



AGRI12002 Weeds, Pests and Plant Diseases

Term 2 - 2024

Profile information current as at 05/09/2024 02:48 pm

All details in this unit profile for AGRI12002 have been officially approved by CQUniversity and represent a learning partnership between the University and you (our student). The information will not be changed unless absolutely necessary and any change will be clearly indicated by an approved correction included in the profile.

General Information

Overview

Sustainable management of pest animals, plant diseases and weeds is paramount to successfully managing agricultural and natural environments. This unit introduces you to the principles of plant protection and the relevant foundation disciplines of weed science, plant pathology (the science of plant diseases) and entomology (insect science). You will learn key aspects of biology and identification of weeds, pests and plant diseases. You will be introduced to ecological principles of their interactions with agricultural and natural environments. Guided by this fundamental knowledge you will understand, plan and evaluate protection strategies for a range of agricultural and natural environments.

Details

Career Level: *Undergraduate*

Unit Level: *Level 2*

Credit Points: 6

Student Contribution Band: 7

Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: 0.125

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

Prerequisite 48 Credit Points

Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the [Assessment Policy and Procedure \(Higher Education Coursework\)](#).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2024

- Online
- Rockhampton

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

[This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.](#)

Class and Assessment Overview

Recommended Student Time Commitment

Each 6-credit Undergraduate unit at CQUniversity requires an overall time commitment of an average of 12.5 hours of study per week, making a total of 150 hours for the unit.

Class Timetable

[Regional Campuses](#)

Bundaberg, Cairns, Emerald, Gladstone, Mackay, Rockhampton, Townsville

[Metropolitan Campuses](#)

Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney

Assessment Overview

1. **Online Quiz(zes)**

Weighting: 40%

2. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 20%

3. **Written Assessment**

Weighting: 40%

Assessment Grading

This is a graded unit: your overall grade will be calculated from the marks or grades for each assessment task, based on the relative weightings shown in the table above. You must obtain an overall mark for the unit of at least 50%, or an overall grade of 'pass' in order to pass the unit. If any 'pass/fail' tasks are shown in the table above they must also be completed successfully ('pass' grade). You must also meet any minimum mark requirements specified for a particular assessment task, as detailed in the 'assessment task' section (note that in some instances, the minimum mark for a task may be greater than 50%). Consult the [University's Grades and Results Policy](#) for more details of interim results and final grades.

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

You may wish to view these policies:

- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Previous Student Feedback

Feedback, Recommendations and Responses

Every unit is reviewed for enhancement each year. At the most recent review, the following staff and student feedback items were identified and recommendations were made.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Improve organisation of learning material

Recommendation

Learning material will be organised to enhance the current lecture material.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Provide clarity of expectations

Recommendation

Students have weekly live workshops where discussion on content and assessment is encouraged. In addition, weekly posts on current timetable and upcoming assessment, is provided. Additional workshops on specific assessment will be considered based on student requirements.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

Improve clarity of quizzes

Recommendation

Quiz questions are revised each year to ensure clarity, align with lecture material, and prevent integrity issues.

Feedback from SUTE data

Feedback

The students are encouraged to interact

Recommendation

The weekly live sessions encourage unit interaction, between students, with lecturers, researchers and guest speakers.

Feedback from Email

Feedback

Helpful feedback

Recommendation

Feedback will be provided on assessment.

Feedback from Email

Feedback

Very responsive to email enquiries

Recommendation

Email enquiries will be responded to as quickly and effectively as possible.

Unit Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

1. Identify major weeds, pests and plant diseases
2. Explain the fundamental biology and ecology of weeds, pests and plant diseases
3. Evaluate and propose protection strategies for agricultural and natural systems from weeds, pests and plant diseases.

