



Australian Government

ACMHBR304 Assist with artificial insemination of mares

Release: 1

ACMHBR304 Assist with artificial insemination of mares

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 assist with mare artificial insemination (AI) procedures to maximise conception rates and live foal outcomes. It includes identifying mares in oestrus, attending mares for service, providing support for reproductive services and keeping accurate records.

The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They complete routine activities and work in a range of known contexts within horse breeding environments.

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

Work 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.

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:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also applies to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

Unit Sector

Horse Breeding (HBR)

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 for AI mare procedures	1.1 Interpret the work program to determine work to be undertaken, and confirm with management 1.2 Communicate with other workers to ensure smooth operation of the production process 1.3 Adhere to requirements for the care and handling of horses 1.4 Select, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE)
2. Identify mares in a state of oestrus	2.1 Identify and select mares due for teasing or service 2.2 Identify work health and safety hazards, including horse behaviour and body language, assess risks and implement suitable controls 2.3 Catch and restrain selected mare, and foal if present, using safe horse handling techniques, for teasing or other oestrus identification procedures 2.4 Complete stud records according to workplace requirements
3. Attend mares for artificial insemination	3.1 Prepare mare for AI routines according to stud practice 3.2 Restrain mare safely for AI and secure any foal at foot in close proximity 3.3 Attend mare for the artificial insemination process 3.4 Return mare, and foal if present, to box or paddock 3.5 Complete workplace records
4. Handle mares for routine veterinary reproductive procedures	4.1 Handle mare and foal to ensure both are settled and safe 4.2 Lead mare (and foal) into crush, ensuring safety and wellbeing of both mare and foal, if present

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
	4.3 Use an appropriate restraint method in the crush 4.4 Provide support for manual or ultrasound follicle and pregnancy testing procedures and AI 4.5 Assist the veterinarian to prepare for examination, swabbing, treatment or AI of the mare

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	Interpret information in written work program and instructions
Writing	Record information relating to mare artificial insemination (AI) and breeding, accurately and legibly
Numeracy	Estimate, calculate and record routine measures relating to AI and breeding
Navigate the world of work	Take responsibility for following regulatory and workplace procedures, including safe work, safe horse handling practices, and animal welfare requirements, in own role and work area
Interact with others	Work cooperatively with a range of personnel in different roles using clear communication techniques to carry out AI activities
Get the work done	- Plan and sequence multiple tasks; monitor activity and prioritise tasks to achieve outcomes - Make decisions about routine AI activities, taking responsibility for actions taken

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMHBR304 Assist	AHCHBR303A Carry out	Updated to meet	No equivalent

with artificial insemination of mares	mare mating or artificial insemination procedures	Standards for Training Packages Code and title changed to reflect outcome and appropriate industry sector usage Prerequisite added	unit
	AHCHBR204A Assist with mating procedures and parturition of horses	Incorporates artificial insemination content only	No equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

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 ACMHBR304 Assist with artificial insemination of mares

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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 has carried out artificial insemination (AI) procedures with at least three mares, including at least one with foal at foot, including:

- using industry-accepted oestrus detection methods, including teasing
- handling mare and foal, if present, for AI and assisting using safe horse handling techniques
- preparing mare for AI, cleaning and bandaging according to stud practice
- loading mare in crush and securing or controlling foal appropriately
- applying restraints appropriate for procedure to mare
- providing support to veterinarian or AI technician
- keeping and maintaining accurate records of AI and breeding activities for individual horses.

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:

- relevant horse breeding terminology
- relevant anatomy and physiology of male and female reproductive systems in horses, including conception and gestation
- procedures for preparation for AI
- requirements of veterinarians in carrying out follicle and pregnancy testing
- mare handling procedures
- mare identification methods, including mare status and stallion booking
- types and purpose of different handling restraints for mares
- common infertility in mares and what may be treated by veterinarians
- oestrus cycle in mares and dioestrus behaviour and its detection
- key regulatory requirements relating to animal welfare

- safe work practices:
 - safe horse handling techniques
 - hazard and risk identification and minimisation
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - biosecurity and hygiene practices relevant to mating procedures
- workplace recording and reporting procedures, including stud recordkeeping requirements.

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 mares requiring artificial insemination (AI) assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - tack, equipment and restraints required for AI
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable for task for individual
 - workplace recording and reporting forms or systems
- specifications:
 - work instructions or program for carrying out AI procedures.

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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