



Australian Government

Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations

AHCLSK504A Develop livestock health and welfare strategies

Release: 1

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Modification History

Not Applicable

Unit Descriptor

Unit descriptor	This unit covers the functions required to: design and implement preventative health treatment and programs for livestock and defines the standard required to identify common livestock diseases; develop prevention and treatment strategies for diseases; handle and use veterinary medicines; maintain records of animal health treatment; implement a risk management approach to managing animal health.
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Application of the Unit

Application of the unit	This unit applies to livestock enterprise managers whose job role includes developing animal health and welfare strategies.
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Licensing/Regulatory Information

Not Applicable

Pre-Requisites

Prerequisite units		

Employability Skills Information

Employability skills	This unit contains employability skills.
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Elements and Performance Criteria Pre-Content

Not Applicable

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
1. Determine health strategy for livestock	1.1. Livestock condition is monitored and risks to health and welfare are identified based on property history, type of livestock and external disease threats. 1.2. A program of monitoring parasite and disease status is implemented. 1.3. Preventative health strategies based on integrated controls and production requirements are documented in a livestock health plan. 1.4. Treatments based on veterinary medicines are integrated with other parasite and disease control strategies, if applicable. 1.5. Treatment program, procedures and operations are planned to meet livestock health requirements, legislative and enterprise requirements. 1.6. Facilities and equipment required to implement health strategy are identified and arranged according to industry standards and enterprise requirements. 1.7. Staff is briefed with details of treatment programs, schedules and Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) issues.
2. Implement treatment program	2.1. Diagnosis of livestock condition is made systematically with reference to all symptoms and signs according to veterinary guidelines. 2.2. Complex problems or signs of disease are referred for specialist advice and treatment. 2.3. Treatment is planned and administered according to veterinary guidelines, legislative requirements, and animal welfare codes of practice. 2.4. Control measures are carried out as required to prevent the spread of communicable diseases. 2.5. Procedures for reporting notifiable diseases are implemented according to legislative requirements.
3. Manage livestock welfare	3.1. Requirements of the animal welfare code of practice are integrated into the production plan and enterprise procedures. 3.2. Livestock are continually monitored for access to feed and water and health status. 3.3. Injured or sick animals are treated and monitored, or euthanased if required. 3.4. Susceptible animals are provided with adequate shade and shelter. 3.5. Welfare issues are documented and accurate records

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
	are maintained according to industry standards, legislative and enterprise requirements.
4. Monitor health strategy	4.1. Withholding periods for veterinary medicines are noted and complied with according to manufacturer's instructions and legislative requirements. 4.2. Livestock are monitored post-treatment for evidence of treatment effectiveness and any further health problems. 4.3. Treatment outcomes and processes are reviewed for effective management planning and best practice. 4.4. Animal health procedures are evaluated in a review of the animal health plan. 4.5. Travel and quarantine restrictions are identified and complied with. 4.6. Surplus health supplies are stored according to manufacturer's recommendations and enterprise requirements. 4.7. Data is documented and accurate records are maintained according to industry standards, legislative and enterprise requirements.

Required Skills and Knowledge

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit.

Required skills

- plan and co-ordinate livestock health and welfare strategies
- develop a plan for health control and disease prevention
- diagnose health problems in livestock
- measure preventative health treatment dosage and calculate rates and schedule for treatment effectiveness
- use literacy skills to fulfil job roles as required by the organisation. The level of skill may range from reading and understanding documentation to completion of written reports
- use oral communication skills/language competence to fulfil the job role as specified by the organisation including questioning, active listening, asking for clarification, negotiating solutions and responding to a range of views
- use numeracy skills to estimate, calculate and record complex workplace measures

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

- use interpersonal skills to work with others and relate to people from a range of cultural, social and religious backgrounds and with a range of physical and mental abilities.

Required knowledge

- livestock health and abnormalities
- preventative health strategies
- principles of genetic resistance and immunity
- contingency and operational planning
- animal welfare codes of practice
- environmental protection codes of practice
- veterinary medicines and their use
- quarantine procedures
- vaccine types and their administration
- OHS legislative requirements.

Evidence Guide

EVIDENCE GUIDE	
The evidence guide provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge, range statement and the Assessment Guidelines for the Training Package.	
Overview of assessment	
Critical aspects for assessment and evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit	The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations and satisfy holistically all of the requirements of the performance criteria and required skills and knowledge and include achievement of the following: • identify common livestock diseases • develop prevention and treatment strategies for diseases • handle and use veterinary medicines • maintain records of animal health treatment • implement a risk management approach to managing animal health.
Context of and specific resources for assessment	Competency requires the application of work practices under work conditions. Selection and use of resources for some worksites may differ due to the regional or enterprise circumstances.

Range Statement

RANGE STATEMENT	
The range statement relates to the unit of competency as a whole.	
Livestock may include:	• sheep • goats • beef cattle • alpacas • deer • dairy cattle • pigs.

Unit Sector(s)

Unit sector	Livestock
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Co-requisite units

Co-requisite units		

Competency field

Competency field	
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