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes



Alignment of Assessment Tasks to Learning Outcomes

| Assessment Tasks | Learning Outcomes | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 - Online Quiz(zes) - 40% | • | • | |
| 2 - Written Assessment - 20% | • | | • |
| 3 - Written Assessment - 40% | | • | • |

Alignment of Graduate Attributes to Learning Outcomes

| Graduate Attributes | Learning Outcomes | | |
|---|-------------------|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 1 - Communication | • | • | • |
| 2 - Problem Solving | • | | • |
| 3 - Critical Thinking | | | • |
| 4 - Information Literacy | • | • | |
| 5 - Team Work | | | |
| 6 - Information Technology Competence | • | • | |
| 7 - Cross Cultural Competence | | | • |
| 8 - Ethical practice | • | • | |
| 9 - Social Innovation | | | |
| 10 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Cultures | | | |

Textbooks and Resources

Textbooks

There are no required textbooks.

IT Resources

You will need access to the following IT resources:

- CQUniversity Student Email
- Internet
- Unit Website (Moodle)
- Zoom Capacity (microphone required, webcam preferred if possible)

Referencing Style

All submissions for this unit must use the referencing style: [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

For further information, see the Assessment Tasks.

Teaching Contacts

Karen Harper Unit Coordinator
k.harper@cqu.edu.au

Schedule

Week 1 - 08 Jul 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------|---|------------------------------|
| Introduction | Background reading will be set through the Moodle site. | |

Week 2 - 15 Jul 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Fundamentals of weed science 1 | | |

Week 3 - 22 Jul 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|
| Fundamentals of weed science 2 | | |

Week 4 - 29 Jul 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|---|---------|------------------------------|
| Animal pests 1 - introduction to agricultural entomology (insect science) | | |

Week 5 - 05 Aug 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--|---------|---|
| Animal pests 2 - including non-insect pest animals | | Online Quiz 1 Closed: Week 5 Thursday (8 Aug. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. |

Vacation Week - 12 Aug 2024

| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|
|--------------|---------|------------------------------|

| Week 6 - 19 Aug 2024 | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|---|
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Plant pathology 1 | | |
| Week 7 - 26 Aug 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Plant pathology 2 | | |
| Week 8 - 02 Sep 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Weed management | | |
| Week 9 - 09 Sep 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Pest identification | | Online Quiz 2 Closed: Week 9 Thursday (12 Sept. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. |
| Week 10 - 16 Sep 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Pest control and management | | Assessment 2 Factsheet Due: Week 10 Friday (20 Sept. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. Fact Sheet Due: Week 10 Friday (20 Sept 2024) 5:00 pm AEST |
| Week 11 - 23 Sep 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Plant disease control and management | | |
| Week 12 - 30 Sep 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| Integration and revision | | Online Quiz 3 Closed: Week 12 Wednesday (2 Oct. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. Advisor's Report Due: Week 12 Friday (4 Oct 2024) 5:00 pm AEST |
| Review/Exam Week - 07 Oct 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| | | |
| Exam Week - 14 Oct 2024 | | |
| Module/Topic | Chapter | Events and Submissions/Topic |
| | | |

Assessment Tasks

1 Online Quizzes

Assessment Type

Online Quiz(zes)

Task Description

Answer questions to test your knowledge of the foundation material you learned in lectures and tutorials. You can undertake the quiz within the time period specified, but you have only one attempt. Note that once you start an attempt you have to complete it in the allocated time. Make sure you are ready, have stable internet connection and are free from distractions during this period. Each quiz is worth 13.33% of the overall assessment marks.

Number of Quizzes

3

Frequency of Quizzes

Other

Assessment Due Date

Online Quiz 1 Open: Week 4 Friday (2 Aug. 2024) Closed: Week 5 Thursday (8 Aug. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. Online Quiz 2 Open: Week 8 Friday (6 Sep. 2024) Closed: Week 9 Thursday (12 Sept. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST. Online Quiz 3 Open: Week 11 Friday (27 Sept. 2024) Closed: Week 12 Wednesday (2 Oct. 2024) 5:00 pm AEST.

Return Date to Students

5 working days after due date

Weighting

40%

Assessment Criteria

Quiz questions about material delivered in readings, lectures and tutorials must be answered correctly.

