



Australian Government

ACMFAR408 Determine hoof care and hoof protection plans for equines

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 2.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to make hoof care and hoof protection plans for an equine and contribute to the maintenance of equine health and wellbeing by applying protection appropriate for its needs.

The unit applies to individuals who use technical knowledge and skills to perform hoof care services across different equine industry sectors.

Workplace health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

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

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Farriery (FAR)

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. Identify features of equine anatomy relevant to farriery services	1.1 Identify the anatomical features and basic biomechanical functions of the equine lower limb and hoof 1.2 Compare differences between ideal and problematic hooves and

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	describe their impact on hoof protection needs 1.3 Identify the general principles of hoof care for equines 1.4 Recognise the symptoms of hoof malformation, injury, excessive wear and disease
2. Determine the hoof protection requirements and a hoof care program	2.1 Determine the type of work undertaken by equines through questioning carers and assess any special needs according to their natural gait and conformation 2.2 Apply workplace health and safety procedures and safe work practices to the selection of personal protective equipment to suit the situation 2.3 Use safe zones and handling techniques when observing and examining equines 2.4 Examine the wear patterns of existing shoes, other hoof protection or hooves and determine the condition of hooves 2.5 Report hoof malformation, injury or disease to carer or owner 2.6 Discuss the hoof care and hoof protection plan and get agreement on a proposed course of action 2.7 Advise on routine and preventative hoof care and undertake agreed actions 2.8 Maintain records on each equine according to workplace practices
3. Provide non-veterinarian equine health care	3.1 Identify signs of common equine ailments 3.2 Take appropriate action when malformation, injury or disease are suspected 3.3 Advise on, or apply, non-veterinarian treatments within scope of practice 3.4 Seek advice from, and refer to, a registered veterinarian or other equine professional where specialist treatment is required
4. Apply disease and infection containment procedures	4.1 Demonstrate isolation and quarantine strategies for infection control 4.2 Follow defined procedures for notifiable diseases and biosecurity maintenance 4.3 Dispose of waste material safely according to workplace hygiene and biosecurity procedures

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
Writing	Record specifications and hoof protection plans for individual equines accurately in workplace documentation
Numeracy	Use measuring devices and take measurements accurately
Oral communication	Use clear language, accurate concepts and industry terminology to ensure clarity of meaning when reporting and requesting information
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for adherence to workplace procedures and codes of practice, including safety, animal welfare and biosecurity requirements, relating to own role and work area
Interact with others	Follow accepted communication practices and protocols for reporting information to clients, veterinarians and other equine professionals
Get the work done	Observe and examine equines, using safe handling techniques, to determine hoof care and hoof protection requirements

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMFAR408 Determine hoof care and hoof protection plans for equines	ACMFAR308 Determine foot care and shoeing plans for equines	Coding of unit changed to reflect indicative AQF level 4. Minor changes to clarify intent of unit. Changed title and content from foot care and shoeing plans to hoof protection plans for consistency throughout units and to reflect industry terminology.	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 ACMFAR408 Determine hoof care and hoof protection plans for equines

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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:

- assessed the condition of the hoof of at least three equines to develop appropriate hoof care and hoof protection plans for each
- provided information on routine and preventative hoof care for each equine
- advised on non-veterinarian equine health care for common ailments on at least two occasions
- followed infection control procedures.

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:

- features of equines for determining hoof care and hoof protection plans, including:
 - general anatomy of equines
 - anatomical features of the lower limb and hoof and basic biomechanical functions
 - types and features of gait and conformation
 - use of or work undertaken by equine
 - features of ideal and problematic hooves
 - common malformation and injuries
 - nature, effects, causes and consequences of hoof disease
 - hoof, hoof protection and/or shoe wear patterns
- methods for assessing condition of hooves, including:
 - observation of the equine at rest and in motion to identify lameness and faults of gait
 - picking up and cleaning each hoof to check for injuries or foreign objects
 - seeking information from the owner or carer
 - review of radiographs in consultation with veterinarians
- features and options for:

- routine and preventative hoof care
- hoof protection and/or hoof care plans
- non-veterinarian treatments allowed within scope of practice, including:
 - adjusting fit of orthotics, pads, wedges or shoes/boots
 - trimming hooves to correct angles according to veterinary instructions
- infection control and biosecurity principles and practices, including:
 - isolation and quarantine
 - hygienic practices to avoid transmission of disease
 - notifiable diseases and processes to be followed
- key principles of animal welfare applicable to equine hoof care services
- workplace health and safety requirements and safe work practices, including:
 - managing risks when interacting with equines in the workplace
 - manual handling
 - using personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - safe zones and equine handling techniques
 - safe waste handling and disposal.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or environment that accurately reflects performance in a real workplace setting
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various compliant and manageable equines, assessed as suitable for the skills and experience of the individual, and appropriate simulations or case studies
 - measuring and recording tools
 - PPE correctly fitted and applicable to activities for individual.

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.

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