

**Specification of Competency Standards**  
**for the Arboriculture & Horticulture Industry**  
**Unit of Competency**

Functional Area - Survey, Inspection and Risk Assessment

Title	Investigate the causes of tree incidents
Code	109155L5
Range	This unit of competency is applicable to technical personnel who are engaged in investigating the causes of tree incidents in the arboriculture and horticulture industry. Practitioners should be capable of using their expertise in tree inspection and risk assessment to investigate the scene of tree incidents and inspect the target trees on-site. They should also be able to integrate various investigation results to analyse the causes of tree incidents, as well as to prepare investigation reports on the causes of the tree incidents.
Level	5
Credit	6 (For Reference Only)
Competency	<p>Performance Requirements</p> <p>1. Possess knowledge related to investigating the causes of tree incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comprehend the causes of different tree incidents and their related influencing factors</li> <li>• Comprehend the guidelines and standards related to the investigation of the causes of tree incidents</li> <li>• Comprehend the methods and procedures for investigating the causes of tree incidents</li> <li>• Comprehend the professional skills of tree inspection and risk assessment, and the related knowledge</li> <li>• Possess knowledge of tree biology, plant physiology, tree mechanics, defects in tree structure, tree health, pests and diseases of plants, etc.</li> </ul> <p>2. Investigate the causes of tree incidents</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect the background information of tree incidents through different channels and analyse the information</li> <li>• Conduct site investigation at the scene of tree incidents and collect relevant influencing environmental factors</li> <li>• Inspect the health and structural conditions of the target trees, and collect samples for further testing</li> <li>• Infer the major factors leading to the damage of tree health and structure from the inspection and testing results</li> <li>• Analyse the causes of tree incidents based on the background information of the tree incidents, influencing environmental factors, and the health and structural conditions of the trees</li> <li>• Suggest preventive measures to avoid the occurrence of similar incidents in accordance with the causes of the incidents and the latest conditions of the trees</li> <li>• Integrate results from different investigations and prepare investigation reports on the causes of the tree incidents</li> </ul> <p>3. Exhibit professionalism</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to other expert evidence and review past tree inspection and risk assessment reports to make judgments accurately</li> </ul>
Assessment Criteria	<p>The integrated outcome requirements of this unit of competency are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Able to investigate the scene of tree incidents, and collect relevant background information and influencing environmental factors;</li> <li>• Able to inspect the health and structural conditions of target trees, and analyse the causes of tree incidents; and</li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Able to integrate the results from different investigations, prepare the investigation reports on the causes of the tree incidents and suggest corresponding preventive measures.</li></ul>
Remark	