Citrus Orchard Foreman Occupational Learning

Formative Activities Assessment Guide

H2:

Weed Control

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Citrus Growers' Association OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
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Activity F1 – Workplace IWM

While completing your practical work, answer the following questions based on the farm you are working at:

1. What are the major weed species found in the area where your place of work is located?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Major weed species described (e.g., Bugweed)	2

2. How are weeds monitored at your place of work?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Weed monitoring process described (e.g., Workers involved in monitoring scout twice a week around the orchards, recording all weeds they see, and then this information is entered into a database)	3

3. Describe how you would collect seeds and plant material from unknown weeds observed at your place of work and how you would go about having these identified:

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Process of collecting seeds and plant material from unknown weeds described (e.g., The seeds and plant material are collected carefully using clippers and sample bags)	3
Process of identifying seeds and plant material from unknown weeds described (e.g., The seeds and plant material are studied against pictures from the internet and/or textbooks, if identification is still impossible, the material is sent to a laboratory or university for further identification)	3

4. Which alien plant species are found on your farm?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
On-farm alien plant species listed.	3

5. Describe the process for clearing alien plant species on your farm:

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
The following method is generally used for removing alien plants: 1. Identify area with invader plants and weeds. 2. Segment the area into manageable units. 3. Remove invader plants from the first segmented area by using the appropriate method (either saw, hand-pull, biocontrol, herbicide) 4. Make sure that any personnel handling chemicals are trained to apply any chemical and understand the precautionary measures. 5. Be careful not to remove all vegetation. Remove the invaders but retain the indigenous plants and prevent weeds from taking over. 6. Once the first segment is cleared, move onto the next area. 7. Remove secondary growth of the invader in the cleared area by the same methods as listed above. 8. Maintain area to ensure no re-growth occurs. 9. Continue with the process until no re-growth or new seedlings emerge. 10. Removed plant material can be used as a compost or mulch.	10

6. Name some of the disadvantages to having weeds in your orchard:

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
• Weeds can carry diseases • Weeds compete with orchard trees for resources • Weeds can house pests • Weed control requires extra manpower and expense	4

7. Name some of the advantages of having weeds in your orchard.

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
• Weeds can house beneficial insects • Weeds can help prevent erosion	2

8. Why is it important to keep a record of the weed monitoring data?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Recordkeeping after weed management is vital, as it allows us to: • Study trends in weed populations • Keep track of what treatments were and weren't effective • Make predictions regarding future weed populations and necessary treatments	3

9. What biological control agents are used to control the major weeds at your place of work?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Biological control methods for major weeds described (e.g., We release specific species of insects that eat the weeds but leave citrus plants alone)	3

10. What preventative control practices are used at your place of work in the weed management programme?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Preventative control methods for major weeds described (e.g., We inspect nursery material on the farm)	3

11. What chemical control agents are used to control the major weeds at your place of work?

Pertinent Information	Marks Awarded:
Chemical control agents for major weeds described (e.g., We could use herbicides to control bugweed)	3