



Australian Government

**Assessment Requirements for AHCARB403
Perform a ground-based tree defect
evaluation**

Release: 1

Assessment Requirements for AHCARB403 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation

Modification History

Release	TP Version	Comment
1	AHCv1.0	Initial release

Performance Evidence

The candidate must be assessed on their ability to integrate and apply the performance requirements of this unit in a workplace setting. Performance must be demonstrated consistently over time and in a suitable range of contexts.

The candidate must provide evidence for and demonstrate:

- confirming trees to be evaluated in accordance with client brief
- undertaking a site-specific risk assessment by identifying work health and safety hazards and assessing risk
- determining targets that need to be considered
- determining tree hazard benchmarks appropriate for project
- recording and implementing work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures
- inspecting tree from ground
- determining tree health
- examining tree for past failures
- examining tree for visual indicators of outwardly apparent defects
- examining tree for visual indicators of concealed defects
- examining tree for visual indicators of disease leading to structural failure
- determining if failure is likely to result in target being impacted
- sounding for cavities suggested by openings and visual indicators
- probing any accessible cavities and openings
- exposing root crown where required
- removing loose bark where appropriate
- determining if tree exceeds tree hazard benchmarks for project
- photographing and recording tree species and site of tree
- recording health and approximate dimensions of the tree
- recording and photographing defects and visual indicators
- describing, illustrating and indicating on image or device, the approximate location on the tree
- recording approximate dimensions of affected tree part and defect

- recording results and advising client of evaluation
- advising client immediately of evaluation where a tree poses an imminent threat
- taking action as instructed in accordance with work place policies and client brief
- isolating the tree or move target as instructed in accordance with work place policies and client brief
- documenting immediate actions taken.
- compiling hazard evaluation documentation
- recommending further action of aerial inspection and load testing or seek further advice from a consulting arborist
- determining and documenting any tree work required to mitigate risks
- submitting tree hazard evaluation report to client or employer
- use of industry standard terminology to describe hazard evaluation.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate knowledge of:

- client briefs
- site-specific risk assessment
- work health and safety hazards and assessing risk
- targets and the role of targets in tree risk assessment
- tree hazard benchmarks
- work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures
- tree inspections
- tree health
- methods of determining tree health
- tree anatomy and morphology for past failures
- tree examinations for outwardly apparent defects
- tree examinations for visual indicators of concealed defects
- tree examinations for visual indicators of disease leading to structural failure
- tree examinations for visual indicators of organisms causing damage leading to structural failure
- likelihood of target impaction
- cavity sounding and probing techniques
- visual indicators of root crowns and bark
- determination whether tree or tree parts are a hazard in accordance with benchmarks
- photography and recording of tree species, site of tree, approximate location of trees, and defects and visual indicators
- health and approximate dimensions of the tree and affected tree part and defect
- imminent threat
- tree isolation methods
- methods of moving targets
- documentation of hazard evaluation
- risk mitigation

- recommendations of aerial inspection and load testing
- advice from a consulting arborist
- presentation of reports.

Assessment Conditions

It is an industry requirement for competency in this unit that assessment includes a minimum of twenty (20) ground-based tree defect evaluations, and requires a minimum of at least one (1) consultation with a consulting arborist to participate in a ground-based tree defect evaluation. The evaluations are required to cover twenty separate and individual trees, of a minimum of fifteen (15) different tree species, and each of the evaluations is required to be a whole-of-tree investigation.

Assessment must be demonstrated consistently over time in a suitable range of contexts and have a productivity-based outcome. No single assessment event or report is sufficient to achieve competency in this unit.

Assessment may be conducted in a simulated or real work environment, however determination of competency requires the application of work practices under work conditions.

The mandatory equipment and materials used to gather evidence for assessment include:

- equipment:
 - trees
 - cross-sectioned tree visual indicators of defects and diseases
- materials:
 - site-specific risk assessment form
 - defect evaluation form
 - tree evaluation report

Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs in the assessment of arboriculture units of competency.

Assessment must be conducted only by persons who have:

- arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed
- current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed

Links

Companion Volume implementation guides are found in VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>