



Australian Government

AHCLSK364 Castrate livestock

Release: 1

AHCLSK364 Castrate livestock

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 castrate young animals.

The unit applies to individuals who castrate 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.

In addition to legal responsibilities, all units of competency dealing with animals in the AHC Agriculture, Horticulture and Conservation and Land Management Training Package have the requirements for animals to be handled humanely to minimise stress and discomfort.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

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 for animal castration	1.1 Interpret work to be undertaken from work program and confirm with supervisor

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	1.2 Hold discussions with other workers who may be affected by the activities to ensure continued smooth operation of the production process 1.3 Identify hazards and risks and implement safe working practices to manage risks 1.4 Select, fit, use and maintain personal protective equipment (PPE) applicable to the task 1.5 Hygienically clean castration area to minimise the risk of infection 1.6 Select, check and assemble equipment, instruments and resources needed for castration operations, ensuring adequate supplies of consumables 1.7 Separate male animals as required using good stock handling techniques and according to animal welfare practices
2. Castrate animals	2.1 Select, catch and restrain individual animals using good stock handling techniques and according to animal welfare practices 2.2 Check animals for health and soundness according to workplace procedures 2.3 Castrate restrained animals in a humane and hygienic manner according to workplace procedures, industry standards, and animal welfare practices 2.4 Complete records according to workplace procedures
3. Complete hygiene and administration activities	3.1 Dispose of livestock residues, debris and waste according to workplace environmental practices 3.2 Clean, maintain and store instruments and equipment using appropriate hygiene procedures 3.3 Clean and maintain a safe work area using appropriate hygiene procedures 3.4 Identify and report unserviceable equipment and PPE according to workplace procedures 3.5 Record and report work outcomes according to workplace procedures
4. Monitor castrates	4.1 Move animals from yard to pasture as soon as practical with minimal stress to reduce risk of infection 4.2 Monitor animals to identify post-castration complications

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	4.3 Identify and treat animals exhibiting signs of ill health or infection

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 castrating livestock
Writing	Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to record livestock castration details
Oral communication	- Use clear language to report work activities and malfunctions, faults, wear or damage to tools and equipment - Respond to questions and clarify information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK364 Castrate livestock	AHCLSK325 Castrate livestock	Minor changes to application Minor changes to elements and performance criteria Foundation skills added Assessment requirements updated	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 AHCLSK364 Castrate 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 castrated at least ten head of livestock on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety and environment and biosecurity legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- confirmed criteria for decision to castrate livestock
- recognised and reported workplace health and safety hazards and used safe work practices
- applied relevant animal welfare practices
- handled animals using good stock handling techniques
- performed a recommended method of castration with attention to hygiene
- administered pre-operative or post-operative treatments
- monitored castrated animals
- carried out animal husbandry tasks in hygienic manner
- recorded the number and health of animals post-castration.

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 castrating livestock, including appropriate use of personal protective equipment (PPE)
- environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices relevant to castrating livestock
- principles and practices for castrating livestock, including:
 - animal welfare practices relevant to castrating livestock
 - recommended method of castration with attention to hygiene
 - livestock castration pre-operative or post-operative treatments
 - workplace procedures for monitoring castrated animals, and good stock handling techniques

- animal husbandry tasks and hygiene practices relevant to livestock castration
- workplace recording and reporting requirements relevant to livestock castration.

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 castrating livestock
 - equipment and materials applicable to castrating livestock
 - PPE applicable to castrating livestock
 - livestock requiring castration
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for castrating livestock
 - environment and biosecurity legislation and regulations and workplace practices applicable to castrating livestock
 - legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and procedures for animal welfare applicable to castrating livestock
- relationships:
 - supervisor
- time frames:
 - according to job requirements.

Assessment of this unit must be conducted on live animals.

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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