

Year 9 - Agriculture 2022

TERM 1

Students learn about plant and animal-related concepts to develop an appreciation of the complexity of agriculture. Students have opportunities to investigate the industries involved in agriculture, how plants and animals are produced and to follow Work Health and Safety (WHS) guidelines. Students experiences will include both practical and theoretical contexts.

UNIT OVERVIEW – Introduction to Agriculture

- Systems models and interactions within farms
- Historical European and Indigenous farming practices
- Farm business models
- Agriculture in the Australian economy
- Careers in Agriculture
- Legislation and Agriculture
- Farm safety
- Risk Assessments
- Farm tools and machinery

ASSESSMENT

Task Number: 1

Nature of Task:
Research report on a chosen career from the industry.

Percentage: 40

Week: 8

Reported: Semester 1

TIMING
Weeks: 5

Year 9 - Agriculture 2022

TERM 1-2

Students learn about a broad range of skills and knowledge required to successfully cultivate a vegetable crop in a practical context. Students will have the opportunity to cultivate a range of vegetables first hand and complete a range of tasks from planting, fertilising, pest management and harvest. Other focus areas include marketing, plant biology and external influences on production.

UNIT OVERVIEW – Vegetable Production

- Vegetable production in context
- What is value adding?
- Parts of plants and vegetables
- The structure of a seed and flower
- The structure of the leaf and photosynthesis
- Experimental design
- How to conduct an agricultural experiment?
- Management operations
- Types of tools
- Nutritional benefits of brassicas
- The impacts of weather
- Pests of vegetables – The Cabbage White Butterfly
- Blossom end rot
- Water conservation
- Vegetable marketing chains
- Market specifications for vegetables
- Urbanisation and sustainability

ASSESSMENT

Task Number: 2

Nature of Task:
Experimental field trial

Percentage: 60

Week: 5

Reported: Semester 1

TIMING
Weeks: 10

Year 9 - Agriculture 2022

TERM 2-3

Students learn a broad range of skills and knowledge required to successfully raise sheep and lambs. Students will have the opportunity to either observe or complete first hand a range of tasks relating the husbandry of sheep. Other focus areas include marketing, animal physiology and external influences on production.

UNIT OVERVIEW – Prime Lamb Production

- Sheep vocabulary
- What is a lamb?
- Flight zones and point of balance
- Low stress handling techniques
- How old are our sheep – ageing through dentition
- Prime lamb breeding systems
- Case Study – the Dorper sheep
- RFID in animal record keeping and monitoring
- Fat scoring – manual and ultrasound
- Fly strike – Symptoms, treatment and prevention
- Barbers poll worm
- Integrated pest management
- Vaccination
- Calendar of operations
- Market Specifications
- Marketing chains
- Live export

ASSESSMENT

Task Number: 3

Nature of Task:
Research report

Percentage: 40

Week: 6

Reported: Semester 2

TIMING
Weeks: 10

Year 9 - Agriculture 2022

TERM 3-4		
TIMING Weeks: 8	Students learn about a broad range of skills and knowledge required to successfully cultivate a cotton crop. Students will have the opportunity to develop skills relating to the propagation of this crop, including planting, irrigation, harvesting and tractor operations. Other focus areas include marketing, plant physiology and external influences on production.	
	UNIT OVERVIEW – Cotton Production	ASSESSMENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cotton plant • Cotton calendar of operations • Cotton management and soils • Tractor operations • Tractor safety • Tractor implements and their uses • Minimum tillage • Cotton management – Temperature and rainfall • Cotton bollworm • Integrated pest management • Genetic modification and its ethical implications • Safe chemical usage • Case study: Cotton in the Murray Darling Basin • Cotton market specifications • Cotton processing and markets 	Task Number: 4 Nature of Task: Yearly exam Percentage: 60 Week: 5 Reported: Semester 2
TERM 4		
TIMING Weeks: 5	Students learn about a broad range of skills and knowledge required to successfully cultivate nursery plants. Students will have the opportunity to develop skills relating to the propagation of this crop, including planting, propagation, fertilising and irrigation. Other focus areas include marketing, plant physiology and external influences on production.	
	UNIT OVERVIEW – Nursery Production	ASSESSMENT
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of nursery plants in society • Common nursery plants • Methods of plant propagation • Risk Assessment in a nursery context • Common tasks perform by nursery workers 	Task Number: 4 Nature of Task: Yearly exam Percentage: 60 Week: 5 Reported: Semester 2