



Australian Government

AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony

Release: 2

AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony

Modification History

| Release | Comments |
|-----------|---|
| Release 2 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to locate and remove a queen from a hive and introduce a new queen into an existing honey bee colony.

The unit applies to beekeepers who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and to solve problems.

State and territory legislation, regulations and local government by-laws apply in some jurisdictions to beehive ownership and compliance with biosecurity codes of practice.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Beekeeping (BEK)

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. Identify requirements for re-queening a colony | 1.1 Assess the current queen performance against workplace specifications 1.2 Monitor colony for signs that indicate queen replacement is necessary 1.3 Determine the need and method for re-queening |

| 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. Prepare to re-queen a colony | <p>2.1 Identify health and safety in the workplace hazards and risks and apply appropriate controls associated with manipulating honey bee brood</p> <p>2.2 Select, ensure serviceability, fit and use personal protective equipment</p> <p>2.3 Select tools and equipment required for re-queening operations and ensure serviceability</p> <p>2.4 Identify and obtain replacement queen to meet workplace specifications and biosecurity requirements</p> <p>2.5 Store replacement queen and escort worker bees in appropriate conditions and monitor until re-queening is undertaken</p> <p>2.6 Assess the condition and health of replacement queen</p> <p>2.7 Monitor hive condition and environment to ensure re-queening occurs under optimum conditions</p> |
| 3. Introduce replacement queen bee | <p>3.1 Open hive and conduct manipulations re-queening operations according to method selected</p> <p>3.2 Locate queen bee to be replaced in the hive and remove</p> <p>3.3 Introduce queen to hive according to selected method and workplace procedures</p> <p>3.4 Allow time for queen and colony to adjust and stabilise according to workplace procedures</p> |
| 4. Monitor progress of a replacement queen bee | <p>4.1 Monitor the hive for acceptance of replacement queen bee by colony according to workplace procedures</p> <p>4.2 Monitor replacement queen bee for evidence of egg laying and adequate levels of hatching</p> |
| 5. Update and maintain apiary records | <p>5.1 Confirm legislative and workplace procedures for record keeping</p> <p>5.2 Update apiary records for re-queening activities according to workplace procedures, legislative and biosecurity reporting requirements</p> |

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"> Interpret biosecurity protocols and codes of practice |
| Writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete workplace documentation using appropriate terminology and in required format |
| Navigate the world of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes responsibility for following explicit and implicit workplace procedures and industry practices |
| Get the work done | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks required in preparing for and conducting a honey bee queen replacement procedure |

Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
|---|--|---|--------------------|
| AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony Release 2 | AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony Release 1 | Minor changes to Elements and Performance Criteria for clarity Updated Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence | Equivalent unit |

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet - <https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>