

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 5.0.

ACMEQU4X2	Advise nutritional needs in provision of horse health care
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to determine the impact of nutrition on the health and welfare of various classes of horses in providing allied health care to horses.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals who provide dietary advice in conjunction with the provision of health care to horses within equine industry sectors. They work autonomously and apply specialist knowledge and skills to provide and communicate solutions for predictable and unpredictable problems.</p> <p>Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety, and animal welfare legislation, regulations and codes of practice relevant to interacting with horses apply to workers in this industry. Requirements vary between industry sectors and jurisdictions.</p> <p>No licensing or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.</p>
Prerequisite Unit	Nil
Unit Sector	Equine (EQU)

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. Relate elements of the equine diet to physiological function	1.1 Classify nutrient elements according to equine body needs 1.2 Identify structure and function of the equine digestive system and relate to nutrient absorption and metabolism process 1.3 Describe features of a well-balanced diet and relate to horse health, condition and workload 1.4 Evaluate the impact of an unbalanced or deficient diet on horse health
2. Evaluate the composition of common horse diets	2.1 Analyse nutrient value of commonly available feed stuffs 2.2 Assess feed preparation methods for optimal nutrient availability 2.3 Evaluate quality of feed stuffs for nutritional and health value
3. Assess factors that may affect horse condition relevant to nutritional requirements	3.1 Classify horses according to a range of criteria, including body condition score, developmental age, class, activity and housing status 3.2 Assess condition and nutritional requirements of individual horses 3.3 Evaluate options to adjust diet in relation to horse health status 3.4 Advise on horse feeding regimes in response to changing conditions and/or signs of problem eating displayed by individual horses 3.5 Refer owner or carer to nutritional or veterinary specialist for specific dietary requirements and ration formulation advice

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ACMEQU4X2 Advise nutritional needs in provision of horse health care

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 textual information relating to horse feed, supplements and nutrition from a range of sources
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Record information and data using appropriate industry and veterinary terminology
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Participate in spoken interactions using active listening and questioning to convey information and confirm understanding
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Perform basic calculations and measurements of volume, weight and ratios relevant to feed components and supplements

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMEQU4X2 Advise nutritional needs in provision of horse health care	ACMEQU402 Determine nutritional needs in provision of horse health care	Title changed to reflect intent of unit Performance criteria clarified Foundation skills table and assessment requirements updated	Equivalent

Links
Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=b75f4b23-54c9-4cc9-a5db-d3502d154103

TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMEQU4X2 Advise nutritional needs in provision of horse health care
Performance Evidence	
<p>An individual demonstrating competency in this unit must satisfy all of the elements and performance criteria of this unit.</p> <p>There must be evidence that the individual determined the nutritional needs relevant to horse health care for at least three horses with different nutritional needs, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determined condition score of horses and classifying horses according to a range of criteria • referred owners or carers to veterinarian for specific dietary advice • used safe, low stress handling techniques when examining horses • adjusted individual horse feeding regimes in response to changing conditions and/or signs of problem eating displayed by individual horses • recorded and reported information on horse nutritional requirements. 	
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"> • key principles of horse nutrition related to horse health and condition • anatomical and physiological structures and functions of the digestive system, including basic process of absorption and metabolism of nutrients • methods used to assess horse condition and general health • criteria and methods of classifying horses by condition, health, age and housing status • impact of class, age, workload and housing on diet and nutritional demands of horses • factors affecting availability of nutrients to horses • consequences of an unbalanced or nutrient deficient diet to horse function, health and behaviour • features of a well-balanced diet, including nutritional elements • signs of an unbalanced or deficient diet in horses • feed stuffs commonly fed to horses and general principles of a balanced diet for horses • use of supplements, additives and prohibited substances • types of feed contamination and methods of control and avoidance, including for rodents and pests • relevant regulations, codes of practice and workplace procedures for determining nutritional needs in the provision of health care, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work health and safety and safe work practices • animal welfare principles, practices and ethics • workplace hygiene, infection control and biosecurity 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"> • an equine workplace or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • horses with different nutritional requirements as specified in the performance evidence • information about nutritional properties of horse feed and supplements, or technology to access the information. <p>Training and assessment strategies must show evidence of the use of guidance provided in the <i>Companion Volume: User Guide: Safety in Equine Training</i>.</p> <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