

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 4.0.
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture, Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0.

AHCARB302	Inspect trees for access and work
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to inspect a tree from the ground for the selection of access and tree work methods.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who work under broad supervision and take responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and for solving problems.</p> <p>No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Arboriculture (ARB)

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 tree inspection requirements	1.1 Confirm access to site and location of tree 1.2 Determine the scope of tree works required in consultation with client 1.3 Identify work health, safety and environmental hazards, assess risk and identified controls according to workplace procedures 1.4 Possible electrical pc 1.4 Confirm accessibility of first aid and emergency personnel, equipment and procedures 1.5 Select, ensure serviceability and use personal protective equipment 1.6 Document outcomes of assessment according to workplace procedures
2. Inspect tree	2.1 Inspect tree for access and tree work methods 2.2 Identify tree species and assess impact of tree characteristics on selection of access and work method 2.3 Inspect tree surrounds, roots, trunk and branches for potential hazards and compromised structural integrity 2.4 Conduct tests on tree components to identify concealed structural hazards
3. Determine method of access and work method	3.1 Assess tree inspection results and consider options for access and tree work methods 3.2 Seek advice from experienced arborist when selection of access and tree work method is in doubt 3.3 Select access to tree and tree work method according to assessment of tree inspection results 3.4 Review work health and safety hazards, risk assessment and planned controls for selected method of access and tree work method 3.5 Prepare job safety analysis (JSA) or safe work method statement (SWMS) for tree access and tree work method according to workplace safety procedures 3.6 Ensure site work crew are advised of hazards identified and control measures to implement
4. Record result and advise client	4.1 Document inspection results according to workplace procedures 4.2 Advise client and stakeholders of inspection results and outcomes of access and work method to be used

Foundation Skills	
<i>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.</i>	
Skill	Description
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Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCARB302 Inspect trees for access and work	AHCARB302 Inspect trees for access and work	Edited for clarity and completeness. Electrical safety made more explicit	Equivalent unit

Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for AHCARB302 Inspect trees for access and work
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria in this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual has inspected at least 6 trees for access and tree works including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirmed access to site and identified tree and scope of works • identified site specific work health, safety and environmental hazards, assessed risk and identified controls of which they must assess electrical safety from above and below ground cables • selected and used personal protective equipment during tree inspection work • identified tree species and assessed the characteristics relevant to access and work methods • inspected tree for structural defects, disease, insects and fauna in trunk, roots and branches that would compromise structural integrity • identified concealed structural hazards by tested tree components including tested: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • load • probed cavities • tested hollows by sounding • assessed tree inspection results and selected appropriate method of access and tree work method • reviewed work health and safety hazards and risks and planned controls for selected method of access and tree work method • prepared a job safety analysis (JSA) / safe work method statement (SWMS) documenting site specific: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work health, safety hazards • risks • identified controls to mitigate operational risk and traffic control • informed work crew of hazards and control measure to implement during access and tree work • sought advice from experienced arborist • advised client and stakeholders of inspection results and outcomes • completed inspection documentation according to workplace procedures. 	
Knowledge Evidence	
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tree inspection method/s and principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determination of location of above-and-below-ground services • site-specific risk assessments • locating and identifying trees • personal protective equipment when conducting tree inspections • work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures • methods of identifying tree species • tree species and characteristics that impact on the selection of access to trees and undertaking tree works <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • methods tree access • procedures and methods of tree works • procedures for assessing tree inspection results and selecting tree access and tree work methods • principles of load testing, cavity probing and hollows testing in order to determine tree structural integrity • recognising when to seek further advice from experienced arborists • preparation and use of job safety analysis (JSA) and/or safe work method statement (SWMS) when managing safety risk and local traffic • safety and procedures when working near overhead power lines <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • basics of electrocution • power line types and insulation • approach distances and safety zones, voltage and arching • authorisations to work near power lines 	

Knowledge Evidence

- tools, equipment, tree loads, personnel and power line contact
- legal liability
- safety procedures when working near underground services including:
 - underground power
 - gas lines
 - communications (wire and optical fibre)
 - water
 - damage and legal liabilities
 - safe work practices
 - legal liability
- signs of safety risk due to condition of tree surrounds including:
 - soil disturbance
 - trip hazards
 - excavations
- signs of safety risk due to roots and root flare hazards including:
 - movement
 - decay
 - mechanical damage
 - compromised structure
- indicators of safety risk due to tree trunk and canopy hazards including:
 - structural defects
 - decay
 - disease
 - cavities
 - swellings
 - insects and other fauna
 - integrity of attachment of limbs
 - hangers
 - presence of allergic plants or vines
- field tests on trees to identify concealed hazards including:
 - load testing
 - probing cavities
 - testing hollows by sounding
- documentation and reporting requirements relevant to tree inspections and communicating with clients.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - access to at least 6 trees to be assessed with at least 1 must involving close proximity to overhead electrical services
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - personal protective equipment (PPE) used for tree inspections
- specifications:
 - legislation, regulations, codes of practice and standards relating to working near services and power lines
 - documentation for planning and reporting tree inspection work
- relationships:
 - client and work team.

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

In addition, the following specific assessor requirements apply to this unit:

Assessment Conditions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed• current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed.	
Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72