



**Australian Government**

# **ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs**

**Release: 1**

## ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs

### Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0. |

### Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to determine the impact of nutrition and diet on various classes of horses, and provide relevant advice to clients or carers. It can be applied to other domestic equines.

The unit applies to individuals who provide dietary advice in conjunction with the provision of health care or other equine services. They work autonomously and apply technical knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for routine and non-routine issues relating to diet and nutrition relevant to their area of expertise.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

### Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

### Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

### Elements and Performance Criteria

| Elements                                                       | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>               | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                         |
| 1. Relate elements of the horse diet to physiological function | 1.1 Identify requirements for maintaining healthy horse condition and digestive system<br>1.2 Evaluate composition and nutritional value of common horse diets |

| Elements                                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>                 | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                  | 1.3 Determine features of a well-balanced diet for horse health, condition and workload<br>1.4 Identify signs of common nutritional deficiencies in horses<br>1.5 Evaluate impact and consequences of an unbalanced or deficient diet<br>1.6 Identify contraindications of digestive system or dietary issues                                                                                                                                         |
| 2. Assess horse condition and nutritional requirements           | 2.1 Use safe, low stress handling techniques when approaching and assessing horses<br>2.2 Assess nutritional requirements of individual or groups of horses<br>2.3 Assess body condition of individual horses<br>2.4 Evaluate options to adjust diet to address horse condition                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 3. Provide advice on horse condition, diet and nutritional needs | 3.1 Advise client on horse nutrition and diet relevant to horse condition and own area of expertise<br>3.2 Refer client or carer to veterinarian or equine service practitioner for specific advice in response to changing or problematic conditions, as required<br>3.3 Advise client or carer of services providing feed analysis and ration formulation advice<br>3.4 Record equine nutrition and dietary information according to work practices |

## Foundation Skills

*This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential for performance in this unit of competency but are not explicit in the performance criteria.*

| Skill              | Description                                                                                                                                                                 |
|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Reading            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interpret textual information relating to horse feed, supplements and nutrition from a range of sources</li> </ul>                   |
| Writing            | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Record information and data using appropriate industry and veterinary terminology in print-based and/or digital formats</li> </ul>   |
| Oral communication | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in spoken interactions using active listening and questioning to convey information and confirm understanding</li> </ul> |

| Skill    | Description                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Numeracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Perform basic calculations and measurements of volume, weight, temperature and ratios relevant to horses and feed components</li></ul> |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title<br>current version           | Code and title<br>previous version                                      | Comments                                                                                                                                                                                              | Equivalence status |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs | ACMEQU402 Determine nutritional needs in provision of horse health care | Title changed to reflect intent of unit<br><br>Minor updates including reordering to Elements and Performance Criteria for clarity<br><br>Foundation Skills table and Assessment Requirements updated | Equivalent         |

## Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -  
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>