



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMSPE318 Provide general care of fish

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.

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:

- identified the specific characteristics and needs of marine and freshwater fish
- provided general care of fish selected from one of the following options:
 - two different species of marine fish
 - two different species of freshwater fish; or
 - one species of marine fish and one species of freshwater fish.

In doing the above, the individual must have:

- demonstrated appropriate safe handling techniques
- prepared and provided food
- evaluated appropriate housing and water quality to ensure the welfare of animals
- assisted with health care needs
- maintained feed and husbandry records for each fish.

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:

- anatomical structures and physiological features used to identify and classify commonly available marine and/or freshwater fish
- general health maintenance and preventative treatment procedures for fish, including water and tank management
- housing and environmental factors related to fish wellbeing
- indicators of poor water quality, including:
 - colour
 - odour

- unsuitable water chemistry parameters
- indicators of physical condition and signs of good health in fish
- signs of distressed fish, including:
 - any change in normal behaviour, including swimming patterns
 - discolouration
 - erratic swimming patterns
 - fins clamped against body
 - floating
 - hiding
 - immobility
 - presence of external disease organisms
 - subdued or aggressive behaviour
- enrichment activities
- potential hazards and risks to animals and staff during feeding and cleaning of housing, including zoonoses
- safe, low stress fish handling techniques and procedures, potential hazards and control measures, including personal protective equipment
- the principles of animal welfare and basic overview of animal welfare assessment frameworks/models, including the Five Domains
- types and impacts of food in fish diets, including natural dietary requirements for specific species
- indicators of food quality, including nutritional value, veterinary approved diets, freshness and shelf life, free from spoilage and pests
- types of information reported and recorded in fish care workplaces
- key requirements of Commonwealth and state/territory legislation, licensing and codes of practice related to fish, biosecurity, health and safety and animal welfare.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - an animal care workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live fish (marine and/or freshwater) as specified in the performance evidence
 - equipment and resources typically available in a fish care environment, including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - organisational policies and procedures, current legislation and relevant codes of practice
- relationships:
 - supervisor.

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>