

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.

AHCARB3XX	Access tree for inspection or ecology
Application	<p>This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to access trees for ecological or environmental inspection. It does not describe the skills and knowledge required to access trees to conduct arboricultural work, tree pruning or removal.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who work under broad direction 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 site and inspect equipment	1.1 Confirm access to site and scope of works according to workplace procedures 1.2 Undertake a site-specific Job Safety Analysis (JSA) and record and implement control measures according to workplace safety procedures 1.3 Confirm availability of first aid and rescue personnel, equipment and procedures 1.4 Conduct pre-operational preparations and safety checks, on ropes, harnesses, tools and equipment 1.5 Select, check and use personal protective equipment
2. Prepare to access tree	2.1 Inspect tree to determine efficient low risk access route and climbing method through discussion with work team 2.2 Select and prepare climbing equipment according to manufacturer instructions, work health and safety regulations and industry standards 2.3 Configure climbing equipment components to form functional tree climbing system appropriate to the access method selected 2.4 Tie, dress, set and finish climbing knots and hitches according to climbing system 2.5 Conduct pre-climb checks of configured systems to ensure compatibility, safety and function according to selected climbing system, industry standards and manufacturer instructions
3. Access tree safely to work position	3.1 Select and install suitable anchor points according to access method selected 3.2 Use harness and lanyard to ascend tree to suitable work positions within crown using safe access route 3.3 Undertake transitions between attachment points safely to reach suitable work positions 3.4 Communicate with work team during operations according to work site and environmental conditions using methods agreed with work team 3.5 Maintain awareness and clearances to avoid power lines according to workplace safety procedures

AHCARB3XX Access tree for inspection or ecology

Elements	Performance Criteria
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
4. Descend from tree	4.1 Descend tree using climbing equipment in a controlled manner 4.2 Remove all climbing equipment safely in a controlled manner according to manufacturer instructions 4.3 Inspect, clean, maintain, and store climbing and safety equipment according to manufacturer instructions

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
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accurately record and complete workplace Job Safety Analysis using clear language, correct spelling, grammar and industry terminology

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCARB3XX Access tree for inspection or ecology	AHCARB312 Use standard climbing techniques to access trees	Changes to Elements and Performance Criteria for clarity. Prerequisite unit removed. Updated Performance Evidence and Knowledge Evidence	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 AHCARB3XX Access tree for inspection or ecology
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 the use of climbing techniques to access at least 2 structurally different trees , including:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • confirmed access to site and scope of works • identified work health, safety and environmental hazards and completed a job safety analysis (JSA) or safe work method statement (SWMS) for the site and activities • confirmed availability of first aid and rescue personnel, equipment and procedures • conducted pre-operational safety checks, on ropes, harnesses, tools and equipment • selected and used personal protective equipment and safety equipment during works • inspected tree and discussed with work team to determine a safe and efficient access route • selected and prepared climbing equipment for accessing tree • ascended, navigated through and descended tree canopy using harness and lanyard and safe anchor points following safe climbing techniques including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • moving rope with prusik technique • trunk walking technique • use of foot ascenders • tied, dressed, set and finished the following climbing knots and hitches: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alpine butterfly • Blake's hitch • Scaffold knot • Double fisherman's bend/Prusik loop • Girth hitch • English prusik hitch • Marlinspike hitch • Munter hitch • Clove Hitch • Double-overhand stopper knot • Bowline • Running bowline • communicated with work team during operations using agreed communication procedures • maintained safe clearances from power lines • removed all access equipment in a controlled manner • inspected, cleaned maintained and stored climbing and personal protection equipment according to manufacturer's instructions. 	

Commented [TV1]: Advice sought on the minimum number required

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:

- assessing and selecting methods for climbing trees
- assessing work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures including:
 - completing JSAs and SWMS for site-specific risks
 - purpose of first aid and rescue personnel, equipment and procedures
 - pre-operational and safety checks, on ropes, harnesses, tools and equipment
 - personal protective equipment used when climbing
- arborist climbing equipment, inspections use and maintenance including:
 - ropes and their characteristics
 - rope type, construction and materials
 - rope inspection and failure conditions
 - uses of climbing ropes
 - triple-locking carabiners
 - climbing hardware
- purpose, function, selection, tying, dressing, setting, checking and finishing of arborist knots used for climbing techniques
- safety when climbing trees including:
 - safe working limits of ropes and equipment
 - defects in ropes, tools and equipment
 - climbing harnesses and lanyards
- hazards to avoid when climbing within the tree canopy including:
 - safe distances from electrical power lines
 - tree structural defects
 - the presence of insects or other animals
 - deciding on low risk access routes
- environmental impacts of tree access methods, including:
 - potential impact on tree of climbing methods selected
 - Impact on animal habitat or food source
- communications strategies used when climbing with a work team including
 - voice
 - hand
 - electronic communications
- climbing techniques using ropes and harnesses including:
 - moving rope with prusik technique
 - trunk walking
 - foot ascenders
 - safe transitions between points of attachment
 - low risk anchor points
 - controlled descent operations
- controlled removal of access equipment
- inspecting, cleaning, maintaining and storing climbing equipment.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - access to at least 2 **trees** with different canopy structures for individuals to demonstrate different climbing techniques
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - standard climbing kit
 - harness
 - arborist communications equipment
 - personal protective equipment (PPE)
 - first aid and emergency kit

Assessment Conditions

- arborist rescue kit
- traffic management equipment including signs, bollards, stop slow bat, etc,
- specifications:
 - workplace and manufacturer instructions for safe operation, cleaning and storing of the equipment specified in the Assessment Conditions
- relationships:
 - 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:

- arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed
- current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed.

Links

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