



**Australian Government**

# **ACMCAN403 Develop animal diets**

**Release: 1**

## ACMCAN403 Develop animal diets

### Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                               |
|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0 |

### Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to develop and communicate animal diets.

This unit applies to senior or more experienced keepers with extensive zoo keeping or related experience who supervise others and provide and communicate solutions to a range of predictable and sometimes unpredictable problems.

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

NOTE: The terms ‘occupational health and safety’ (OHS) and ‘work health and safety’ (WHS) generally have the same meaning in the workplace. In jurisdictions where the national model WHS legislation has not been implemented, RTOs must contextualise the unit of competency by referring to current OHS legislative requirements.

### Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

### Unit Sector

Captive Animals (CAN)

### Elements and Performance Criteria

| Element                                          | Performance criteria                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                            |
| 1. Develop a feed regime                         | 1.1 Evaluate diets of animals<br>1.2 Research natural and artificial diets and feeding regimes<br>1.3 Formulate and modify diets and feeding regimes to assist in |

| Element                                                                      | Performance criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                              | <p>correct diet development</p> <p>1.4 Substitute natural feed with artificial or alternative feeds after consultation with supervisor</p> <p>1.5 Coordinate preparation and presentation of diets according to WHS and animal requirements</p>                                                                               |
| 2. Monitor food                                                              | <p>2.1 Order food supplies</p> <p>2.2 Monitor food quality according to workplace policies and procedures</p> <p>2.3 Maintain and store food and feeding records according to workplace policies and procedures</p>                                                                                                           |
| 3. Communicate effectively with others about animal nutritional requirements | <p>3.1 Contribute to facility's nutritional policy</p> <p>3.2 Assist with nutrition training of keepers</p> <p>3.3 Coordinate nutritional projects and communication with internal and external personnel</p> <p>3.4 Prepare and present nutritional reports to management according to workplace policies and procedures</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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Numeracy          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Calculate nutritional requirements for specific animals</li> <li>Check food allocations are measured accurately</li> </ul>                                                                                                      |
| Get the work done | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use computer-based technology to research animal diets and feeding regimes</li> <li>Maintain the highest standards of hygiene and infection control at all times to reduce the risk of infection and cross-infection</li> </ul> |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
|                                |                                 |          |                    |

| <b>Code and title<br/>current version</b> | <b>Code and title<br/>previous version</b> | <b>Comments</b>                                       | <b>Equivalence status</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ACMCAN403<br>Develop animal diets         | ACMCAN403A<br>Develop animal diets         | Updated to meet<br>Standards for Training<br>Packages | Equivalent unit           |

## 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 ACMCAN403 Develop animal diets

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### Performance Evidence

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

There must be evidence that the individual has:

- developed diets for a minimum of three animals, each with different needs, including:
  - two different species
  - one interim corrective diet
- supervised staff to prepare diets and feed regimes to meet specific animal requirements
- communicated effectively with staff and management on all aspects of animal nutrition
- maintained section nutrition reports.

### 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 for developing animal diets
- animal care and management strategies
- anatomy and physiology (particularly digestive systems, styles of eating, nutritional needs) of a range of animal groups for which diets will be planned
- behavioural features related to feeding styles and unsuitable responses to diets
- feeding techniques that suit different animal behaviours
- animal husbandry manuals and other recordkeeping requirements
- animal management software, such as Animal Records Keeping System (ARKS) and Single Population Analysis and Records Keeping System (SPARKS)
- dietary requirements for a broad range of animal groups
- feedstuffs available and approved in Australia for animals, their availability, cost, shelf life, method of storage, preparation and presentation to animals
- institution master plan
- importance of vitamin and mineral substitution in artificial diets

- methods used to calculate rations, estimate weight of animals, calculate dry feed weight of food stuffs and other relevant measurements and calculations used for diet planning and food preparation
- natural animal diets
- signs of poor nutrition
- principles of animal welfare and ethics
- principles of nutrition and the impact of poor nutrition on the health and condition of animals
- relevant facility policies and procedures, including WHS, animal welfare, feeding regimes, hygiene standards and other industry guidelines
- relevant Commonwealth and state or territory legislation and codes of practice, including WHS and animal welfare
- workplace hygiene standards, disinfectants, cleaning agents, cleaning techniques and cleaning equipment and materials.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - a workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - real captive animals, or specific detail about the condition of different animals for which to plan diets
  - equipment and resources appropriate to work undertaken in an animal care environment
- specifications:
  - access to organisational policies and procedures
  - current WHS legislation and regulations relevant state/territory animal welfare regulations
- relationships (internal and/or external):
  - interactions with team members.

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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