



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU306 Provide routine care for horses

Release: 1

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Modification History

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

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 safely and efficiently cared for at least three different compliant and manageable horses that have individual needs, over a period of seven days. For each horse, the individual must have:

- identified at least three hazards, and assessed and controlled associated risks
- selected, checked and correctly fitted personal protective equipment (PPE)
- used safe and low stress horse handling techniques
- maintained feed and water quantity and quality, including:
 - inventoried and replenished feed supplies and supplements
 - identified and isolated contaminated feed
 - identified, reported and/or removed sources of contamination
- fed according to individual horse requirements, including:
 - prepared hard feed, mixed feeds and provided supplements
 - ensured feeding bins are suitable and clean
 - monitored feeding and drinking patterns and horse condition, and adjusted feeding plan based on dietary advice
- maintained horse environments, including:
 - cleaned stable or small horse enclosure
 - cleaned feed and water vessels and food handling tools and equipment
- groomed and rugged horse according to horse requirements
- trimmed and tidied horse mane, tail and bridle path according to instructions
- prepared horse for work according to workplace routine, including:
 - selected, fitted and adjusted working gear
 - fitted exercise boots or bandages
 - removed, checked, cleaned and stored working gear
- provided post-exercise care to horse, including:

- cooled down, hosed, washed and groomed
- checked horse condition and responded to any signs of injury, illness and distress
- completed horse feeding and condition records according to workplace requirements.

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:

- key features of workplace health and safety and animal welfare legislation
- risk identification, assessment and minimisation processes
- purpose and types of PPE for horse handling and care tasks
- horse identification processes
- horse housing requirements, including environmental, security, physical, social, emotional and mental
- key features of stable or small horse enclosure and yard design and layout, including regulatory requirements for waste management and disposal
- current horse industry practices for hygiene and basic biosecurity requirements
- workplace routines and scheduling of duties
- type, purpose and maintenance requirements of horse bedding and floor coverings
- procedures for dealing with cast horses
- procedures for cleaning and disinfecting stables or small horse enclosures, and for adding stable bedding or flooring materials
- procedures for cleaning and disinfecting areas and equipment shared by horses, including crushes, floats and vehicles
- typical food and water requirements for horses based on their age, condition, activity levels and weather conditions
- common horse feeds, including:
 - hay
 - chaff
 - grain/pellets or other forms of concentrated feed
 - supplements
 - bran
 - feed appetisers
- horse feed and water storage requirements, including:
 - temperature and humidity
 - contamination control
 - vermin control
 - shelf life and expiration dates
- common horse feeds, additives and medications (natural and manufactured) that may contain substances that prohibit participation in events
- processes for identification, isolation and removal of:
 - contaminated feed

- feed that does not meet quality requirements
- effects of contaminated and poor quality feed on horse health, performance and welfare
- equipment and techniques for:
 - washing horses
 - trimming horse mane, tail and bridle path
 - grooming
- types, fitting and application of horse rugs, rug accessories, flyveils and other protective equipment
- using, fitting, checking, maintaining and storing working gear for horses
- post-exercise horse care
- application and monitoring of horse feeding plans, including:
 - feed types and supplements
 - normal and abnormal eating and drinking behaviours and patterns
 - behaviour during group and individual feeding
 - safe practices for feeding horses in groups
- workplace record-keeping procedures and practices
- 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 and materials:
 - live horses specified in the performance evidence, assessed as suitable for the assessment of this unit and the individual being assessed
 - equipment, tools, materials and supplies required for the tasks specified in the performance evidence, including cleaning stables or small horse enclosures, and feeding, grooming, washing and trimming horses
 - PPE and load carrying equipment
 - feed and supplements for selected performance horses
 - appropriate horse gear for the tasks specified in the performance evidence
 - workplace recording and reporting formats
- specifications:
 - workplace procedures, schedules and specifications for the tasks specified in the performance evidence.

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.

Links

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