



Australian Government

ACMHBR504 Manage horse pastures

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with the ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to plan, manage and maintain land used for a horse operation. The unit focuses on minimising the impact horses have on soils and land capability while maximising horse welfare.

This unit is applicable to individuals who have specialised skills, and technical and theoretical knowledge and responsibilities for pasture and land management for a horse breeding operation.

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

Nil

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>

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1. Develop a land use plan for a horse operation	1.1 Identify the purpose and goals of the horse operation and level of input 1.2 Identify the legal requirements relevant to the use of land for a horse operation 1.3 Develop and implement strategies for water supply and management, vegetation and revegetation management, biodiversity and protection of natural resources, including waterways 1.4 Determine infrastructure needs and maintenance requirements consistent with the operation 1.5 Assess physical characteristics and land capability, and identify areas at risk of or showing evidence of degradation 1.6 Identify budgetary constraints based on available operation resources 1.7 Document the plan to include infrastructure, pasture, vegetation, elevations and gradients, soil characteristic and water bodies or sources
2. Develop pasture management strategies	2.1 Ensure strategies are consistent with horse characteristics and behaviours, and nutritional requirements 2.2 Select grazing systems in line with land use, physical characteristics and operational needs 2.3 Ensure grazing management encourages pasture plant and grass growth and is consistent with stages of plant growth 2.4 Ensure the selection and implementation of strategies contribute to horse welfare 2.5 Identify the benefits of appropriate pasture management for the operation 2.6 Select plants or plant cultivars appropriate for pasture, shelterbelts and revegetation based on land capability and operational needs 2.7 Evaluate pasture management strategies for efficiency and effectiveness
3. Manage pasture maintenance	3.1 Plan strategies to reduce or eradicate areas of weed infestation and pests and vermin 3.2 Determine withholding periods for horses and livestock after application of chemicals on pasture 3.3 Assess nutrient requirements for pasture plants and grasses and

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	determine a fertiliser program 3.4 Select and evaluate strategies for manure management that contribute to horse welfare and environmental protection 3.5 Implement soil protection strategies that minimise soil degradation

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	Analyse information accessed from a range of sources to identify key facts relevant to land and pasture use of the operation
Writing	Prepare logically structured documents and plans using formats, terminology and conventions specific to purpose and audience
Numeracy	Interpret, compare and consolidate numerical and financial information to determine budgets and resource requirements
Navigate the world of work	- Work independently or with others in making decisions to optimise horse pastures and achieve operational outcomes - Ensure knowledge of legislative and environmental requirements is kept up-to-date in order to provide accurate information
Get the work done	Use key features of workplace technology to access, organise, prepare and present information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMHBR504 Manage horse pastures	Not applicable	New unit	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>

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Assessment Requirements for ACMHBR504 Manage horse pastures

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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 developed a land use plan for managing pastures for a horse breeding operation, including:

- applying environmental protection strategies for land use and management
- determining existing and future infrastructure requirements
- determining grazing management systems consistent with horse behaviour and their nutritional needs
- determining pasture nutrient requirements
- determining soil physical characteristics and land use capability
- determining pasture maintenance arrangements.

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:

- environmental protection strategies
- grazing systems
- growth patterns and characteristics for different weeds
- pest and vermin management strategies
- effects of chemicals on plants, weeds and horses
- advantages and disadvantages of irrigation and effects on pasture nutrients
- horse behaviour in pastures
- horse nutritional requirements
- land and soil conditions
- nutrient characteristics of different soils
- pasture plant and grass species growth patterns and energy levels
- property planning processes

- roughage requirements of horses
- sustainable land management practices
- water, vegetation and soil management strategies.

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:
 - information about land conditions, horse stock and business requirements of the operation
 - operational documentation and systems to complete, and land management plan
 - technology to research and develop pasture management plan.

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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