Modification history

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| Release | Comments |
| 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. |

| AHCBEK303 | Re-queen a honey bee colony |
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| Application | This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to locate and remove a queen from a hive and introduce a new queen into an existing honey bee colony.  The unit applies to beekeepers who work under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work. They use discretion and judgement in the selection, allocation and use of available resources and to solve problems .  State and Territory legislation, regulations and Local Government by-laws apply in some jurisdictions to beehive ownership and compliance with biosecurity codes of practice.  No other occupational licensing 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.Identify requirements for re-queening a colony | 1.1 Assess the current queen performance against workplace specifications  1.2 Monitor colony for signs that indicate queen replacement is necessary  1.3 Determine the need and method for re-queening |
| 2.Prepare to re-queen a colony | 2.1 Identify work health and safety hazards and risks and apply appropriate controls associated with manipulating honey bee brood  2.2 Select, ensure serviceability and use personal protective equipment  2.3 Select tools and equipment required for re-queening operations and ensure serviceability  2.4 Identify and obtain replacement queen to meet workplace specifications and biosecurity requirements  2.5 Store replacement queen and escort worker bees in appropriate conditions and monitor until re-queening is undertaken  2.6 Assess the condition and health of replacement queen  2.7 Monitor hive condition and environment to ensure re-queening occurs under optimum conditions |
| 3.Introduce replacement queen bee | 3.1 Open hive and conduct manipulations re-queening operations according to method selected  3.2 Locate queen bee to be replaced in the hive and remove  3.3 Introduce queen to hive according to selected method and workplace procedures  3.4 Allow time for queen and colony to adjust and stabilise according to workplace procedures |
| 4.Monitor progress of a replacement queen bee | 4.1 Monitor the hive for acceptance of replacement queen bee by colony according to workplace procedures  4.2 Monitor replacement queen bee for evidence of egg laying and adequate levels of hatching |
| 5. Update and maintain apiary records | 5.1 Update apiary records for re-queening activities according to workplace procedures, legislative and biosecurity reporting requirements |

| 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 |
| Reading | * Interpret biosecurity protocols and codes of practice |
| Writing | * Complete workplace documentation using appropriate terminology and in required format |
| Navigate the world of work | * Takes responsibility for following explicit and implicit workplace procedures and industry practices |
| Get the work done | * Takes responsibility for planning, sequencing and prioritising tasks required in preparing for and conducting a honey bee queen replacement procedure |

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| Unit Mapping Information | | | |
| Code and title current version | Code and title previous version | Comments | Equivalence status |
| AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony | AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony | Updated to meet Standards for Training Packages  Minor changes to Element 1 for clarity  Minor changes to Performance Criteria for clarity | 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 |

| TITLE | Assessment requirements for AHCBEK303 Re-queen a honey bee colony |
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| 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 that they have re-queened a honey bee colony for at least one hive including:   * monitored colony performance, assed the queen against specifications and determined the need and method for re-queening * identified hazards and risks and implement control measures for re-queening operations * selected and used suitable personal protective equipment * selected and ensured serviceability of tools and equipment required for re-queening operations * obtained, assessed the condition and stored the new queen according to workplace and biosecurity requirements * monitored conditions to ensure optimum time for re-queening operations * assessed the health and condition of the parent colony * conducted hive operations to locate old queen and replace with new queen according to selected method * monitored hives for colony acceptance of new queen and queen brood development performance * updated and maintained apiary records. | |

| 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 re-queening honey bee hives * common manipulations, methods and techniques used to re-queen colonies * tools and equipment required for hive operations and re-queening including: * maintenance * safe operation * hygiene and biosecurity * natural processes for queen replacement and their signs * supersedure * swarming * emergency queen replacement * hive monitoring techniques and assessing the performance of queen bee in the colony including: * behaviour * colony traits * brood and egg laying * honey bee brood production * selection criteria for queen bees * assessing the health of queen bees * handling queen bees including: * transport and storage requirements * handling cages * handling live queen bee * identifying, removing and destroying old queen * introducing new queen * sources of queen bees their advantages and disadvantages including: * commercial suppliers * apiary breeding stock * supersedure * health and safety hazards and risks when handling bees and personal protection equipment * biosecurity considerations when selecting queen bees and suppliers * workplace and statutory records and reporting procedures for re-queening operations. |

| Assessment Conditions |
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| Assessment of skills must take place under the following conditions:   * physical conditions: * an active apiary * resources, equipment and materials: * live bees * live queen bee as supplied by commercial supplier or own apiary breeding program * tools for hive and queen bee manipulation * personal protective equipment * specifications: * workplace procedures and processes * workplace queen bee specifications * access to biosecurity code of practice * timeframes: * within a specific time period according to queen bee replacement method.   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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