



Australian Government

AHCLSK346 Carry out post-mortem examination of livestock

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version released with AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package Release 11.0.

Application

This unit of competency describes the skills and knowledge required to carry out post-mortem examination of livestock.

This unit applies to individuals who carry out post-mortem examination of livestock under broad direction and take responsibility for their own work.

All work must be carried out to comply with workplace procedures, according to state/territory health and safety regulations, legislation and standards that apply to the workplace, and animal welfare legislation, regulations, standards and guidelines, and sustainability and biosecurity practices.

Individuals must comply with national and local regulations for disposal of the carcass.

Individuals must comply with regulations for sending of biological samples by post.

Pre-requisite Unit

Nil

Unit Sector

Livestock (LSK)

Elements and Performance Criteria

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
1. Prepare to conduct post-mortem/necropsy	1.1 Select site for post-mortem, ensuring compliance with biosecurity and environment requirements 1.2 Prepare post-mortem site 1.3 Collect and collate all relevant preliminary information about the

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	carcass to be examined 1.4 Identify workplace health and safety and biosecurity hazards, and implement safe working practices to manage risks 1.5 Select, fit, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE) applicable to the task 1.6 Select, check and prepare equipment and resources required to complete post-mortem examination 1.7 Move the animal to be examined to the post-mortem area using appropriate manual lifting techniques and equipment where applicable 1.8 Seek expert assistance if required
2. Carry out post-mortem examination	2.1 Carry out external assessment and note outward signs of disease, injury or abnormality 2.2 Seek expert advice and assistance before proceeding where unusual symptoms are present 2.3 Perform post-mortem of the carcass in a systematic and safe manner using appropriate techniques and equipment, without causing artificial damage to organs and tissues 2.4 Examine organs, tissues and joints 2.5 Take samples of organs and tissues where appropriate, and place in labelled containers according to laboratory requirements 2.6 Record relevant data and details of the post-mortem examination and suggest the cause of death where possible
3. Carry out post-necropsy procedures	3.1 Dispose of carcass and biological materials according to biosecurity and environment requirements and legislation 3.2 Send labelled and packaged samples to the laboratory for analysis according to workplace, environment and biosecurity requirements 3.3 Collate all information about the livestock examined and the records made during the post-mortem, and forward to supervisor or veterinarian for analysis and establishing a diagnosis 3.4 Clean, disinfect, store and dispose of equipment, materials and PPE according to workplace procedures 3.5 Clean and disinfect site used for the post-mortem according to workplace procedures 3.6 Wash hands and exposed body areas thoroughly 3.7 Change clothing and disinfect boots according to workplace

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	procedures 3.8 Identify and report unserviceable equipment and PPE according to workplace procedures

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.

Skill	Description
Reading	Identify and interpret workplace documentation to identify relevant and key information for carrying out post-mortem examination of livestock
Writing	Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to record animal and post-mortem examination details
Oral communication	- Use clear language to report malfunctions, faults, wear or damage to equipment - Respond to questions and clarify information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK346 Carry out post-mortem examination of livestock	AHCLSK304 Carry out post-mortem examination of livestock	Minor changes to application Minor changes to elements and performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	Not equivalent

Links

Companion Volumes, including Implementation Guides, are available at VETNet: -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=c6399549-9c62-4a5e-bf1a-524b2322cf72>

Assessment Requirements for AHCLSK346 Carry out post-mortem examination of livestock

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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 carried out post-mortem examination of livestock on at least two occasions, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety and environment and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- recognised and reported workplace health and safety and biosecurity hazards and used safe work practices
- prepared for post-mortem, ensuring appropriate handling and use of equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE) and disinfectants
- handled and disposed of carcass according to workplace procedures
- performed external examination and post-mortem examination of carcass
- carried out post-necropsy procedures of cleaning and disinfection of equipment, site and PPE
- prepared biological samples for sending to the laboratory where appropriate
- applied personal hygiene procedures.

Knowledge Evidence

An individual must be able to demonstrate knowledge required to perform the tasks outlined in the elements and performance criteria of this unit. This includes knowledge of:

- workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for post-mortem examination of livestock, including appropriate use of PPE
- environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices relevant to post-mortem examination of livestock
- principles and practices for post-mortem examination of livestock, including:
 - sequence of actions in conducting a post-mortem examination
 - appropriate handling and use of post-mortem equipment and disinfectants

- requirements for correct preparation, labelling, packaging and storage of biological samples
- anatomy and physical features of the species being examined
- common causes of death for the species being examined
- typical signs of pathology in major organs
- typical symptoms and clinical signs of notifiable diseases in the relevant species
- relevant workplace and regulatory requirements for carcass disposal.

Assessment Conditions

Assessment of the skills in this unit of competency must take place under the following conditions:

- physical conditions:
 - a workplace setting or an environment that accurately represents workplace conditions
- resources, equipment and materials:
 - work instructions and workplace procedures applicable to post-mortem examination of livestock
 - equipment and resources applicable to post-mortem examination of livestock
 - PPE applicable to post-mortem examination of livestock
 - livestock carcasses suitable for post-mortem examination
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for post-mortem examination of livestock
 - environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices applicable to post-mortem examination of livestock
 - industry standards, legislation and codes of practice and procedures for post-mortem examination of livestock and carcass disposal
- relationships:
 - expert
- time frames:
 - according to job requirements.

Assessment of this unit must be conducted on livestock carcasses.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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