



Australian Government

ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses

Release: 1

ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses

Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to provide daily care for horses, including cleaning stables, feeding and grooming.

This unit applies to workers who undertake routine horse care tasks under supervision. Work environments may include stables, small enclosed areas, paddocks and yards.

Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

ACMEQU212 Handle horses safely

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 work with horses	1.1 Confirm work program with supervisor 1.2 Identify hazards, assess risks, and control and/or report risks prior to commencing tasks 1.3 Select, check and maintain work tools and equipment required for the tasks

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	1.4 Select and fit personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for tasks
2. Clean stables or small horse enclosure and surrounding areas	2.1 Select cleaning and disinfecting products suitable for use around horses and people, according to workplace health and hygiene procedures 2.2 Remove horse from stable or small horse enclosure and secure at a suitable location using safe and low stress handling techniques 2.3 Clean stable or small horse enclosure and replace bedding or flooring materials if required 2.4 Dispose of stale feed, soiled bedding or flooring materials, manure and other waste products according to workplace procedures 2.5 Clean other horse holding areas, and report maintenance requirements 2.6 Clean, maintain and store tools and equipment and horse gear
3. Provide feed and water to horses	3.1 Clean feed and watering equipment and containers 3.2 Check feed and water supplies, and identify, remove and report contaminated feed and water as required 3.3 Prepare and distribute feed and water to horses according to horse requirements and workplace safety, quality and pest control procedures 3.4 Identify, record and report irregularities in individual horse eating and drinking patterns to supervisor
4. Groom a horse	4.1 Confirm grooming and rugging requirements for selected horse according to workplace procedures 4.2 Position, tie up and groom horse using safe and low stress techniques 4.3 Clean and check horse hooves 4.4 Identify signs of swelling, cuts and unusual horse behaviour that may indicate an illness or injury during grooming, and report these according to workplace requirements 4.5 Fit rug and other protective gear if required and according to environmental conditions and individual horse requirements 4.6 Clean, store and maintain grooming tools, equipment and PPE, and report maintenance issues

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	Accurately interpret food product labels and chemical safety data sheets
Writing	Enter data and information accurately into workplace records
Numeracy	Estimate and calculate quantity, area, weight, temperature and volume
Oral communication	- Use active listening and questioning to clarify supervisor instructions - Use industry terminology to describe horses, equipment and the work environment

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses	ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMHBR203 Provide daily care for horses</i> , <i>ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses</i> , and <i>ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry</i>	Not equivalent
ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses	ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMHBR203 Provide daily care for horses</i> , <i>ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses</i> , and <i>ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry</i>	Not equivalent

ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses	ACMHBR203 Provide daily care for horses	Redesigned unit that includes content from <i>ACMHBR203 Provide daily care for horses</i> , <i>ACMEQU203 Provide basic care of horses</i> , and <i>ACMEQU204 Perform daily tasks in the horse industry</i> Prerequisite requirements changed Major changes to all sections of the unit	Not equivalent
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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 ACMEQU215 Provide daily care for horses

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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 carried out daily care tasks for at least one calm, consistent and obedient horse over a period of seven days. Each day, the individual must have completed the following according to the individual horse and workplace requirements:

- identified at least three hazards, and assessed and controlled and/or reported associated risks
- selected, checked and correctly fitted appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE)
- selected and checked tools, equipment and materials required for each task, including:
 - checked and/or cleaned grooming equipment
 - checked and/or cleaned feeding equipment, including bins, hay nets and water troughs
- demonstrated safe and low stress horse handling techniques
- measured and distributed required feed
- groomed horse, and fitted rug or other protective gear if required
- identified and reported to supervisor signs of illness, injury or abnormal behaviour.

In addition to the above, the individual must have completed at least one of the following:

- completely stripped out a stable, including removed bedding materials, disinfected walls and floor, and added clean bedding
- cleaned and disinfected a small horse enclosure
- cleaned and disinfected a crush or horse transport vehicle.

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:

- hazard identification, risk assessment and controls to minimise risks when checking and treating horses

- responsibility for reporting and controlling health and safety risks for own job role
- type, purpose and use of PPE for cleaning horse areas, horse feeding and grooming tasks
- type, purpose and use of horse bedding and floor coverings, including depth of bedding required for safety and comfort of the horse
- typical daily feed and water requirements for horses based on size and activity levels
- common horse feeds, including:
 - hay
 - chaff
 - grain/pellets or other forms of concentrated feed
 - supplements
 - bran
 - feed appetisers
- consequences of providing unsuitable feed and additives to horses, including impact on horse health, behaviour, performance and eligibility for competitions
- fundamentals of horse feed and water quality requirements, including:
 - temperature and humidity
 - contamination control
 - vermin control
- reporting requirements for stock control of feed and bedding supplies
- use and fit of common horse protective equipment, including rugs, fly veil, bell boots, paddock boots, and tail bag
- signs of good health and basic signs of injury and illnesses in horses, including common ailments that need to be reported immediately
- tools, equipment and procedures for:
 - preparing, storing and distributing horse feeds
 - moving and securing horses
 - cleaning and disinfecting equipment and work areas
 - cleaning and disinfecting stables or small horse enclosures, and for laying stable bedding or flooring materials
- health and safety requirements related to horse care tasks, including:
 - safe horse handling when grooming horses
 - contact with horse urine, excrement and nasal discharges
 - allergens related to work environment
 - manual handling, including repetitive strain injuries
 - operating materials handling equipment
 - handling chemicals
- zoonoses transferred by horses to humans, including Hendra, ringworm and leptospirosis.

Assessment Conditions

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

- physical conditions:
 - an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment or materials:
 - live horse specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - stable or small horse enclosure, equipment and tools required for the tasks specified in the performance evidence, including PPE and load carrying equipment
 - food, water, horse bedding materials and appropriate gear for individual horses and tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - workplace recording or reporting formats
- specifications:
 - workplace procedures and instructions for horse care, including the individual bedding and food requirements for the horse specified in the performance evidence
- relationships:
 - supervisor.

The *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training* provides advice and sample templates to assist assessors with the risk assessments that should be undertaken to help ensure the safety of all involved in the assessment.

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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