



**Australian Government**

# **AHCARB508 Identify, select and specify trees**

**Release: 1**

# AHCARB508 Identify, select and specify trees

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 5.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to identify, select and specify a range of trees in a range of urban and regional applications for local government and legal contexts. It requires the documentation of specification of trees and their respective growing environment in residential, commercial, public open spaces and amenity areas.

The unit applies to individuals who work in arboriculture and analyse information and exercise judgement to complete a range of advanced skilled activities and demonstrate deep knowledge in a specific technical area. They have accountability for the work of others, and analyse, design and communicate solutions to a range of complex problems.

Legislation, regulations and by-laws relating to the treatment and removal of trees apply in some states and territories.

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

## Unit Sector

Arboriculture (ARB)

## 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. Determine tree selection criteria             | 1.1 Develop tree selection brief in consultation with client<br>1.2 Undertake site inspection to identify site conditions and constraints<br>1.3 Identify tree selection limitations according to legislative, regulatory and Australian standards |

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|                                                  | 1.4 Determine functional life expectancy of site and planting<br>1.5 Assess tree characteristics suitable for the site conditions and constraints according to client brief<br>1.6 Assess and confirm the suitability of trees as a valid option for site                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 2. Identify and select trees                     | 2.1 Determine dimensions of site for planting according to client brief<br>2.2 Estimate available root zone profile of site for planting<br>2.3 Assess and verify root zone profile is proportional to proposed tree size according to client brief<br>2.4 Assess environmental and hydrological conditions and consider impact on tree selection<br>2.5 Test and assess root zone profile physical and chemical properties to assist tree selection<br>2.6 Recommend soil/media amendments for planting site according to test result outcomes<br>2.7 Identify and evaluate performance of trees common in local region for suitability of selection<br>2.8 Use reference materials to identify and select trees with characteristics conforming to site conditions, selection criteria and client brief<br>2.9 Compile and update a database of tree selections and characteristics |
| 3. Specify trees                                 | 3.1 Research and select availability, type and size of tree stock for selected trees<br>3.2 Select size and type of tree stock according to tree production characteristics and Australian quality standards for tree stock<br>3.3 Verify tree selection against selection criteria, size and quantities with client<br>3.4 Determine planting method and specification appropriate to the species and the site<br>3.5 Document specifications for selected trees according to industry and Australian standards                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| 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. Verify quality of tree and materials on delivery | 4.1 Inspect selected plants on site for quality and quantities according to specifications<br>4.2 Inspect delivered materials for root zone profile for quality and quantity according to specifications<br>4.3 Record quality check results according to workplace procedures |
| 5. Correlate and present a report                   | 5.1 Produce a report of the identification, selection and specification process, and incorporate correlated records according to industry standards<br>5.2 Present client or organisation with report                                                                          |

## 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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Accurately interpret information from legislation, industry standards, botanical and biological references for plant selections and specifications</li></ul> |
| Writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Create reports and recommendations, expressing ideas and exploring complex issues, that are logically constructed, succinct and accurate</li></ul>           |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------|--------------------|

|                                                    |                                                    |                                                                                                                         |            |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| AHCARB508<br>Identify, select and<br>specify trees | AHCARB502<br>Identify, select and<br>specify trees | Elements and performance<br>criteria clarified<br><br>Foundation skills added<br><br>Assessment requirements<br>updated | Equivalent |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|

## Links

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