

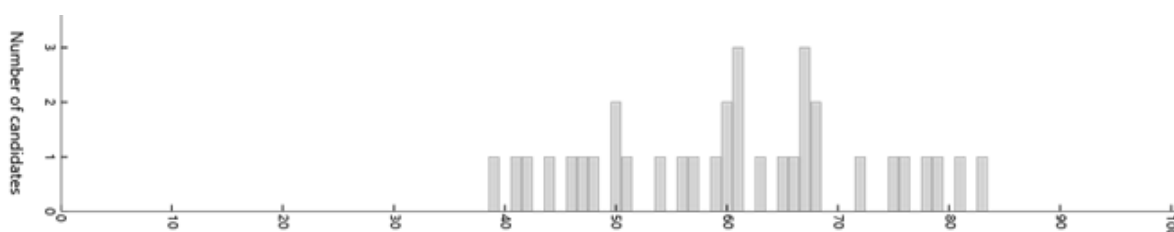


## Summary report of the 2024 ATAR course examination report: Animal Production Systems

| Year | Number who sat | Number of absentees |
|------|----------------|---------------------|
| 2024 | 34             | 0                   |
| 2023 | 30             | 0                   |
| 2022 | 31             | 2                   |
| 2021 | 52             | 2                   |

The number of candidates sitting and the number attempting each section of the examination can differ as a result of non-attempts across sections of the examination.

### Examination score distribution



### Summary

The Animal Production Systems examination was pitched at an appropriate level of difficulty and the questions reflected a good spread of the syllabus. The examination mean was 60.60% and the standard deviation was 11.86%. The examination functioned well to discriminate between the ability of candidates with scores ranging from 38.55% to 82.56%.

|                            |             |            |            |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| Attempted by 34 candidates | Mean 60.60% | Max 82.56% | Min 38.55% |
|----------------------------|-------------|------------|------------|

Section means were:

|                                |                 |           |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|
| Section One: Multiple-choice   | Mean 82.06%     |           |           |
| Attempted by 34 candidates     | Mean 16.41(/20) | Max 19.00 | Min 13.00 |
| Section Two: Short answer      | Mean 58.02%     |           |           |
| Attempted by 34 candidates     | Mean 29.01(/50) | Max 41.26 | Min 15.05 |
| Section Three: Extended answer | Mean 50.59%     |           |           |
| Attempted by 34 candidates     | Mean 15.18(/30) | Max 25.12 | Min 6.00  |

### General comments

Overall, candidates performed best in Section One (Multiple-choice) and were least successful in Section Three (Extended answer), as has been the case in previous years.

### Advice for candidates

This is the final examination for this course; however, the following general advice is for candidates sitting similar examinations in the future.

- Spend time learning how to deconstruct the question verbs and identifying links to the syllabus, in order to demonstrate your knowledge and understanding to extended answer questions.
- For each syllabus dot point, ensure that you can define the key words and provide a real-world example demonstrating understanding of the concept.

- Spend time planning your answers, particularly in the Extended answer section. Ensure that you read the question thoroughly and, where requested, provide relevant answers related to your selected Animal Production System.
- Read each Short answer question in its entirety before starting and consider making notes with information you would like to include before attempting the question.

#### *Advice for teachers*

As this is the final examination for this course, teachers can provide general advice to students sitting similar examinations in the future.

### ***Comments on specific sections and questions***

#### **Section One: Multiple-choice (20 Marks)**

Candidates performed well in this section. The mean score of 82.06% was the highest of the three sections on the examination. Areas that require attention were candidates' understanding of standard error versus standard deviation (Question 16), and questions where candidates were asked to evaluate effects from a series of correct answers (Question 7 'least likely to affect product quality' and Question 20 'most important reason to maintain biodiversity').

#### **Section Two: Short answer (103 Marks)**

Candidates did not perform as well in this section compared to Section One, with scores ranging from 30.10% to 82.52%. Question 24, which addressed nutrient requirements, had the highest mean score (71.20%). Question 23 and Question 26, which addressed breeding programs and sustainability respectively, both had mean scores below 50%.

#### **Section Three: Extended answer (40 Marks)**

Candidates were required to complete the compulsory question (Question 27), and then choose between Question 28 and Question 29. More candidates answered Question 29, addressing Australia in the global economy, than Question 28, which covered protection strategies and sustainability/intergenerational equity. Overall, candidate answers to these questions were simplistic.