

RTE3133A

Unit Descriptor

Prepare livestock for competition

This competency standard covers the preparation and training of livestock for competitive showing.

It requires the application of knowledge and skills to groom and present livestock to competition standards, and maintain livestock health, welfare and nutritional requirements. Competency requires an awareness of legislative requirements with regard to animal welfare. The work in this standard is likely to be carried out under routine supervision within enterprise guidelines.

Unit Sector

No sector assigned

ELEMENT

PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

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| 1. Follow instructions to prepare livestock for showing | <p>1.1 Livestock are identified and prepared for showing according to enterprise instructions.</p> <p>1.2 Feed and water supplies are monitored and replenished, as required, and feed records are maintained to enterprise requirements.</p> <p>1.3 Health and welfare status of livestock is monitored and abnormalities are promptly reported according to enterprise requirements.</p> <p>1.4 Facilities are monitored and maintained, and existing and potential OHS hazards are recognised, risk assessed and reported to the supervisor.</p> |
| 2. Handle and groom livestock prior to competition | <p>2.1 Appropriate handling and grooming equipment is selected, checked and used according to instructions and manufacturers specifications.</p> <p>2.2 Livestock are groomed for showing to competition standard according to instructions and enterprise requirements.</p> <p>2.3 Livestock are conditioned to human handling and trained to the standard required for show handling and performance.</p> <p>2.4 Handling procedures are conducted with minimum stress and discomfort to livestock, and maximum safety for livestock, handlers and other parties according to OHS and animal welfare requirements.</p> |
| 3. Present livestock | <p>3.1 Equipment to be used in showing is checked for correct operation and prepared for presentation requirements.</p> <p>3.2 Livestock are presented using handling techniques to exhibit livestock to best advantage according to competition and enterprise requirements.</p> <p>3.3 Instructions and requests from competition officials are complied with.</p> <p>3.4 Relevant information is reported and recorded according to enterprise requirements.</p> |

KEY COMPETENCIES

There are a number of processes that are learnt throughout work and life, which are required in all jobs. They are fundamental processes and generally transferable to other work functions. Some of these are covered by the key competencies, although others may be added. The questions below highlight how these processes are applied in this competency standard. Following each question a number in brackets indicates the level to which the key competency needs to be demonstrated where 0 = not required, 1 = perform the process, 2 = perform and administer the process and 3 = perform, administer and design the process.

| Key Competency | Example of Application | Performance Level |
|---|---|-------------------|
| Communicating ideas and information | Information with regard to livestock preparation and grooming requirements may be discussed with competition organisers and the supervisor. | 2 |
| Collecting analysing and organising information | Information with regard to breeding and production measurement may be detailed and organised by livestock records. | 2 |
| Planning and organising activities | Livestock grooming preparation may be planned and conducted around feeding routines and showing schedules. | 2 |
| Working with others and in teams | Team work may be applied in methods and procedures to handle and prepare livestock for presentation. | 1 |
| Using mathematical ideas and techniques | Mathematics may be applied in the measurement and calculation of feed requirements and herd/flock numbers. | 1 |
| Solving problems | Positive and calming handling techniques to settle distressed livestock during preparation may be required to minimise disruption to competition schedules. | 2 |
| Using technology | To communicate and record livestock data. | 1 |

RANGE STATEMENT

The Range of Variables explains the range of contexts within which the performance and knowledge requirements of this standard may be assessed. The scope of variables chosen in training and assessment may depend on the work situations available.

What livestock may be relevant to this standard?

Sheep, goats, pigs, alpacas, horses, beef and dairy cattle.

What procedures might be involved in the preparation of livestock?

Procedures may include halter training, leading, grooming, clipping, care of hooves and horns, special feed supplementation, presentation techniques, use of show equipment, special transport requirements, avoidance of stress, and show protocols.

