

Review of NZ Certificate in Wool Harvesting (Level 3) and unit standards in Wool Harvesting

Muka Tangata has recently conducted a review of the NZ Certificate in Wool Harvesting qualification (Level 3), a Level 2, and eight Level 3 unit standards in the wool harvesting domain.

In consultation with industry experts and education and training providers, the following decisions (in **bold**) were made:

Level 3 qualification

NZ Certificate in Wool Harvesting [ref: [4153](#)]

Expire - no usage in 5 years. Superseded by Introduction to Shearing micro-credential [ref: [5068](#)] and Shearing Essentials Junior micro-credential [ref: [5066](#)].

Level 3 unit standards

- Prepare combs, cutters and grinding equipment for machine shearing [ref: [15044](#)] (10 credits)
Expire - content covered in skill standard [40150](#).
- Maintain and service a shearing handpiece and check the shearing [ref: [20103](#)] (10 credits)
Keep - This standard has been used by Primary ITO 98 times over last 5 years. The review process suggested that the current credit value is too high for the time necessary to teach, learn, assess and practice the skills involved in achieving the standard.
Recommend amending credit value to 3 credits.
- Sharpen, maintain and safely handle shearing blades [ref: [20106](#)] (10 credits)
Expire - no usage in the last 5 years.
- Blade shear sheep [ref: [20107](#)] (15 credits)
Expire - no usage in the last 5 years.

- Machine shear strong wool sheep [ref: [20111](#)] (35 credits)
Expire - almost no usage in the last 5 years. Content covered in skill standard [40150](#)
- Machine shear fine and mid micron wool sheep [ref: [20112](#)] (35 credits).
Expire - no usage in the last 5 years.
- Maintain and record sheep flow for shearing [ref: [20315](#)] (10 credits)
Expire – no usage in the last 5 years and content covered in skill standard [40152](#).
- Set up, and catch sheep for dagging and crutching, and assist in managing sheep injuries and health issues [ref: [31981](#)] (10 credits)
Expire– no usage in the last 5 years. Content covered in skill standards [40148](#) and [40149](#).

Level 2 unit standard

- Dag and crutch sheep with prepared equipment [ref: [30213](#)] (7 credits)
Expire - content covered in skill standard [40148](#).
This standard has been used 35 times over the last 5 years by some schools and Primary ITO. However, we see no disadvantage to learners in expiring this standard because:
 - The new skill standard 40148 at Level 3 covers the content and supersedes this unit standard.
 - There is no prerequisite requirement for the skill standard.
 - The Vocational Pathway award at Level 2 can include standards at Levels 1, 2 and 3.
 - There is a Level 2 unit standard in the agriculture/sheep farming domain [ref: [30211](#) - Dag and ring crutch sheep with prepared equipment], that schools could use if a Level 2 unit standard is needed.

Please feel free to contact Michelle.Leuthart@mukatangata.nz for any further information or to provide further feedback.