

Defect evaluation form (Ground-based tree defect evaluation form)		
Prerequisite competency completion		
Has the candidate successfully completed the prerequisite unit requirements of AHCARB403 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialled)
AHCARB302 Inspect trees for access and work		
AHCARB313 Identify trees		
Required forms completion		
Has the candidate successfully completed the required forms ?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialled)
Site-specific risk assessment form		
Tree evaluation report (ground-based tree defect evaluation report)		
Mandatory Equipment (as a minimum)		
Has each of the mandatory equipment items been used to gather evidence for assessment?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialled)
trees		
cross-sectioned tree visual indicators of defects and diseases		
Knowledge Evidence		
Has the candidate successfully completed the Knowledge Evidence requirements by demonstrating knowledge of each of the line items below?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialled)
tree confirmation		
confirmation of trees to be evaluated		
tree identification		
tree species		
naming tree species:		
– using botanical nomenclature		
– using common names		
photographing tree species and site of tree		
recording tree species and site of tree		
approximate dimensions of the tree		
general characteristics of trees		
dimensions and characteristics of tree:		
– approximate height		

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– canopy		
– spread		
– diameter-at-breast-height (DBH)		
evaluation for pruning		
tree:		
– health		
– growth habit		
– structure		
– stability		
– growing environment		
tree inspections		
tree inspections from the ground:		
– tree examinations		
defects & visual indicators		
– outwardly apparent defects		
– visual indicators of outwardly apparent defects		
– concealed defects		
– visual indicators of concealed defects		
– disease leading to structural failure		
– visual indicators of disease leading to structural failure		
– organisms causing damage leading to structural failure		
– visual indicators of organisms causing damage leading to structural failure		
– cavity sounding techniques		
– cavity probing techniques		
– exposing root crown		
– visual indicators of root crowns and bark		
– removal of loose bark		
recording and photographing defects and visual indicators		
describing, illustrating and indicating on images or devices		
dimensions of affected tree part and defect		
recording approximate dimensions of affected tree part and defect		
targets		
targets		
– targets that need to be considered		
– the role of targets in tree risk assessment		
– likelihood of target impaction		

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hazard evaluation		
hazard evaluation:		
– determination whether tree or tree parts are a hazard		
– use of industry standard terminology to describe hazard evaluation		
– tree hazard benchmarks		
– determination whether the hazard exceeds tree hazard benchmarks for project		
tree evaluation:		
– imminent threat		
– evaluation of an imminent threat		
appropriate action for hazards		
work place policies of risk control		
tree isolation methods		
methods of moving targets		
recommendations of aerial inspection and load testing		
advice from a consulting arborist		
risk mitigation		
tree work required to mitigate risks		
client communications		
advising client of imminent threat		
instructions in client brief		
tree evaluation documentation		
recording results of evaluation		
documentation of immediate actions		
documentation of hazard evaluation		
documenting risk mitigation		
Performance evidence		
Has the candidate successfully demonstrated the Performance Evidence requirements of the unit of competency AHCARB403 Perform a ground-based tree defect evaluation, and as per listed line items below?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialled)
confirming trees to be evaluated in accordance with client brief		
undertaking a site-specific risk assessment by identifying work health and safety hazards and assessing risk		
determining targets that need to be considered		
determining tree hazard benchmarks appropriate for project		

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recording and implementing work health, safety, site, environmental and traffic control measures		
inspecting tree from ground		
determining tree health		
examining tree for past failures		
examining tree for visual indicators of outwardly apparent defects		
examining tree for visual indicators of concealed defects		
examining tree for visual indicators of disease leading to structural failure		
determining if failure is likely to result in target being impacted		
sounding for cavities suggested by openings and visual indicators		
probing any accessible cavities and openings		
exposing root crown where required		
removing loose bark where appropriate		
determining if tree exceeds tree hazard benchmarks for project		
photographing and recording tree species and site of tree		
recording health and approximate dimensions of the tree		
recording and photographing defects and visual indicators		
describing, illustrating and indicating on image or device, the approximate location on the tree		
recording approximate dimensions of affected tree part and defect		
recording results and advising client of evaluation		
advising client immediately of evaluation where a tree poses an imminent threat		
taking action as instructed in accordance with work place policies and client brief		
isolating the tree or move target as instructed in accordance with work place policies and client brief		
documenting immediate actions taken		
compiling hazard evaluation documentation		
recommending further action of aerial inspection and load testing or seek further advice from a consulting arborist		
determining and documenting any tree work required to mitigate risks		
submitting tree hazard evaluation report to client or employer		
use of industry standard terminology to describe hazard evaluation		

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Assessment conditions		
It is an industry requirement for competency in this unit that assessment includes a minimum of twenty (20) ground-based tree defect evaluations, each of a different defect, and requires a minimum of at least one (1) consultation with a consulting arborist to participate in a ground-based tree defect evaluation. The evaluations are required to cover twenty (20) separate and individual trees, of a minimum of fifteen (15) different tree species, and each of the evaluations is required to be a whole-of-tree investigation.		
Have the assessments incorporated the assessment conditions and met the industry requirements for competency in this unit as per listed line items below?	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialed)
Have the assessments included a minimum of twenty (20) ground-based tree defect evaluations, each of a different defect?		
Have the assessments included a minimum of at least one (1) consultation with a consulting arborist to participate in a ground-based tree defect evaluation?		
Have the assessments included ground-based tree defect evaluations of twenty (20) separate and individual trees?		
Have the assessments included a minimum of fifteen (15) different tree species?		
Have the assessments required each of the evaluations to be a whole-of-tree investigation?		
Assessment may be conducted in a simulated or real work environment; however, determination of competency requires the application of work practices under work conditions.		
	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialed)
Have assessments been demonstrated consistently over time?		
Have assessments been demonstrated in a suitable range of contexts?		
Have assessments been demonstrated with a productivity-based outcome?		
Have assessments been demonstrated with multiple assessment events and reports?		
Assessor Declaration		
Assessors must satisfy current standards for RTOs in the assessment of arboriculture units of competency.	Yes/No (Y/N)	Signed (Initialed)
Has assessment been conducted only by persons who have:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • arboriculture vocational competencies at least to the level being assessed? 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current arboriculture industry skills directly relevant to the unit of competency being assessed? 		

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Assessor name	Assessor qualification	Year	Full Signature
Competency Determination			
This section determines the skills and knowledge required to examine trees from the ground in order to evaluate the increased likelihood of failure of trees or tree parts.			Competent /Not yet competent
The candidate is competent in performing a ground-based tree defect evaluation.			
Competency Assessment Completion			
Assessor name	Date	Full Signature	

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