Modification history

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| 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. |

| ACMCAN306 | Monitor animal reproduction |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to facilitate and monitor animal reproduction in accordance with the facility breeding and/or reproduction management plan. The breeding program may be for natural or artificially assisted reproduction.  This unit applies to individuals who work in animal carer/keeper or aquarist roles, undertaking individual and team activities in small to large scale animal facilities. They perform work under broad direction and are required to take responsibility for their own work including, carrying out assigned tasks, organising processes, and working to schedules.  All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures according to Commonwealth and state/territory health and safety and animal welfare regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace.  No licensing, legislative or certification requirements are known to apply to this unit at the time of publication. |
| Prerequisite Unit | Nil |
| Unit Sector | Exhibited Animals (EXH) |

| 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. Identify animal reproduction requirements | 1.1 Access and interpret facility animal population and/or reproduction management plans  1.2 Identify strategies within the approved plan/s to manage the population of relevant animal species |
| 2. Interpret species-specific mating and reproduction behaviours | 2.1 Identify features of sexually mature animals and conditions impacting on reproduction program  2.2 Identify courtship and mating behaviours of males and females, and facility procedures for managing interactions  2.3 Recognise behaviours pre and post birth or hatching  2.4 Identify safety risks interacting with animals during mating and/or reproduction |
| 3. Facilitate reproduction | 3.1 Provide conditions and environmental cues conducive to reproduction and to meet species-specific requirements  3.2 Facilitate reproduction according to facility plan |
| 4. Monitor breeding animals during the period of reproduction | 4.1 Provide a suitable species-specific environment for breeding animals  4.2 Provide and monitor nutritional and health requirements  4.3 Record relevant data and observations for inclusion in reproduction management plan  4.4 Communicate required changes to husbandry regimes |
| 5. Prepare and assist with birth or hatching | 5.1 Provide suitable media to assist with birth or hatching  5.2 Monitor birth or hatching of young animals  5.3 Implement adequate safeguards to maximise the survival of captive offspring  5.4 Assess and manage post-birth or post-hatching behaviour  5.5 Assess breeding outcomes and recommend updates for inclusion in facility breeding plan |

| 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. | |
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| Skill | Description |
| Oral communication | * Use accurate industry terminology, and active listening and questioning techniques to clarify and confirm information related to breeding plan |
| Numeracy | * Use measuring equipment to collect data relating to length (mm, cm, m) and weight (g, Kg) * Accurately record and analyse mating and birthing data |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| ACMCAN306 Monitor animal reproduction | ACMCAN306 Monitor animal reproduction | Unit content expanded in elements 1 and 2 and assessment requirements | No equivalent unit TBC |

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| 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 ACMCAN306 Monitor animal reproduction |
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| Performance Evidence | |
| An individual demonstrating competency must satisfy all the elements and performance criteria of this unit.  There must be evidence that the individual has undertaken the following activities according to facility breeding or population management plan for at least two different animals:   * provided environments conducive to reproduction * observed and recognised signs of behavioural and physical changes associated with mating, reproduction, and birth or hatching process * recorded data and maintained records for each animal. | |

| 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:   * facility animal population or reproduction management plan, including species-specific strategies * principles and practices of animal reproduction monitoring, including: * environmental processes that influence breeding, birth or hatching * factors that impact or interfere with reproduction/breeding program * seasonality and non-seasonality of reproduction * reproductive cycle, and anatomical structures and physiological features of sexual maturity in animals, including: * puberty * oestrus * metamorphosis in amphibians/invertebrates * parturition/hatching * species-specific animal behaviours relating to reproduction, including: * courtship and mating behaviours of males and females * olfactory signals * specific breeding calls * changes in dietary habits, fattening up * behaviours pre and post birth / hatching * normal and abnormal animal behaviour * facility procedures relevant to animal reproduction, including: * managing animal interactions * animal introduction procedures and planning * safety interacting with animals during mating or breeding periods to avoid bites, kicks, scratches, envenomation, and/or zoonoses * hygiene and infection control * species-specific animal husbandry requirements related to breeding animals, including: * suitable environment for breeding * suitable media to assist with birth or hatching * housing requirements for mother and young, where relevant * diet, nutritional and health requirements * safeguards to maximise the survival of captive offspring * data collection and record keeping requirements. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * an animal care workplace or an environment that accurately reflects a real workplace setting * resources, equipment and materials: * live animals * equipment and resources typically available in an animal facility * specifications: * access to facility policies and procedures relating to animal reproduction * relationships: * interactions with co-workers.   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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