



Australian Government

ACMHBR307 Handle young horses

Release: 1

ACMHBR307 Handle young horses

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 handle young horses in order to conduct a range of routine tasks, including catching and weaning foals and preparing yearlings for sale.

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 and horse industry 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

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 work with young horses	1.1 Interpret and clarify work instructions and workplace procedures for handling young horses 1.2 Identify hazards and risks associated with catching and handling young horses, and implement control measures to minimise 1.3 Assemble and check gear, equipment and yard, and crush for safe use 1.4 Ensure records relating to young horses are updated regularly and accurately according to workplace requirements
2. Catch and handle foals	2.1 Catch foals of various ages using safe and ethical horse handling techniques 2.2 Restrain foals for routine health and husbandry procedures according to workplace practices
3. Assist with weaning foals	3.1 Identify suitable facilities for the safe handling, training and weaning of foals 3.2 Fit foals with a halter 3.3 Lead weanling foals 3.4 Handle weanling foal legs 3.5 Pick up weanling foal feet
4. Perform routine tasks preparing and presenting yearlings for sale	4.1 Carry out routine daily checks of yearlings according to workplace procedures 4.2 Lead yearlings for exercise and presentation 4.3 Exercise yearlings on horse walkers and lungeing 4.4 Shampoo, groom and trim yearlings in safe facility 4.5 Fit bridles, bits, rugs and safety gear

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
Navigate the world of work	Follow work health and safety, safe horse handling and animal welfare requirements associated with own role and area of work with young horses
Get the work done	Plan and sequence tasks, prioritising activities to achieve work outcomes for handling young horses

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMHBR307 Handle young horses	AHCHBR202A Handle young horses	Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages Code changed to reflect appropriate industry sector usage and to meet AQF policy requirements. Element 1 added Additional prerequisite requirements	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 ACMHBR307 Handle young horses

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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 safely handled and conducted a range of routine activities with at least three young horses (one foal, one weanling and one yearling), including:

- assessing and minimising risk associated with handling young horses
- checking facilities and equipment for safety
- observing and monitoring young horse behaviour and recognising abnormalities
- catching and handling a foal safely and humanely
- fitting rugs, bits, bridles and halters
- teaching a weanling to lead and accept a halter
- grooming and exercising yearling
- preparing yearling for sale, including:
 - trimming and tidying yearling for presentation for sale
 - teaching a yearling to stand correctly for presentation at sale.

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:

- suitable facilities for weaning
- potential dangers to the foal during weaning and appropriate actions to reduce them
- stress responses sometimes associated with weaning:
 - fretting
 - over-heating
 - refusing food
 - overeating
 - self-inflicted injuries
- suitable facilities for yearling preparation

- potential dangers to the yearlings during sale preparation and appropriate actions to reduce them:
 - removing any potential hazards from stalls and handling areas
 - exercising in confined areas
 - monitoring exercise
- effects of exercise on joints and bones of the legs
- various responses in yearlings associated with sale preparation:
 - fretting
 - poor appetite
 - overeating
 - stable vices
- safe horse handling techniques for young horses
- key features of regulatory requirements for:
 - work health and safety
 - animal welfare.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions, including a small handling yard and crush
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various young horses including weaning foals and weanlings – note that young horses can be less compliant and highly reactive, and should be assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate tack for handling and caring for young horses
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable for task for individual
- specifications:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures for handling young horses.

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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