

AgSkilled™ and Tocal College: The training you want, where you want it, for
VITICULTURE - GRAINS - COTTON - RICE - PRODUCTION HORTICULTURE



AQF4 Managing Spray Application – Agronomist

Close collaboration with the agricultural industry, including growers, agronomists/advisors and agribusinesses, has highlighted the need for training targeting agronomist/advisors to increase skills in spray planning and overall chemical application management. This course focusses on sprayer setup and operation to minimise spray drift, with specific reference to the new APVMA rules and the future introduction of Dicamba tolerant cotton.

This Level IV accredited training is designed for agronomists/ advisors with a strong interest in broadacre spray planning, setup and application who could specialise in this field for the benefit of their agribusiness. They can be part of a team delivering a uniform message on best practice spray application.



Overview of training program

Day 1

- Introduction/overview of course
- Craig Day presentation covering these topics:
 - APVMA update
 - Weather
 - Water quality
- Overview of assessment tasks
- Guest speakers may include:
 - Specific weed control
 - New cotton variety
 - TeeJet Australasia – nozzles and spray planning
- Practical activity: variety of spray units:
 - spray planning/calibration/setup
- **Assessment task 1:**
 - Weather scenarios – two data sets; legislation;
 - Spray scenarios – summer and winter; operational checks/calibration of sprayer; spray plans

Day 2

- Review of Day 1 – questions/comments/feedback
- Overview of Day 2 assessment tasks – Craig Day
- **Assessment Task 1:** continued – more spray plans; class presentation
- **Assessment Task 2:** hazards, risks, transport, storage, IPM
- **Assessment Task 3:** continuous improvement, evaluation of procedures to address spray application efficacy
- Evaluation

Post course: completion of a spray plan – to be emailed



www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/courses/short-courses/agskilled

Funded training delivered by Tocal College through AgSkilled™, supported by the NSW Department of Education

AgSkilled™: AQF4 Managing Spray Application for Agronomists

Course dates 2023

Location	Workshop
Temora	Tue and Wed, 7-8 Feb 2023
Parkes	Tue and Wed, 14-15 Feb 2023
Gunnedah	Wed and Thu, 1-2 March 2023
Goulburn	Tue and Wed, 21-22 March 2023

Apply now 

Click above or go to <https://www.tocal.nsw.edu.au/courses/short-courses/agskilled/managing-spray-agronomists-level-4>

Names needed 25 days prior to course start date. Numbers are limited. To register, or for more information, contact Cath:

Phone: 02 6345 5818, Mobile: 0437 455818

Email: craig.day@bigpond.com

Accredited training

The course is aligned and delivered against vocational education and training requirements. Successful completion of assessment tasks will result in achieving a Statement of Attainment and can contribute to a nationally-recognised qualification

Unit of Competency

AHCCHM404 - Develop procedures to minimise risks in the use of chemicals

AHCCHM405 - Plan and implement a chemical use program

What is AgSkilled™

AgSkilled™ 2.0 is a \$15 million investment by the NSW Government to upskill and better prepare the agricultural workforce for fast-moving change driven by industry innovation, research and technology through vocational education and training (VET), across all the plant-growing agricultural industry sectors including fibre (e.g. cotton), grains, production horticulture, viticulture and rice growing in NSW.

Workshop will cover:

Weather

- Identification and management of inversions
- Prediction of weather using available technologies
- Identification of suitable spray application conditions
- Recording of information according to legislative requirements

Spray Drift Management Plans

- Definition of drift – droplet, particle, volatile fraction
- Investigation of nozzle selection options
- Identification and management of issues re spray quality:
 - Legal requirements
 - Influence of tank mix
 - Matching water rate to extra coarse and ultra-coarse nozzles
- Examination of surfactant selection and effect on nozzle performance
- Development of spray plans – winter and summer – for a variety of sprayer setups
- Case study – Business Research Innovation Initiative – Cotton Australia Challenge – Spray Safe & Save P/L project – Round 1

Chemical Use

- Match 2,4-D rules to advice
- Discussion of label changes and the Global Harmonisation System (GHS)
- Utilisation of labels and SDSs as a tool for hazard and risk management
- Discussion of water quality issues affecting chemical survival

Calibration and fine tuning of spray application equipment – demonstration spray units

- Customisation of Spray Drift Management Plans to individual workplace requirements – machinery type, operation speed, nozzle spacing (spray planning) – including 3TS; Aim Command, Pro and Flex
- Calibration and testing of spray application equipment
- Calibration and adjusting of fence line jets to avoid under dosing

Implement chemical application plan

- Development of best practice chemical spray recommendations
- Completion of post course spray plan for a client
- Update procedures to reflect required changes according to industry best practice

This course has been made possible through funding from the NSW Government's AgSkilled™ program.