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| What enterprise instructions may be provided? | Instructions may include the identity of livestock and location, feed and water requirements, handling requirements, health and welfare considerations, procedures for use of facilities, handling and grooming equipment, and procedures and requirements for competition standard grooming. |
| What information might be included in livestock feed records? | Records may detail feed requirements, type, feed supplements, rate and frequency of feeding, quality and quantity of water supplies, and details of replenished supplies. |
| What enterprise requirements may be applicable to this standard? | SOP, industry standards, production schedules, MSDS, work notes and plans, product labels, manufacturers specifications, operators manuals, enterprise policies and procedures (including waste disposal, recycling and re-use guidelines), and supervisors oral or written instructions. |
| How might the health and welfare status of livestock be determined? | Health and welfare may be determined by the general observance of livestock behaviour, condition and wellbeing. |
| What type of facilities may be provided for livestock? | Facilities may include pens, sheds, paddocks and troughs. |
| What OHS requirements may be relevant to this standard? | <p>Safe systems and procedures for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • livestock handling including zoonoses control (Q Fever) • the operation of handling equipment • hazard and risk control • manual handling including lifting • outdoor work including protection from solar radiation, dust and noise • the appropriate use and maintenance of personal protective equipment. |
| What existing and potential OHS hazards may be encountered in the workplace? | Livestock movement and handling, solar radiation, organic and other dusts, hazardous noise, moving machinery and vehicles. |
| What equipment might be used to handle and groom livestock? | Equipment may include rings, halters, combs, vacuums, brushes, driers, clippers, preparations applied externally or supplements taken orally, and restraining devices of a non-fibrillating nature. |
| What type of competitions may require the presentation of livestock? | Production evaluation trials, agricultural shows, livestock production trials, fleece competitions, sire reference schemes, carcass competitions, and livestock sales. |

What relevant information might be recorded and reported? Livestock behaviour and abnormalities, equipment faults and malfunctions, and showing details and outcomes.

EVIDENCE GUIDE

What evidence is required to demonstrate competence for this standard as a whole?

Competence in this standard requires evidence of the ability to provide livestock feed and water requirements, demonstrate safe and humane handling and grooming techniques, and present livestock to competition standards. It involves the ability to interpret and apply task instructions, prepare livestock facilities, use and maintain handling and grooming equipment, train livestock for showing, monitor health and wellbeing status, and anticipate livestock behaviour.

The skills and knowledge required to prepare livestock for competition must be transferable to another environment. For example, if competence is evident in preparing beef cattle for showing at production evaluation trials, it must also be evident for showing sheep in an agricultural show context.

What specific knowledge is needed to achieve the performance criteria?

Knowledge and understanding are essential to apply this standard in the workplace, to transfer the skills to other contexts, and to deal with unplanned events. The knowledge requirements for this competency standard are listed below:

- livestock health and nutritional requirements
- preparation and maintenance requirements for livestock facilities and equipment
- livestock grooming and training techniques (to lead and stand correctly)
- handling techniques, restraint methods and when to use them
- components and functions of handling equipment
- competition requirements for grooming, handling and presentation
- livestock movement and behavioural characteristics in handling and confined areas
- OHS and animal welfare legislative requirements.

What specific skills are needed to achieve the performance criteria?

To achieve the performance criteria, appropriate literacy and numeracy levels as well as some complementary skills are required. These include the ability to:

- maintain livestock facilities and handling equipment
- groom livestock to competition standards
- restrain, handle and groom livestock using safe and humane methods and procedures
- observe and describe the behaviour of livestock
- demonstrate safe workplace practices
- read and interpret written information, receive and comprehend oral information, write basic statements and maintain livestock records
- calculate livestock numbers and measure feed and water quantities.

Are there other competency standards that could be assessed with this one?

This competency standard could be assessed on its own or in combination with other competencies relevant to the job function.

Essential Assessment Information

There is essential information about **assessing this competency standard for consistent performance** and **where and how it may be assessed**, in the Assessment Guidelines for this Training Package. All users of these competency standards must have **access** to the **Assessment Guidelines**. Further advice may also be sought from the relevant **sector booklet**.