



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMEQU417 Advise on horse nutritional needs

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:

- provided advice on horse nutrition and diet to two different clients or carers, covering at least three horses with different nutritional needs, including:
 - determined condition score of each horse
 - used safe, low stress handling techniques when assessing each horse
 - advised on adjustments to feed regime in response to an identified issue for at least two horses
 - recorded nutrition and dietary information for each horse.

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 principles of horse nutrition, including:
 - balanced diet
 - sufficient forage
 - frequency of feeding
- anatomical and physiological structures and functions of the horse digestive system, including:
 - features of non-ruminant herbivore digestive system
 - process of absorption and metabolism of nutrients
 - gastrointestinal tract disorders and colic
- methods used to assess and score horse condition and general health
- impact of class, age, workload and housing on diet and nutritional demands of horses
- factors affecting availability of nutrients to horses, including health issues

- features of a well-balanced diet, including nutritional elements
- signs of common nutritional deficiencies in horses, including:
 - poor condition, failure to thrive
 - dull coat
 - quidding
 - flaky or cracked hooves
- consequences of an unbalanced or nutrient deficient diet to horse function, health and behaviour
- circumstances requiring referral to a veterinarian or equine service provider, including:
 - non-positive response to dietary change
 - evidence of physical, behavioural or allergic reactions
- common feed stuffs and supplements, including:
 - nutritional value
 - quality indicators
 - use of supplements and additives
 - prohibited substances, including for specific disciplines or competitions
- techniques for effective client or carer interactions, including clear advice, collaborative communication and client confidentiality
- key requirements of current codes of practice and legislation and workplace procedures for advising on horse nutritional needs, including:
 - work, health and safety, including safely interacting with horses and use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - animal welfare, including safe, humane and ethical care of horses
 - workplace hygiene, infection control and biosecurity requirements.

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, with three different nutritional requirements, assessed as suitable for the experience and skills of the individual
 - gear and equipment for horses, and PPE for individual
 - record-keeping formats
- relationships:
 - clients or carers as 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>