



Australian Government

RGRHBR305 Handle young horses

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with RGR Racing and Breeding Training Package Version 3.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to handle young horses in order to conduct a range of routine tasks, including catching and weaning foals and preparing yearlings for sale.

The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They complete routine activities and work in a range of known contexts within horse breeding and horse industry environments.

No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Work health and safety and animal welfare legislation relevant to interacting with horses applies to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and state/territory jurisdictions. Users are advised to check with the relevant authority for specific requirements.

Pre-requisite Unit

The prerequisite unit of competency for this unit is:

- ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely.

Note the following chain of prerequisites that also applies to this unit.

Unit of competency	Prerequisite requirement
ACMEQU202 Handle horses safely	ACMEQU205 Apply knowledge of horse behaviour

Unit Sector

Horse Breeding (HBR)

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 for work with young horses	1.1 Interpret and clarify work instructions and workplace procedures for handling young horses 1.2 Identify hazards and risks associated with catching and handling young horses, and implement control measures to minimise 1.3 Assemble gear, and check gear and facilities for safe use 1.4 Select and correctly fit personal protective equipment (PPE) appropriate for activities 1.5 Ensure records relating to young horses are updated regularly and accurately according to workplace requirements
2. Catch and handle foals	2.1 Catch foals of various ages using safe and ethical horse handling techniques 2.2 Restrain foals for routine health and husbandry procedures according to workplace practices
3. Assist with weaning foals	3.1 Identify suitable facilities for the safe handling, training and weaning of foals 3.2 Fit foals with a halter or head collar 3.3 Lead weanling foals 3.4 Handle weanling foal legs and pick up feet
4. Perform routine tasks preparing and presenting yearlings for sale	4.1 Carry out routine daily checks of yearlings according to workplace procedures 4.2 Lead yearlings for exercise and presentation 4.3 Exercise yearlings according to individual requirements 4.4 Shampoo, groom and trim yearlings in safe facility 4.5 Fit head collars, bridles, bits, rugs and safety gear

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
Navigate the world of work	Follow work health and safety, safe horse handling and animal welfare requirements associated with own role and area of work with young horses
Get the work done	- Plan and sequence tasks, prioritising activities to achieve work outcomes for handling young horses - Use workplace technology, tools and/or systems to complete records and reports

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
RGRHBR305 Handle young horses	ACMHBR307 Handle young horses	Code changed to reflect appropriate industry sector usage Minor changes and new PC1.4 for clarity Removal of points duplicating performance criteria in performance evidence	Equivalent unit

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -
<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=5c4b8489-f7e1-463b-81c8-6ecce6c192a0>

Assessment Requirements for RGRHBR305 Handle young horses

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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 the individual has:

- safely handled and conducted a range of routine activities with young horses, including:
 - caught and handled three foals
 - assisted with weaning three foals
 - prepared and presented three yearlings for sale
- completed required records for each horse.

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:

- suitable facilities for weaning and yearling preparation
- potential dangers to the foal and mare during weaning, and appropriate actions to reduce them
- stress responses sometimes associated with weaning for both mare and weanling:
 - fretting
 - over-heating
 - refusing food
 - overeating
 - self-inflicted injuries
- potential dangers to the yearlings during sale preparation, and appropriate actions to reduce them:
 - removing any potential hazards from stalls and handling areas
 - exercising in confined areas
 - monitoring exercise
- effects of exercise on joints and bones of the legs
- various responses in yearlings associated with sale preparation:

- fretting
- poor appetite
- overeating
- stable vices
- suitable tack and equipment for young horses
- safe horse handling techniques for young horses
- key features of regulatory requirements relevant to working with horses for:
 - work health and safety, including use of personal protective equipment
 - animal welfare
 - biosecurity.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions, including a small handling yard and crush
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - various young horses including weaning foals, weanlings and yearlings – note that young horses can be less compliant and highly reactive, and should be assessed as suitable for the experience and skill of the individual
 - appropriate tack for handling and caring for young horses
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) correctly fitted and applicable for task for individual
- specifications:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures for handling young horses.

Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the *Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training*.

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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