



*Your local Agricultural
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COURSE OVERVIEW

RiST's Certificate IV in Agriculture is ideal for those looking to take the next step in their agricultural career. This holistic program brings together the practical and theoretical. Students learn in context of broader agribusiness principles and practical farm management skills required to step in to a supervisory and leadership role within the industry.

Graduates from this qualification are not just work ready, they are innovative, future leaders in the agricultural industry.

OUR TEAM OF INDUSTRY EXPERTS

RiST works with leaders from across the agriculture and agribusiness sectors to provide training that is focused on developing practical skills utilising current industry methods and best practice. Our difference is simple: we engage the people that lead the research, develop the systems, run the enterprises and build industry capacity to train our students.

COURSE DURATION

12 months

TRAINING LOCATION

South West Victoria

DELIVERY

Classroom, blended learning



COURSE CONTENT

Certificate IV in Agriculture integrates three key programs, Lifetime Ewe Management, Heifers for Profit and Weaners for Profit, with broader courses in soils and business and genetics, to help students build in depth knowledge and understanding.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

As agricultural businesses expand and diversify, an understanding of work health and safety practices and staff management and budgeting have become increasingly important.

This course will assist those looking to progress to leadership roles, through delivery of skills and information about work health and safety in practical, real- world cases. It also gives students skills in supervising staff work routines and staff performance, with instruction on giving feedback, communicating work roles, coordinating activities and maintaining effective working relationships.

Students will also learn to:

- Establish procedures to document the identification of hazards and assessment of risk covering the operations of the enterprise,
- Provide staff with WHS training in risk hazard identification, risk assessment, and risk controls,
- Implement strategies to foster teamwork and trust,
- Negotiate with staff as part of dealing with conflict,
- Monitor team and individual work performance and provide feedback to staff.
- Formulate a budget based on real-world data, supervise a financial transaction and review production and expenditure plans to meet financial targets, review projected income and expenditure and compare to the established budget, record transactions and allocate to cost and income categories.



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LIFETIME EWE MANAGEMENT (LTEM)

Is a 'hands-on' training program to boost reproductive performance and whole-farm profitability through a foundational understanding of the impacts of ewe nutrition on lifetime performance of both the ewe and her progeny, and the subsequent impacts on whole-farm performance. This understanding will underpin the knowledge and skills required to monitor and measure animal and pasture performance, which will inform more profitable decision making.

Learn to condition score a mob and assess current and future pasture requirements for that mob, complete a feed budget and develop a feeding plan for the season, measure pasture and conduct feed tests.

GENETICS

The course will help students set up a breeding program for both herd and flock. It covers the criteria for breeding objectives, determining time frames, wool production, meat quality, and structural soundness of breeding. This course will also investigate animal welfare issues and requirements for a successful breeding program.

HEIFERS FOR PROFIT

Optimised calving rates and calving spread can equate to an additional five calves over the lifespan of a cow, compared to cows calving at later times. This newly released program has been integrated into the Certificate IV in Agriculture as an industry driven course focused on heifer management with an emphasis on maximising profit and production efficiencies.

Each session is led by an expert in the beef cattle industry, with units undertaken including:

Goal setting, getting heifers in calf efficiently, managing pregnancy and achieving critical weights, transitioning heifers cows; preparing for calving and re-breeding, managing calving and analysing results.

WEANERS FOR PROFIT

Managing weaners to achieve performance and business targets can improve not only animal welfare but whole farm profitability. This new program is a continuation of the LTEM program, where students analyse weaner performance, manage post-weaning performance, manage ewe lambs and hoggets during joining and early pregnancy, late pregnancy, lambing, weaning and recovery. Practical, industry developed skills are gained through the completion of the course.

AGRONOMY

Understanding soils and developing a soil improvement plan is one of RIST's most popular units in the Certificate IV in Agriculture, applicable to a number of agriculture sectors including livestock and cropping. Students learn about the essential requirements for plant nutrition, how to monitor and evaluate plant growth and soil test reports, determine relevant regional data and site characteristics and document soil health and plant nutrition.

Skills and methodologies gained during the unit include: sampling of soils and interpreting of soil test results; collecting soil samples using appropriate sampling methodology; preparing soil samples for dispatch to soil analysing laboratory; receiving and interpreting the results; and implementing a plant nutrition program.



Certificate IV in Agriculture AHC40116

Twelve (12) units made up of one (1) core unit
and eleven (11) elective units:

4 units from Group A

5 units from Group B

2 units aligned to AQF levels 1, 2 or 3

ELECTIVES

SKILL SET	UNIT OF COMPETENCY	GROUP	SCHEDULED HOURS
Intro to Business Management	AHCWHS401 Maintain work health and safety processes	Core	70
	AHCWRK403 Supervise work routines and staff performance	B	50
	AHCBUS408 Operate within a budget framework	B	50
LTEM Yr 1	AHCLSK402 Develop livestock feeding plans	A	140
	AHCAGB405 Analyse and interpret production data	B	100
Genetics	AHCLSK416 Identify and select animals for breeding	A	100
Heifers for Profit	AHCLSK409 Supervise animal health programs	A	110
	AHCLSK411 Supervise natural mating of livestock	A	80
Weaners for Profit	AHCLSK404 Implement and monitor animal welfare programs	A	80
	AHCLSK406 Oversee marking operations	A	80
	AHCWRK401 Implement and monitor quality assurance procedures	B	100
Agronomy	AHCPCM402 Develop a soil health and plant nutrition program	B	90

TESTIMONIAL

David began studying a Certificate IV in Agriculture 2017 after attending a RIST information session. He says the breadth of courses on offer, combined with the flexible delivery methods and support offered through RIST's expert trainers made the decision an easy one for him.

"The fact that the RIST trainers are currently industry leaders, many of whom are running their own businesses where they are trialling and testing cutting-edge methods and practices, means that I can learn a lot and pick their brains."

A "home-away-from-home", RIST's inviting atmosphere "really sets it apart" says David, "there's a real family environment at RIST where students can network and learn from peers and mentors, with small class sizes and plenty of one-on-one support."

David Mitchell
Certificate IV in Agriculture (2017)



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For more information
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For eligible participants, this training is delivered with
Victorian and Commonwealth Government funding.

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