



**Australian Government**

# **AHCBEK205 Prepare and use a bee smoker**

**Release: 1**

# AHCBEK205 Prepare and use a bee smoker

## Modification History

| Release   | Comments                                                                                                                    |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0. |

## Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to use a bee smoker when undertaking bee husbandry tasks.

The unit applies to individuals who operate a bee smoker. This includes identifying and providing solutions to a limited range of predictable problems.

State and territory regulations and local government by-laws apply in some jurisdictions to beehive ownership, biosecurity and the lighting of fires in the open.

## Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

## Unit Sector

Beekeeping (BEK)

## 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 bee smoker for use                    | 1.1 Identify the activity to be undertaken according to job requirements<br>1.2 Assess the climatic and other conditions that permit the use of smoker and adjust planned activities according to workplace procedures<br>1.3 Check bee smoker for serviceability and ensure any faults are rectified<br>1.4 Identify hazards and risks associated with the use of a bee smoker and apply control measures according to health and safety in the |

| Elements                                         | Performance Criteria                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i> | <i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                  | <p>workplace procedures</p> <p>1.5 Select, ensure serviceability, fit and use personal protective equipment</p> <p>1.6 Ensure an adequate water supply and tools available for fire control according to regulations and workplace fire prevention procedures</p> <p>1.7 Assess defensive behaviour of bees by considering weather conditions, nectar flow and strain of bee</p> <p>1.8 Prepare the bee smoker with suitable fuel and ignite according to workplace procedures and manufacturer instructions</p> <p>1.9 Operate bee smoker bellows to produce and maintain smoke according to workplace procedures</p> |
| 2. Use bee smoker to manage bees                 | <p>2.1 Direct smoke into hive using the bellows and allow sufficient time for its effect according to workplace procedures</p> <p>2.2 Use the smoker on hive and monitor its effect to maintain control of bees according to their behaviour</p> <p>2.3 Ensure the smoker remains alight and within easy reach when in use</p> <p>2.4 Ensure the smoker is used and extinguished safely according to operating instructions and workplace fire prevention procedures</p>                                                                                                                                               |

## 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>Interpret information from health and safety in the workplace procedures and fire permit</li> </ul>            |
| Navigate the world of work | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comply with explicit policies and procedures, seeking clarification or assistance when required</li> </ul>     |
| Interact with others       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Communicate with supervisor using appropriate terminology when confirming activities and conditions</li> </ul> |

| Skill             | Description                                                                                                                                               |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Get the work done | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Follow clearly defined instructions and sequencing, and monitors own progress when operating a bee smoker</li></ul> |

## Unit Mapping Information

| Code and title current version            | Code and title previous version | Comments                                                                                                                          | Equivalence status |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| AHCBEK205<br>Prepare and use a bee smoker | AHCBEK202 Use a bee smoker      | Minor change to title<br>Minor changes to Performance Criteria for clarity<br>Updated Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence | 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>

# Assessment Requirements for AHCBEK205 Prepare and use a bee smoker

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## Performance Evidence

An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit. There must be evidence that on at least one occasion the individual has demonstrated that they have operated a bee smoker including:

- confirmed work activity with supervisor
- identified and confirmed that the conditions are appropriate for using a bee smoker
- checked bee smoker equipment is available and serviceable
- identified hazards and risks and used personal protective equipment (PPE) and safe work practices to minimise risk
- ensured fire prevention procedures were carried out
- anticipated defensive behaviour of bees and monitored and applied smoke to control bee behaviour
- selected and ignited suitable fuel for smoker keeping it alight and functioning while carrying out bee husbandry tasks
- used and shut down bee smoker safely after completing operations according to regulations and workplace fire prevention procedures.

## 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:

- principles and practices of using smoke on bees to pacify behaviour
- types of bee smokers and their use and advantages/disadvantages, including:
  - bellows (traditional)
  - electric fan operated
  - electric ignition
- types of smoke and the effect on bees and hive products
- suitable bee safe fuel and ignition procedures
- operation of bee smokers and the effect of weather and environmental conditions on the safe use of smoker including fire prevention activities

- fire restrictions and regulations that impact on use of bee smokers, including:
  - permits and exemptions
  - applications for exemptions
- health and safety hazards and risks and their controls when using smokers.

## Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
  - skills must be demonstrated in a functioning apiary with live bees or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
  - bee smoker and apiary tools for manipulating hives
  - access to live bees
  - PPE
- specifications:
  - access to specific regulations and permits relevant to the lighting and operating bee smokers within work area.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

## Links

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