



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCBEK301 Manage honey bee swarms

Release: 2

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0.
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

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 managed a honey bee swarm including:

- assessed swarm for condition and viable and safe options for collection, and determined resources and equipment required
- identified the hazards and risks and selected, fitted and used appropriate personal protective equipment
- identified and prepared equipment required for swarm collection
- interpreted behaviour and handling of bees and applied appropriate management strategies
- collected a swarm of honey bees using appropriate equipment and techniques while following quarantine and biosecurity requirements
- assessed captured swarm for health and need for re-queening
- selected and implemented control options to manage swarming behaviour in honey bees
- updated and maintained workplace and statutory records.

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 managing swarms, including:
 - causes and timing of honey bees swarm activity
 - why swarms are collected including environmental and social impacts
 - signs of colony swarming activity
 - management techniques that can be used to manage a colony showing signs of potential swarm activity
 - setting up swarm catch boxes to capture swarming bees

- biosecurity considerations, including:
 - pests and diseases that occur in honey bees
 - signs of pests and diseases in swarms
 - quarantine procedures to prevent cross contamination of apiaries
 - sampling procedures for pests and disease for confirmation
- signs and purpose for re-queening collected swarms
- swarm collecting and boxing techniques, including:
 - tools and equipment used for capturing swarms
 - hive components
- hazards and risks when collecting swarms and control strategies, including:
 - safety aspects of swarm collection and location
 - personal protective clothing
 - public safety
- workplace and statutory apiary records and notifications.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an active apiary
 - access to bee swarm
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live bees or hive preparing to swarm
 - safety equipment for handling bees
 - tools and equipment appropriate for managing swarms.

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=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>