Modification history

| Release | Comments |
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| Release 2 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 3.0. |
| Release 1 | This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Version 1.0. |

| AHCBEK306 | Manage pests and disease within a honey bee colony |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to inspect a honey bee colony for indicators of disease or evidence of pests, and take appropriate follow-up action.  The unit applies to beekeepers who take responsibility for their own work and for the quality of the work of others. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources.  All work is carried out to comply with notifiable disease legislation and relevant industry standards and protocols.  No occupational licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite unit | Nil |
| Unit sector | Beekeeping (BEK) |

| Elements | Performance criteria |
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| Elements describe the essential outcomes. | Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element. |
| 1.Prepare to check honey bee colony | 1.1 Identify work health and safety hazards associated with opening and inspecting a hive and take actions to minimise risk  1.2 Select and use suitable personal protective equipment (PPE)  1.3 Select and use tools and equipment for opening and inspecting a hive |
| 2.Assess health and condition of brood | 2.1 Inspect the outside of hive for signs of diseased brood  2.2 Open the hive and inspect brood for signs and evidence of poor health, pests and disease  2.3 Identify signs and symptoms of possible disease or pests of brood |
| 3.Assess health and condition of adult bees | 3.1 Observe flight paths around hive entrance for signs of poor health of adult bees  3.2 Observe adult bees inside the hive for signs of pests and disease  3.3 Identify signs and symptoms of possible pests or disease |
| 4. Undertake field diagnosis procedures | 4.1 Collect samples for testing and gather evidence to help with diagnosis  4.2 Conduct field diagnosis procedures appropriate for the pest or disease to identify likely cause  4.3 Collect, secure and label samples for transport to specialist for confirmation  4.4 Communicate with specialist to ascertain pest or disease identity  4.4 Report notifiable pests and diseases to authorities |
| 5. Implement biosecurity and treatments | 5.1 Identify biosecurity control measures and treatments for identified pest or disease  5.2 Implement biosecurity measures or treatments to rectify pests or diseases according to work place procedures  5.3 Monitor the impact of control measures and treatments |
| 6. Monitor treatments and maintain records | 6.1 Review the effectiveness of control measures and treatments  6.2 Record results of inspections and remedial actions taken  6.3 Maintain records for future beekeeping operations |

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| 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. | |
| Skills | Description |
| Writing | * Accurately records and completes organisational documentation relevant to pests and diseases using clear and correct terminology |
| Numeracy | * Interprets and manipulates numerical information when calculating measures for treatments |
| Navigate the world of work | * Takes responsibility for following policies, procedures and industry codes of practice |
| Interact with others | * Selects and uses appropriate conventions and protocols when communicating with specialists for pests and disease diagnosis |
| Get the work done | * Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks and workload |

| Unit mapping information | | | |
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| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCBEK306 Manage pests and disease within a honey bee colony | AHCBEK306A Manage pests and disease within a honey bee colony | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Changes and additions to Elements and Performance Criteria for clarity and to meet current biosecurity requirements | Equivalent unit |

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| Links | Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: https://vetnet.education.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72 |

| Assessment requirements | |
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| AHCBEK306 | Manage pests and disease within a honey bee colony |
| 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 an ability to manage pests and diseases that affect brood and adult bees including:   * carried out honey bee pests and disease operations safely using appropriate tools equipment and personal safety equipment * conducted inspections of brood and adult honey bees to assess general health and condition * identified key signs and symptoms of disease and pests that affect brood or adult honey bees * collected samples and conducted field diagnosis following workplace and industry standards * labelled and secured samples for despatch to specialist and confirmed diagnosis * reported notifiable diseases * applied appropriate actions to eliminate or manage pests and diseases * monitored and recorded outcomes of treatments for future beekeeping operations. | |

| Knowledge evidence |
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| 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:   * principles and practices of disease management within a honey bee colony * common pests and diseases are spread and level of risk to beekeeping * notifiable pests and diseases for Australian apiaries and procedures for reporting * signs and symptoms of diseases and pests affecting honey bees * field diagnosis techniques for pests and diseases of honey bees * procedures for collecting samples for specialist diagnosis * tools, equipment and safe handling procedures when manipulating hives * biosecurity procedures and treatment options for pests and diseases of honey bees in Australia * mandatory and beekeeper record keeping for pests and diseases. |

| Assessment conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * skills must be demonstrated in an active aviary or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions * resources, equipment and materials: * live bees * bee hives * hive management tools * be treatments appropriate to pests or diseases * equipment and materials required for field diagnosis activities * specifications: * use of specific workplace procedures and processes * access to specific safety data sheets where chemical treatments have been applied * use of workplace instructions * access to specific legislation and codes of practice relevant to biosecurity and mandatory reporting * relationships: * team member, supervisors or realistic scenarios or role plays representing specialists in honey bee pest and disease diagnosis   Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards. |

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