



Australian Government

ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry

Release: 1

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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 carry out daily tasks, including providing feed and water for horses, and cleaning and maintaining the work environment. It covers knowledge of potential risks and hazards when interacting with horses, and industry guidelines and procedures to ensure the welfare and safety of the individual and the horse.

The unit applies to individuals who have no experience, limited experience or no recent experience working in the relevant horse industry sectors. They undertake defined routine activities under supervision with limited responsibility for their own work. Working environments may include stables, paddocks and yards.

No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication, except for the racing industry, where requirements vary between states and territories. Users working in the racing industry are advised to contact the relevant Principal Racing Authority for advice on current requirements.

Health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. As requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions, users must check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

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

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour.

Unit Sector

Equine (EQU)

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. Prepare to carry out daily tasks with horses	1.1 Confirm and clarify work program and workplace procedures and practices with supervisor 1.2 Carry out a basic assessment of risk for interacting with horses prior to starting each task 1.3 Select personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for task and ensure correct fit 1.4 Identify WHS hazards and risks in the work area that are not able to be controlled within own work role and responsibilities, and report them to supervisor
2. Maintain workplace health and hygiene	2.1 Select cleaning and disinfecting products suitable for use around horses and people, according to workplace health and hygiene procedures 2.2 Clean and maintain work areas to remove and reduce dust, dirt and other environmental hazards that may affect horse and human health 2.3 Collect items for washing and repair, and replace with cleaned and/or repaired items 2.4 Organise for horse to be removed from stable, according to industry practices 2.5 Clean boxes and replace bedding, according to stable routine 2.6 Follow waste management disposal procedures to dispose of stale feed, soiled bedding, manure and other waste products 2.7 Clean, sweep and rake stable environment and yards 2.8 Lay bedding to depth required for individual horse needs and industry practices to prevent horses becoming cast
3. Provide feed and water to horses	3.1 Identify common feed types, feed preparation and storage requirements 3.2 Comply with safe operating procedures when collecting, lifting, carrying, handling and storing feed supplies 3.3 Clean feed and watering equipment and containers 3.4 Follow vermin and other contaminant control procedures 3.5 Prepare and distribute feed and water to horses according to stable routine

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	3.6 Identify, remove and report contaminated feed 3.7 Observe variations in individual horse eating and drinking patterns and report to supervisor

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
Oral communication	• Use active listening and questioning to clarify and confirm supervisor instructions • Use industry-standard terminology to describe horses, equipment and the work environment
Navigate the world of work	• Follow workplace procedures, including safety and animal welfare requirements, relating to own role and work area • Demonstrate a duty of care to self and others when working around horses
Get the work done	• Plan and sequence tasks and assemble resources required to perform daily tasks in the horse industry

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry	Not applicable	New unit	No 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 ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry

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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 carried out the required daily stable preparation and cleaning tasks, under supervision, for at least three different horses. The tasks to be carried out for each horse must include:

- carrying out basic assessment of risk before commencing tasks, and reporting hazards and risks outside of own control
- using personal protective equipment (PPE) specific to task
- following work health and safety (WHS) procedures for:
 - working with horse excrement and other discharges
 - working with feed stuffs
 - handling chemicals
 - manual handling
- communicating effectively with supervisor, including raising issues of concern
- maintaining the stable environment including:
 - removing and replacing damaged or dirty items
 - cleaning boxes, floors, water and feed containers
 - using shavings or sawdust or other bedding for different floor types and stabling purposes
- using stable-cleaning tools and load-carrying equipment to minimise risk of injury and to complete tasks efficiently
- providing horse with water and feed using common feed stuffs.

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:

- type, purpose and use of PPE for different tasks

- type, purpose and use of horse bedding and floor coverings, including depth of bedding
- procedures for cleaning, disinfecting and laying stable bedding
- common feed types and water requirements for horses
- common feed stuffs, including:
 - hay
 - chaff
 - grain/pellets or other forms of concentrated feed
 - electrolyte and mineral supplements
 - bran
 - feed appetisers
- identifying contaminated and unsuitable quality feed
- consequences to horse welfare if poor quality or contaminated feed stuffs are used
- reporting requirements for stock control of feed and bedding supplies
- types of horse health information that can be gathered during cleaning and feeding routines
- horse care issues that should be reported to supervisor during cleaning activities
- tools, equipment and procedures for:
 - preparing, storing and distributing feed
 - undertaking routine stable duties
 - cleaning and disinfecting equipment and work areas
 - removing soiled bedding
- WHS requirements in the context of own work, including:
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - repetitive work duties in horse environments
 - working with horse excrement and other discharges
 - working with feed stuffs
 - manual handling
 - handling chemicals.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various calm, consistent and obedient horses assessed as suitable for the skill and experience of the individual
 - PPE for the individual suitable for activity and correctly fitted
 - appropriate tack for individual, horse and activity
 - cleaning materials
 - feed and water for horses

- load carrying or manual handling equipment
- specifications:
 - work instructions
- relationships with others:
 - supervisor.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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

Links

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<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103>