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Online

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify major weeds, pests and plant diseases
- Explain the fundamental biology and ecology of weeds, pests and plant diseases

2 Fact Sheet

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

You will be supplied with materials relevant to a crop protection issue that you will need to identify. You will put yourself in the position of a land management officer responsible for issuing fact sheets about the issue you have selected. This information will provide land and farm managers with relevant information about the issue in the format of a fact sheet. The fact sheet must be concise and clear, contain relevant and correct information, and include a list of authoritative resources used to compile the information. The fact sheet should have clear and easily readable layout and style, contain at least one image, and all content must be accommodated into one-A4 page, 12 pt font. The overall word limit, excluding titles, references, figure legends etc. for the fact sheet is 350 words. Further information will be made available on the Unit's Moodle site.

Assessment Due Date

Week 10 Friday (20 Sept 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

Week 12 Friday

Weighting

20%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Marks are awarded for:

1. Relevant and accurate information in the fact sheets (50%)
2. Professional format and presentation of the fact sheets (30%)
3. Appropriate sources correctly referenced (20%)

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit as a .pdf or .docx file format

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Identify major weeds, pests and plant diseases
- Evaluate and propose protection strategies for agricultural and natural systems from weeds, pests and plant diseases.

3 Advisor's Report

Assessment Type

Written Assessment

Task Description

In this assessment you will be asked to assume the role of a farm advisor (agronomist, crop protection consultant or similar). You will be given a farm case study scenario with a specific weed, pest or disease problem. More details will be provided on the Moodle page. You will be asked to analyse and explain the problem and suggest management solutions in a written report to the farm manager. The word limit is 2000 words.

Assessment Due Date

Week 12 Friday (4 Oct 2024) 5:00 pm AEST

Return Date to Students

10 working days post due date

Weighting

40%

Minimum mark or grade

50%

Assessment Criteria

Marks are awarded for:

1. Relevant and accurate background information provided (40%)
2. Rationale for the suggested management directions and clarity of suggestions (20%)
3. Professional impression including the clarity of English expression, spelling, grammar, consistent formatting incl. good use of figures and tables, and appropriate length (20%)
4. Appropriate sources and correct referencing (20%)

Referencing Style

- [Harvard \(author-date\)](#)

Submission

Online

Submission Instructions

Submit as a .docx file format

Learning Outcomes Assessed

- Explain the fundamental biology and ecology of weeds, pests and plant diseases
- Evaluate and propose protection strategies for agricultural and natural systems from weeds, pests and plant diseases.

Academic Integrity Statement

As a CQUniversity student you are expected to act honestly in all aspects of your academic work.

Any assessable work undertaken or submitted for review or assessment must be your own work. Assessable work is any type of work you do to meet the assessment requirements in the unit, including draft work submitted for review and feedback and final work to be assessed.

When you use the ideas, words or data of others in your assessment, you must thoroughly and clearly acknowledge the source of this information by using the correct referencing style for your unit. Using others' work without proper acknowledgement may be considered a form of intellectual dishonesty.

Participating honestly, respectfully, responsibly, and fairly in your university study ensures the CQUniversity qualification you earn will be valued as a true indication of your individual academic achievement and will continue to receive the respect and recognition it deserves.

As a student, you are responsible for reading and following CQUniversity's policies, including the [Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure](#). This policy sets out CQUniversity's expectations of you to act with integrity, examples of academic integrity breaches to avoid, the processes used to address alleged breaches of academic integrity, and potential penalties.

What is a breach of academic integrity?

A breach of academic integrity includes but is not limited to plagiarism, self-plagiarism, collusion, cheating, contract cheating, and academic misconduct. The Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure defines what these terms mean and gives examples.

Why is academic integrity important?

A breach of academic integrity may result in one or more penalties, including suspension or even expulsion from the University. It can also have negative implications for student visas and future enrolment at CQUniversity or elsewhere. Students who engage in contract cheating also risk being blackmailed by contract cheating services.

Where can I get assistance?

For academic advice and guidance, the [Academic Learning Centre \(ALC\)](#) can support you in becoming confident in completing assessments with integrity and of high standard.

What can you do to act with integrity?



Be Honest

If your assessment task is done by someone else, it would be dishonest of you to claim it as your own



Seek Help

If you are not sure about how to cite or reference in essays, reports etc, then seek help from your lecturer, the library or the Academic Learning Centre (ALC)



Produce Original Work

Originality comes from your ability to read widely, think critically, and apply your gained knowledge to address a question or problem