



Australian Government

Assessment Requirements for AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony

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 the individual has demonstrated that they have re-queened a honey bee colony for at least one hive including:

- monitored colony performance, assessed the queen against specifications and determined the need and method for re-queening
- identified hazards and risks and implement control measures for re-queening operations
- selected, fitted and used suitable personal protective equipment
- selected and ensured serviceability of tools and equipment required for re-queening operations
- obtained, assessed the condition and stored the new queen according to workplace and biosecurity requirements
- monitored conditions to ensure optimum time for re-queening operations
- assessed the health and condition of the parent colony
- conducted hive operations to locate old queen and replace with new queen according to selected method
- monitored hives for colony acceptance of new queen and queen brood development performance
- updated and maintained apiary 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 re-queening honey bee hives
- common manipulations, methods and techniques used to re-queen colonies

- tools and equipment required for hive operations and re-queening, including:
 - maintenance
 - safe operation
 - hygiene and biosecurity
- natural processes for queen replacement and their signs, including:
 - supersedure
 - swarming
 - emergency queen replacement
- hive monitoring techniques and assessing the performance of queen bee in the colony, including:
 - behaviour
 - colony traits
 - brood and egg laying
 - honey bee brood production
- selection criteria for queen bees
- assessing the health of queen bees
- handling queen bees, including:
 - transport and storage requirements
 - handling cages
 - handling live queen bee
 - identifying, removing and destroying old queen
 - introducing new queen
- sources of queen bees their advantages and disadvantages, including:
 - commercial suppliers
 - apiary breeding stock
 - supersedure
- health and safety hazards and risks when handling bees and personal protection equipment
- biosecurity considerations when selecting queen bees and suppliers
- workplace and statutory records and reporting procedures for re-queening operations.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - an active apiary
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - live bees
 - live queen bee as supplied by commercial supplier or own apiary breeding program
 - tools for hive and queen bee manipulation
 - personal protective equipment

- specifications:
 - workplace procedures related to re-queening a bee colony
 - workplace queen bee specifications
 - access to biosecurity code of practice
- timeframes:
 - • within a specific time period according to queen bee replacement method.

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>