



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU504 Manage horse pastures

Release: 1

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Modification History

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

Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- developed and documented one annual pasture management plan for a horse establishment
- implemented and reviewed the pasture management plan, and made adjustments to the plan as required.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate the knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- factors to consider in managing pasture, including:
 - goals of horse operation
 - pasture plant species and natural vegetation
 - climate and seasonal factors
 - site elevations and gradients
 - soil characteristics
 - water supply – natural and other sources
 - infrastructure requirements
- characteristics of horses relevant to pasture management, including:
 - horse behaviour in pastures
 - horse nutritional requirements
 - roughage requirements of horses
- horse grazing practices and densities
- crop rotation and parasite reduction
- pasture plant and grass species growth patterns, energy levels and plant stress management

- growth patterns and characteristics for different weeds
- toxic plants, pest and vermin management strategies
- effects of chemicals on plants, weeds and horses
- advantages and disadvantages of irrigation, and effects on pasture, soil nutrients and soil salinity
- land and soil conditions, including nutrient characteristics of different soils
- property pasture planning processes
- sustainable land management practices, including:
 - environmental protection strategies
 - water, vegetation and soil management strategies.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - information about land conditions, horse stock and business requirements of the establishment
 - operational documentation and systems to complete a pasture management plan
 - technology to research and develop pasture management plan.

The *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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