200,000 hives being used for paid pollination. Feral honeybees and incidental pollination supply the remaining needs for pollination of Australian pollination-dependent crops.

Diagnostics – identifying and treating bee diseases

Specialists assisting to control serious endemic pests and diseases to minimise the economic and environmental impact as much as possible. Providing support and advice to beekeepers on the recognition and control of pests and diseases to make the industry more self-sufficient as well as more productive.

Artificial insemination of bees

These specialists collect semen from drones and inseminate the queen bees to ensure quality offspring and genetic purity . The aim of this is to increase productivity and disease resistance .

Marketing products

Beeswax, candles, skin care products, medicinal honey and fresh honey are all products that are being marketed in boutique shops, online or through supermarkets, farmers markets or to honey packers. The opportunity to work from home and producing ecofriendly products to others, is very appealing to many people seeking a lifestyle change.

Rearing and selling queen bees/genetics

Specialists study the genomics (the entire set of genetic material for an individual organism) to improve productivity, build immunity to disease and increase fertility as well as research many other aspects of bees. Researching and

For further information relating to this job. Search the following web sites. Either click on the logo to open the web page or click on the QR code.

	NSW APIARISTS' ASSOCIATION INC	
	AMATEUR BEEKEEPERS AUSTRALIA	
	BEE AWARE	
	AUSTRALIAN HONEY BEE INDUSTRY COUNCIL	

For further information or advise contact

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HINTS ON HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS JOB

The first thing to do is to contact the beekeepers located in your region and discuss the opportunities to work in this industry. If you can't locate a local beekeeper then follow the 9 steps below that could assist you to secure work in this industry.

Step one: identify your strengths and weaknesses, especially in problem solving and botany as these are essential to being successful as a beekeeper. Completing any of the following; a basic chainsaw course, white card, agriculture or horticulture units of competence as well as using hand and power tools will provide the practical skills that will assist you to meet the selection criteria that employers set.

Step two: decide where you want to work; are you willing to relocate to get your dream job? There may be more opportunities in regional areas.

Step three: research information about local employers or companies that you would like to work for; find out what the entry requirements or essential criteria are that must be met; such as do you need to complete a white card or gain your licence before getting an interview?

Step four: make a shortlist of potential prospective employers to contact. You may also like to chat to your job search agent or search some of the online employment agencies such as SEEK, Jobsearch, Indeed or Linked In to find job vacancies.

Step five: create a quality resumé and include your academic achievements, experience, interests and passions.

Step six: contact potential employers by writing or directly calling them to demonstrate your interest and communication skills. Prospective employers highly value self-starters and prospective career aspirants with initiative who take such steps to seek for themselves employment as an apprentice.

Step seven: if you are still at school, you may be able to take up a school-based apprenticeship. There are opportunities available in some schools that allow you to take on a part-time apprenticeship known as a School-Based Apprenticeship or Traineeship (SBAT). Ask your school if they support this government initiative and ask the employer if they would be interested in such an arrangement. SBATs are a really good way to allow you to finish school and at the same time learn and earn as an apprentice.

Step eight: your employer should contact the Australian Apprenticeship Support Network (AASNs) - <https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/> for further information on how to sign you up.

Step nine: sign up to your traineeship with your employer (and support of your family if you are under 18 years old) to start "learning and earning" to become a beekeeper



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HAVE YOU CONSIDERED THESE RELATED JOBS?

Biosecurity officer

Biosecurity officers work at checkpoints or offices across designated regions to prevent unwanted pests, weeds and diseases being brought into the state. They control the movement of agricultural and horticultural produce, and examine incoming and outgoing animals, plants, food, humans and machinery. They may screen and inspect mail parcels, baggage, cargo containers and ships entering Australia. They identify anything that poses a biosecurity risk and either report these to government agencies, confiscate or destroy them. Some work in specific industries, most states have bee biosecurity officers.

Horticulturist

Horticulturists have scientific knowledge in how to cultivate and propagate plants, and use this knowledge to provide technical information to fruit, vegetable, and flower growers, as well as farmers. Horticulturists also conduct pest and disease investigations and experiment with improved varieties of plants with greater resistance to disease.

Environmental Scientist/Apiologist

Environmental Scientist/Apiologist/field assistant/research assistant with a focus on pollination, studies honey bees and identifies ways to improve pollination services. Environmental contaminants and managed ecosystems, such as in agriculture, can negatively impact honey bee health which reduces effective pollination. By assessing flower visitation, fruit set and bee health, these specialised scientists make recommendations to growers and beekeepers regarding ways to improve pollination outcomes.

Orchardist

Plants and cultivates trees, like apple, orange, and walnut, and harvests fruit and nut crops, applying knowledge of horticulture market conditions. Determines varieties quantities of trees to be grown, acreage to be tilled and employees to be hired.

Forklift operator

A Forklift Operator's job is to make sure that materials are safely transported around warehouses, factories and storage sites. Forklift Operators use forklifts for loading and unloading items such as bee hives, stacking them, and transporting them to storage areas. They are responsible for ensuring items are transported and stored carefully without damaging them. The range of job opportunities for a forklift operator are extensive and the income will be reflected by the value of the goods or the risk associated with moving them.



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