

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

ACMCAS305	Maintain aquascapes and aquatic animals
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to monitor water quality in aquaria and aquascapes, and monitor the health and behaviour of aquatic animals.</p> <p>This unit applies to individuals working in the companion animal industry sector who maintain aquascapes and aquatic animals, including fish, amphibians and some reptiles. They work independently and take responsibility for the quality their own work, including carrying out assigned tasks, selecting products and techniques and working to required timeframes.</p> <p>All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.</p> <p>No licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Companion Animal Sector (CAS)

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. Follow effective personal health management practices	1.1 Maintain personal hygiene and cleanliness standards according to workplace health and safety policies and procedures 1.2 Identify disease agents and their impact on aquatic animals 1.3 Implement work practices to protect self and minimise risk of zoonotic diseases
2. Identify the health status of aquatic animals	2.1 Identify unhealthy aquatic animals and record information according to workplace procedures 2.2 Identify injured aquatic animals and report to supervisors 2.3 Identify signs of abnormal behaviour and/or condition in aquatic animals and report to supervisors 2.4 Maintain records for aquatic animals according to workplace procedures
3. Sample, analyse and adjust aquascape water quality	3.1 Collect water samples using appropriate equipment according to workplace procedures 3.2 Test samples using appropriate equipment according to manufacturer instructions 3.3 Record sampling results according to workplace procedures 3.4 Adjust water quality to suit requirements of the aquascape and aquatic species 3.5 Maintain records of optimum water quality for the aquascape and species according to industry requirements

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. Administer aquatic animal treatments	4.1 Identify broad categories of parasitic infestations and viral, fungal and bacterial diseases relevant to aquatic animal species 4.2 Administer appropriate and authorised aquatic animal treatments 4.3 Implement preventative medicine programs for internal and external parasites 4.4 Store and handle treatments and medicines according to workplace procedures 4.5 Maintain records for treatments and medicine programs according to workplace procedures and legislative requirements

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
Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interpret biological information from valid documents about aquatic animal disease and behaviour Accurately interpret product information and instructions on animal products and animal care equipment
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calculate volume, weight, area, percentage, ratio, time and application rates Use tables, graphs or other techniques to document trends and changes in sampling data over time Measure volumes and calculate ratios to achieve correct concentration of chemicals to adjust the aquascape

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMCAS305 Maintain aquascapes and aquatic animals	ACMCAS305 Maintain aquascapes and aquatic animals	Minor changes to performance criteria for clarity	Equivalent unit

Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103
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TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMCAS305 Maintain aquascapes and aquatic animals
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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintained at least three different aquascapes, including at least three different types of aquatic animals, ensuring the optimal health of those animals • collected and tested at least two water samples and adjusted water quality to suit the aquascape and species requirements • administered appropriate and authorised aquatic animal treatments on at least one occasion • maintained records and required documentation for treatments and medicine programs. 	
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"> • principles and practices of aquascapes and aquatic animal maintenance • basic aquatic animal biology • aquatic animal health, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • signs of common aquatic animal diseases and parasitic infestations and their transmission between aquatic animals • signs of normal and abnormal behaviour of relevant aquatic species reflecting health conditions • broad categories of parasitic infestations and viral, fungal and bacterial diseases • preventative medicine programs for internal and external parasites • appropriate and authorised aquatic animal treatments • types of and transmission of zoonotic diseases • water quality, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ideal water conditions and quality for a range of aquatic animals, including pH, nitrate, nitrite, ammonia, salinity, calcium and hardness • water sampling, testing and analysis procedures and techniques • water quality adjustment procedures, including basic water chemistry • chemicals used to correct water conditions and the water quality of aquascapes • principles of animal welfare and ethics, and animal welfare legislative requirements • key requirements of workplace health and safety and environmental requirements. 	
Assessment Conditions	
<p>Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • physical conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • skills must be demonstrated in a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of different types of live aquatic animals • sufficient materials and equipment to create and maintain aquascapes • chemicals to test and treat water quality. <p>Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.</p>	
Links	Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103