



Australian Government

AHCARB408 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation

Release: 1

AHCARB408 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 5.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to examine trees from the ground, assess and test them for defects, evaluate the potential risk of failure, secure the site and report the condition to specialist arborist for a tree risk assessment.

The unit applies to individuals who work in arboriculture and apply specialist skills to provide solutions to technical and unpredictable problems. They work autonomously, instruct and monitor the work of others within a team. They use discretion and judgment in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.

Legislation, regulations and by-laws relating to the treatment and removal of trees apply in some states and territories.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Arboriculture (ARB)

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. Determine evaluation requirements	1.1 Confirm trees to be evaluated according to client brief 1.2 Undertake a site-specific job safety analysis (JSA) and record and implement control measures 1.3 Determine tree health and hazard benchmarks for project according to industry standards

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
2. Examine tree visually for indicators of potential failure	2.1 Examine tree for indicators of general poor health 2.2 Examine tree for visual defects 2.3 Examine tree for indication of damage from organisms 2.4 Assess examination outcomes to determine potential for structural failure of tree components according to industry benchmarks
3. Undertake basic testing of tree for indicators of potential failure	3.1 Conduct tests for cavities according to visual indicators 3.2 Expose root crown and examine for concealed root defects according to visual examination outcomes 3.3 Remove loose bark and examine stems for concealed defects according to visual examination outcomes 3.4 Assess test outcomes for potential impact on tree health and structural integrity according to industry benchmarks
4. Record tree attributes and indicators	4.1 Capture images and record botanical name, dimensions and location of tree under evaluation 4.2 Document the results of examinations and tests conducted for tree under evaluation 4.3 Capture images, location and visual indicators of defects in tree for inclusion in documentation 4.4 Estimate and record dimensions of defect and affected tree component
5. Assess and mitigate potential risk, and document actions	5.1 Identify possible targets affected by tree under evaluation from client brief 5.2 Assess identified defective tree components for structural integrity and potential risk on possible targets 5.3 Validate assessment of severe defects on structural integrity of tree with consulting arborist 5.4 Advise client of outcomes of tree defect evaluation where a heightened potential risk to targets is identified 5.5 Take action to mitigate potential risk according to client advice and workplace policies and procedures 5.6 Document action taken to mitigate potential risk on target
6. Document and report hazards and	6.1 Review and assess tree defect evaluation results, and consider options for resolving any unmitigated risk

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
recommendations	6.2 Identify and document recommended options for client approval 6.3 Compile records, results and recommendations, and document tree defect evaluation report according to workplace procedures and industry standards 6.4 Submit tree defect evaluation report to client according to workplace procedures

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
Writing	Create, edit and proofread tree defect evaluation report and recommendations to ensure clarity of meaning, and accuracy and consistency of information
Oral communication	Present complex information about tree defects to client using clear and convincing language, tone and pace appropriate to the client's understanding

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCARB408 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation	AHCARB403 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation	Prerequisite units removed Elements and performance criteria clarified Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

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