

ASSESSMENT TOOL

RISK ASSESSMENT IN THE SHEARING SHED

B

Competency	RTC2701A	Follow OHS Procedures
Learning Object	5	Risk Assessment and Control in the Shearing Shed

Trainee Name		Trainee No.	
Trainer Name		RTO No.	

The level of risk that hazards pose varies depending on the hazard. A splinter from a rough rail in the yards has a low level of risk compared with a handpiece that has jammed, spun out of control and cut through the tendons in the back of a shearer's hand.

To assess the level of risk associated with a hazard it is helpful to ask three questions:

1. How often and for how long are people exposed to this hazard?
2. How severe or costly are the injuries likely to be?
3. How common are the injuries/illness associated with this hazard?

The following table puts those questions into an order so that the level of risk can be worked out and the priority to do something about the hazard determined. The higher the level of risk, the more urgently something needs to be done. Hazards with a number 1 must be dealt with immediately. On the other hand a number 6 hazard is of low priority and can be fixed when it is practical to do so.

LEVEL OF RISK HAZARD PRIORITIES	EXPOSURE How often is someone exposed to this hazard			
SEVERITY				
How severely would someone be injured?	Constantly	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely
Death, or permanent disability/illness	Extreme 1	Extreme 1	Very high 2	High 3
Serious injury or long term illness	Extreme 1	Very high 2	High 3	Medium 4
Medical treatment and several days off work	Very high 2	High 3	Medium 4	Low 5
Minor first aid treatment	High 3	Medium 4	Low 5	Very Low 6

Fill out the attached Risk Assessment table. For each hazard that you find in the shearing shed work out the level of its risk. Use the numbering system to order the hazards according to the urgency with which the problem must be fixed.

ASSESSMENT TOOL – RISK ASSESSMENT IN THE SHEARING SHED – WORKSHEET

HAZARD	RISK	HOW OFTEN DO PEOPLE DO THIS TASK?	FOR HOW LONG DO PEOPLE DO THIS TASK?	HOW COMMON ARE THE INJURIES?	HOW SEVERE ARE THE INJURIES?	LEVEL OF RISK	HAZARD PRIORITY
Example Poor drag path from catching pen to shearing shed	Back strain	Constantly	8 hours per day	Very common	Gradual damage to permanently disabling	Extreme to very high	1 - 3