



Australian Government

AHCLSK370 Monitor pen condition and ration suitability

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 monitor the suitability of rations and pen conditions for livestock.

The unit applies to individuals who monitor pen condition and ration suitability 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. Monitor ration and water levels	1.1 Identify ration ingredients and composition information from workplace livestock production or feed plans

Elements	Performance Criteria
Elements describe the essential outcomes.	Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.
	1.2 Assess ration levels, composition and consistency and identify potential production and health issues for different pens and classes of livestock 1.3 Identify strategies for removing wet, mouldy and fouled ration from bunks, and preventing livestock from access to unsuitable rations 1.4 Assess water quantity and quality to meet requirements of livestock
2. Inspect pen status and condition	2.1 Source information on pen group status from workplace livestock production plan 2.2 Assess pen infrastructure, feed bunks, feed apron and water troughs together with animal feeding behaviour and identify performance and potential issues 2.3 Identify strategies to control leaking troughs, and prevent livestock from access to damaged pen or feeding areas 2.4 Assess pen surface conditions and behaviours of livestock in consideration of prevailing weather conditions 2.5 Identify strategies for adjusting stocking density, providing access to shade, modifying pen drainage, cleaning pen and modifying the ration
3. Assess manure condition	3.1 Assess manure consistency and colour as indicators of individual animal and herd health 3.2 Identify strategies for increasing roughage in ration, courser processing of grains and adjusting rations for sick animals
4. Check pen hygiene	4.1 Assess feed bunks, feed aprons and water troughs for fouling and unhygienic build-ups of waste 4.2 Identify strategies for resolving animal production and health issues, workplace health and safety concerns, and cleaning of pens to prevent odour and insect problems
5. Report and record incidents as required	5.1 Report incidents and problems to supervisor 5.2 Record incidents and adopted strategies, and monitor effectiveness of strategies

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 about ration ingredients and composition, and workplace livestock production and feeding plan requirements
Writing	Use clear language, accurate industry terminology and logical structure to record incidents and adopted strategies
Oral communication	- Use clear language to report incidents and problems - Respond to questions and clarify information

Unit Mapping Information

Code and title current release	Code and title previous release	Comments	Equivalence status
AHCLSK370 Monitor pen condition and ration suitability	AHCLSK333 Monitor pen condition and ration suitability	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 AHCLSK370 Monitor pen condition and ration suitability

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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 monitored pen condition and ration suitability on at least one occasion, and has:

- applied relevant workplace health and safety legislation, regulations and workplace procedures
- applied relevant animal welfare practices
- monitored ration and water levels and responded to issues as required
- inspected pen status and condition and responded to issues as required
- assessed manure condition and responded as required
- checked pen hygiene and responded to issues as required
- reported and recorded incidents and problems
- recorded and monitored adopted strategies
- communicated with supervisor.

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 monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
- principles and practices for monitoring pen condition and ration suitability, including:
 - type of information on rations, water, housing infrastructure and feeding infrastructure that can be gathered from livestock production and feeding plans
 - principles and elements of nutrition and the impact of nutrition on livestock production
 - nutritional requirements of different livestock species, classes and life stages
 - impacts of poor nutrition and unsuitable rations on livestock production, and strategies to mitigate these impacts

- how rations can be adjusted or modified to benefit sick animals
- housing requirements and housing management of different livestock species, classes and life stages
- feeding and water requirements, and feeding and water management of different livestock species, classes and life stages
- impacts of unsuitable housing, feeding and watering infrastructure on livestock, and strategies to mitigate these impacts
- effects of weather on housing and feeding infrastructure, and strategies to mitigate such effects
- methods for using manure as assessment of livestock health
- methods for maintaining, cleaning and removing waste from housing and feeding infrastructure
- documentation, record keeping and methods for monitoring effectiveness of adopted strategies
- animal welfare practices and requirements.

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 monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
 - equipment and resources applicable to monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
 - PPE applicable to monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
- specifications:
 - workplace requirements applicable to health and safety in the workplace for monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
 - legislation, regulations, standards, guidelines and procedures for animal welfare applicable to monitoring pen condition and ration suitability
- relationships:
 - supervisor
- time frames:
 - according to job requirements.

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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