



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for ACMSPE314

Provide general care of birds

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.

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:

- identified the habitat, activity cycle and general features and needs of birds in two of the following groups:
 - parrots
 - raptors
 - passerines
 - fowls
 - pigeons
- provided general care for a minimum of three birds of different species, including for each:
 - demonstrated appropriate restraint and safe handling techniques
 - evaluated appropriate housing to ensure animal welfare needs are met
 - prepared and provided food
 - assisted with health care needs
 - maintained feed and husbandry records for each bird.

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:

- anatomical structures and physiological features used to identify and classify birds
- overview of Aviculture Society services and guidelines
- general health maintenance and preventative treatment procedures for birds
- housing, nesting, social and activity needs of birds, and environmental impacts on health and wellbeing

- indicators of physical condition and signs of good health in birds, determined by observations of:
 - activity level
 - assessment of body condition
 - excessive self-scratching or self-mutilation
 - feather plucking
 - posture and attitude
 - response to stimuli
 - appetite and dietary history
 - feathers and faecal matter for any abnormalities
- indicators of stress or fear, including:
 - screeching
 - aggression
 - attempted reproductive behaviours
 - feather plucking
 - self-mutilation
- possible causes of distress, including:
 - frustration of natural behaviours
 - unfulfilled reproductive behaviour
 - lack of flight opportunity
 - inadequate socialisation for the species
- enrichment needs, including:
 - extras to daily base diet
 - physical enrichment items
 - social enrichment
 - access to native foliage and food
- potential hazards and risks to birds and staff during feeding and cleaning of housing, including zoonoses
- safe bird handling techniques and procedures, potential hazards and control measures, including use of personal protective equipment
- methods used to safely approach and handle birds, including:
 - utilising catch cage facilities to allow for capture and restraint
 - positive reinforcement to encourage bird approach behaviours
- the principles of animal welfare and basic overview of animal welfare assessment frameworks/models, including the Five Domains
- types and impacts of food in bird diets, including natural dietary requirements for specific species
- indicators of food quality, including nutritional value, freshness and shelf life, free from spoilage and pests
- types of information reported and recorded in animal care workplaces

- key requirements of Commonwealth and state/territory legislation, licensing and codes of practice related to captured wildlife, biosecurity, health and safety and animal welfare.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an animal care workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - a range of live birds from the groups specified in the performance evidence
 - equipment and resources typically available in an animal care facility including personal protective equipment
- specifications:
 - organisational policies and procedures, current legislation and relevant codes of practice
- relationships:
 - supervisor.

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>