



**Australian Government**

**Assessment Requirements for AHCBEK313  
Manage pests and disease within a honey  
bee colony**

**Release: 1**

# Assessment Requirements for AHCBEK313 Manage pests and disease within a honey bee colony

## Modification History

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

## Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that on at least one occasion the individual has demonstrated an ability to manage pests and diseases that affect brood and adult bees including:

- selected and ensured serviceability of tools and equipment for opening and checking hives
- identified health and safety in the workplace hazards and risks and implemented control measures when working around bees
- selected, fitted and used appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- conducted inspections to hive to assess general health and condition of brood and adult honey bees and identified signs and symptoms of disease and pests that affect brood or adult honey bees
- collected samples and conducted field diagnosis following workplace procedures and industry standards
- labelled and secured samples for dispatch to specialist and confirmed diagnosis and reported notifiable diseases
- identified and implemented appropriate treatments and biosecurity measures to control pests and diseases
- monitored, reviewed and recorded outcomes of treatments for future beekeeping operations.

## 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:

- principles and practices of disease management within a honey bee colony
- pests and diseases of bees including common and notifiable species, including:
  - mechanism for infection/infestation
  - level of risk to bees and beekeeping industry

- biological processes relevant to infection and control
- hive inspection procedures and recording pests and disease observations
- identification of pests diseases, including:
  - signs and symptoms
  - field diagnosis techniques
  - collecting, labelling and sending samples for specialist diagnosis
  - immune detection kits
- types of samples and procedures, including:
  - adults
  - brood
  - honey
  - comb
- legislative and biosecurity standards for pests and diseases control and notification for Australian apiaries including procedures for reporting
- tools, equipment, materials and safe handling procedures when manipulating hive components and taking samples
- hazards and risks when working with bees and collecting pests and disease samples
- hygiene and sanitation practices for tools and equipment
- biosecurity procedures for pests and diseases of honey bees, including:
  - barrier systems
  - isolation
  - quarantine
  - frame rotation
- treatment of contaminated hive components, including:
  - burning and burial
  - sterilisation and irradiation
  - dipping treatments (e.g. hot wax or caustic dips)
  - scorching
- hive health, pests and disease control
- treatments for specific pest and diseases, including:
  - chemicals, types and application methods
  - antibiotics and prescription treatments
  - environmental treatments
- procedures for monitoring and reviewing treatments
- record keeping for pests and diseases including mandatory and workplace documents.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - an active aviary or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions

- resources, equipment and materials:
  - live bees
  - hive management tools
  - treatments appropriate to pests or diseases
  - equipment and materials required for field diagnosis activities
  - PPE
  - inert samples or representations of bee pests and diseases
- specifications:
  - workplace procedures for managing pests and diseases within a honey bee colony
  - safety data sheets for pest and disease treatments
  - access to specific legislation and codes of practice relevant to biosecurity and mandatory reporting
- relationships:
  - • specialists in honey bee pest and disease diagnosis.

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=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>