

Modification history

Release	Comments
Release 2	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 4.0.
Release 1	This version released with ACM Animal Care and Management Training Package Version 1.0.

ACMGAS303	Provide nutritional requirements for animals
Application	<p>This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to prepare rations based on animal species needs and availability of foodstuffs.</p> <p>The unit applies to individuals working in the animal care industry who feed and provide nutritional requirements for animals, in a range of small to large facilities. They work under broad direction, typically in a team environment, and are required to take responsibility for their own work including, carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, and working to schedules.</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	General Animal Studies (GAS)

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. Identify nutritional requirements of animals	1.1 Classify animals according to natural nutrient sources and types of digestive systems 1.2 Align normal feeding behaviours and nutritional requirements of a range of animals 1.3 Evaluate feeding strategies and methods to maximise activity and behavioural enrichment 1.4 Identify characteristics of under- or over-supply of nutrients, and evaluate methods used to monitor nutritional uptake
2. Review food sources and calculate dietary requirements	2.1 Classify foodstuffs according to nutrient content 2.2 Assess foodstuffs for shelf life, preparation requirements, availability and cost 2.3 Identify hazards to animal and human health from food sources, and implement procedures to manage risks 2.4 Calculate feed weight and water requirements, based on animal profile 2.5 Identify protein, carbohydrate, vitamin and mineral supplement and fibre content of foods 2.6 Identify other dietary issues to include into animal diets 2.7 Document diet plans, approved by supervisor, according to the workplace policies and procedures
3. Prepare diets and provide food and water	3.1 Prepare food as required by diet plan 3.2 Store food safely to avoid contamination 3.3 Provide food and water according to animal's 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. Monitor feeding and watering practices	4.1 Monitor and record food and water consumption according to the workplace procedures 4.2 Identify and report abnormal feed intake or feeding behaviour according to the workplace procedures 4.3 Monitor animals for condition, metabolic and behavioural changes 4.4 Identify reasons for poor response to diet and seek specialist advice 4.5 Determine required dietary changes in consultation with supervisor 4.6 Document required dietary variations and update workplace records

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 key requirements of workplace policies and procedures, relevant to work role, for enrichment of different animals and species
Writing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use biological and industry terminology when completing records
Oral communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use open-ended questioning, active listening, paraphrasing and summarising to identify animal dietary issues and possible resolutions with relevant personnel
Numeracy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Calculate volume, weight, area, ratio, time and application rates Interpret numerical information provided with dog grooming products and equipment Measure, interpret and record animal weight, length and other relevant objective indicators of change in physiological status

Unit Mapping Information			
Code and title current version	Code and title previous version	Comments	Equivalence status
ACMGAS303 Provide nutritional requirements for animals	ACMGAS303 Plan for and provide nutritional requirements for animals	Revised title, changes to performance criteria to reflect AQF level and for consistency	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

TITLE	Assessment requirements for ACMGAS303 Provide nutritional requirements for 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 provided a nutritionally appropriate diet for a minimum of three different animals, covering two species or two animals with different dietary needs, including for each animal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • prepared animal diet in consultation with relevant personnel • prepared, stored and distributed food according to animal needs and workplace quality control procedures and hygiene practices • monitored animal response to feeding program and reviewed diets in consultation with supervisor. 	
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"> • animal classifications that influence dietary needs and styles of eating • behavioural features related to feeding styles and unsuitable responses to diets • methods used to monitor nutritional uptake, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • blood and faecal tests to check nutritional uptake • comparing food distributed and food not eaten • estimating condition scores • weighing animals • principles of contamination and cross-contamination • species-specific feedstuffs available and approved in Australia, including availability, cost, shelf life, method of storage, preparation and presentation to animals • feeding methods of different animals • appropriate containers for food for different animals • common nutrition-related health problems • overview of protein, carbohydrate, vitamin and mineral supplement, and fibre needs for a range of animal groups • sources of nutrients for particular animal classes and groups • potential causes of poor response to diets • safe and humane animal handling techniques. 	
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 environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting • resources, equipment and materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a range of live animals • equipment and resources appropriate to work undertaken in an animal care environment • specifications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • access to workplace procedures relevant to diets and nutritional requirements • relationships: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supervisor. <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