

An exciting, practical degree for agriculture

The **Bachelor of Agricultural Production and Management** has been developed by the University of New England (UNE) and commenced in February 2014. This program provides an integrated Vocational Education and Training (VET) and higher education degree for people who are looking to start or progress their career in agricultural production and management.

This course provides exit points at Diploma, Advanced Diploma, Associate Degree and Degree after three years of full-time study. By completing the Bachelor of Agricultural Production and Management, you will have attained national competencies in agricultural production, farm management, leadership and communication, with university units in agricultural science and systems management.

There are five Majors: (1) Crop Production; (2) Livestock Production; (3) Feedlot Management; (4) Production Horticulture; and (5) Poultry Production. You will learn about the latest technology, including precision agriculture and spatial mapping. As a graduate, you will have the technical and management skills required to integrate agricultural technology with the capability to evaluate and manage the productivity, efficiency, profitability, and ecological sustainability of today's farming enterprises.

Entry requirements

The degree program attracts a new cohort of students who may not normally have considered undertaking a University degree. Entry criteria for each part of the program are:

1) RuralBiz Training entry requirements (for VET units)

- i) Completion of Year 12 or be able to demonstrate similar literacy and numeracy levels, **AND**
- ii) Access to adequate internet (satellite broadband or similar), **AND**
- iii) Access to a farm workplace as a context for learning and assessment tasks (on campus students use the UNE farm)

2) UNE entry requirement (for Uni units)

- i) The Higher School Certificate, **OR**
- ii) A VET Certificate IV or higher qualification in any field, **OR**
- iii) Minimum of 4 completed units from an approved Diploma, **OR**
- iv) The required minimum skills profile assessed against the Australian Core Skills Framework (an online Skills Analysis);

Potential students

While this degree is attractive to school leavers and agriculture trainees who want to progress in an agricultural career, many students are experienced farmers or other people involved in agriculture. Experienced people may use Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) to have their previous work experience and knowledge recognised, allowing them to enter the degree program at the level that best suits their stage of development. For example, experienced farmers may have many of the VET units recognised through RPL, resulting in considerably less units required for completion of the degree.

Program structure

The Degree program incorporates VET (Vocational Education and Training) units from the national AHC Training Package in conjunction with university units, delivered by UNE. Students are enrolled with both RuralBiz Training and UNE.

Completion of the VET units results in the AHC50116 Diploma of Agriculture and AHC60316 Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management, with additional exit points at Associate Degree and Degree, as you move through your units. This provides flexibility, allowing you to choose the exit point which suits you.

Delivery

All units in both RuralBiz Training and UNE programs are available online. There is no residential school requirement with the RuralBiz Training units. Many of the UNE units do have a requirement to physically attend a short (2-3 day) intensive on campus school. The degree may be completed in part-time mode, and it is anticipated that many students will be employed and take the part-time option.

You may enrol in the VET units with RuralBiz Training in any month apart from Dec/Jan. UNE units are spread over the three trimesters of the university academic year. Many students choose to enrol concurrently with both RuralBiz Training and UNE, allowing a lot of flexibility in study patterns. A list of the required units available through RuralBiz Training is given over page. Students who hold a recognised substitute unit will not be required to complete the corresponding core unit.

RuralBiz Training has a UNE branch office and the delivery of the UNE and RuralBiz Training units will be closely co-ordinated for each student.

RuralBiz Training students may apply for RPL based on their previous study or experiences.

Bachelor of Agricultural Production and Management: RuralBiz Training units:

14 CORE UNITS (available by training)	Recognised substitute unit
AHCAGB501 Develop climate risk management strategies	
AHCWRK503 Prepare reports	NSWCOM601A Research and communicate complex ideas
AHCSOL501 Monitor and manage soils for production	
AHCBUS502 Market products & services	AHCWRK501A Plan, implement and review a QA system
AHCBUS507 Monitor and review business performance	AHCBUS506A Develop & review a business plan
AHCBUS508 Prepare and monitor budgets and financial reports	AHCBUS506A Develop & review a business plan <i>Note: this unit can only be used as a substitute ONCE</i>
AHCAGB505 Develop a whole farm plan	AHCNAR506A Develop and implement sustainable land use strategies
AHCAGB502 Plan and manage infrastructure requirements	AHCMOM502A Implement a machinery management system AHCIRG504A Develop an irrigation and drainage management plan
AHCAGB604 Analyse business performance	
AHCAGB605 Manage business capital	AHCBUS601A Manage capital works
AHCBUS608 Manage risk	AHCAGB606A Manage price risk through trading strategy AHCBUS604A Design and manage the enterprise quality management system
AHCAGB603 Manage the production system	AHCBUS603A Develop and review a strategic plan
AHCWRK602 Lead and manage community or industry organisations or BSBMGT605B Provide leadership across the organisation	NSWCOM602A Apply leadership communication to build capability in others
AHCBUS605 Manage human resources	NSWCOM603A Provide leadership for effective digital and online communication
PRESCRIBED UNITS - CROPPING & HORTICULTURE	Recognised substitute unit
AHCBAC508 Apply plant biology to agronomic practices	AHCPCM502 Collect and classify plants
AHCBAC505 Plan and manage long term weed, pest and/or disease control in crops	AHCCHM501A Develop and manage a chemical use strategy AHCPCM501A Diagnose plant health
AHCBAC507 Develop production plans for crops	AHCBAC501A Manage agricultural crop production AHCBAC503A Manage integrated crop and pasture production
PRESCRIBED UNITS - LIVESTOCK MAJOR	Recognised substitute unit
AHCLSK504 Develop livestock health and welfare strategies	
AHCLSK503 Develop and implement a breeding strategy	
AHCLSK505 Develop production plans for livestock	AHCBAC501 Manage livestock production

On completing the 14 core units plus the 3 prescribed units for your major you will gain the dual awards of **AHC50116 Diploma of Agriculture** and **AHC60316 Advanced Diploma of Agribusiness Management** and you will be almost halfway through your degree. Details of the remaining UNE units are available at <http://www.une.edu.au/about-une/academic-schools/school-of-environmental-and-rural-science/courses/agrifood-systems>