



Australian Government

ACMARM403 Identify and respond to animal behaviour in animal management and regulation environment

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.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to identify and interpret animal behaviour and take appropriate action to address unwanted, unusual and/or maladaptive animal behaviour.

This unit applies to individuals who assess and respond to animal behaviour in order to carry out regulatory or other animal management duties and identify appropriate people to refer animal owners/caretakers to for help. They work autonomously and apply specialist knowledge and skills to provide solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Animal Regulation and Management (ARM)

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 factors that contribute to animal	1.1 Identify animal by species, breed group, age, physical condition, health and individual behavioural characteristics

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
behaviour	1.2 Identify contextual factors in physical and social environment that may affect observable behaviours
2. Identify animal behaviour	2.1 Observe animal and interpret body language and other signs indicating likely emotional state and level of arousal 2.2 Identify and document behaviour, health and wellbeing of animal using workplace formats 2.3 Identify indicators of species-specific normal and unwanted, unusual and/or maladaptive animal behaviour related to the situation 2.4 Identify probable causation of unwanted, unusual and/or maladaptive behaviour 2.5 Seek assistance or advice from supervisors, team members or experts according to workplace procedures
3. Address unwanted, unusual or maladaptive behaviour	3.1 Determine the most effective actions to address safety and risks associated with the animal and its behaviour 3.2 Action response to animal behaviour to address compliance requirements, safety, welfare and other risks according to workplace procedures 3.3 Provide advice and discuss constructive and effective options for treating or managing unwanted, unusual or maladaptive behaviour with owners or carers 3.4 Offer referral to specialists if required, according to workplace procedures 3.5 Enter new or amend existing records of the response in workplace information management system

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	Interpret and comprehend information in legislative and workplace documentation relevant to responding to animal behaviour

Skill	Description
Writing	• Use accurate animal industry and regulatory terminology to describe animal behaviour
Oral communication	• Discuss animal behaviour with others using current, best practice terminology, and language and tone appropriate to audience • Use questioning and active listening to clarify and confirm understanding

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMARM403 Identify and respond to animal behaviour in animal management and regulation environment	ACMACR403 Identify and respond to animal behaviour	Title changed Performance criteria reordered and updated for industry currency and clarity Assessment requirements updated	Not equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>

Assessment Requirements for ACMARM403 Identify and respond to animal behaviour in animal management and regulation environment

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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:

- accurately identified the physical characteristics of at least ten different animals by species, breed, type and group
- interpreted species-specific body language and signs of likely emotional state and arousal for three individual animals
- identified at least three species-specific behaviours and the decision making criteria and process for determining when intervention is required, including:
 - a statutory response
 - a referral to a suitably qualified person
- discussed animal behaviour options or advice with at least two different animal owners/carer using accurate animal industry and regulatory language
- maintained accurate records, using industry terminology for animal behaviour and correct regulatory terminology, where appropriate for context.

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:

- physical characteristics used to identify a range of animals by species and/or breed, including any special classes or groups of animals (restricted, regulated, retired or decommissioned)
- species-specific behaviour for species commonly encountered in animal management regulatory work or workplace context, including:
 - body language, signs of emotional states and psychological arousal, and coping strategies
 - signs of common behavioural issues of companion species

- the owner/carer–animal relationship and its effect on animal behaviour
- common species-specific behaviours linked to nuisance complaints
- risks associated with responding to animal behaviour, including:
 - welfare and health of animals, owners, public
 - duty of care and legal risks
- signs of unwanted, unusual or maladaptive behaviour
- species-specific techniques for minimising stress and fear
- basic principles of behaviour modification and animal training
- overview of animal health, hygiene and disease, including transmission routes for zoonotic diseases
- what to look for in the environment, including where the animal lives, how it is managed by its owner/carer and how that impacts on animal behaviour
- overview of the key principles of animal welfare and relevant approaches to assessing welfare and wellbeing
- key requirements of relevant legislation, regulations, standards and codes of practice relevant to work undertaken in an animal management environment
- the range of offences and statutory responses available under relevant legislation to deal with animal behaviour issues, where applicable to context.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live animals and/or videos of real animals specified in the performance evidence
 - equipment and resources, including personal protective equipment
 - workplace information management system
 - access to educational materials for animal owners or caregivers
- specifications:
 - workplace policies and procedures, legislation and codes of practice relevant to work undertaken in animal management and/or regulation
 - workplace record-keeping/information management system
- relationships:
 - animal caregivers/owners specified in the performance evidence.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

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