

41307**Monitor and maintain livestock health and welfare on farm**

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	5
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is for people working, or intending on working, on a pastoral livestock farm. They will be able to observe and report on patterns of behaviour of livestock and livestock health and welfare, and carry out livestock health and welfare interventions, under limited supervision. This skill standard is aligned to the New Zealand Certificate in Farm Skills (Level 3) [Ref: 5678].

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Monitor and maintain livestock health and welfare on farm.	a. Describe the social structure and typical behaviour patterns of livestock.
	b. Observe and report on typical livestock behaviour as it related to health and welfare.
	c. Describe welfare concerns and signs of neglect and mistreatment.
	d. Explain when and how to report animal welfare concerns.
	e. Carry out routine, workplace directed livestock health and welfare interventions using prepared products, equipment, and instructions, while avoiding harm to self or animal.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria*Assessment specifications:*

All activities must be carried out in accordance with workplace health and safety requirements, workplace procedures, and, wherever relevant, the Code of Welfare appropriate to the species and context for which the learner is being assessed.

Providers must give due consideration to embedding ngā kaupapa (principles) o Te Tiriti o Waitangi when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard. These principles are outlined in [Guidelines for Providers: Embedding Tirohanga Māori](#).

Providers must give due consideration to the needs and values of Pacific peoples and other cultural groups when designing delivery activities relevant to this standard, ensuring practices are inclusive and equitable.

Ākonga/learners should be assessed against this standard in a real-life context using naturally occurring evidence. A verifier's checklist with appropriate comments confirming competency is acceptable if accompanied by evidence that includes examples from the learner's performance.

For assessment criterion 1.e, the assessment focus is on safe performance of directed, routine tasks that support livestock health and welfare, including following workplace instructions, using prepared products and equipment, and recognising when to seek further direction or escalate concerns.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Livestock behaviour, health and welfare

- active and passive observation of livestock.
- social structure of groups of livestock in various locations, e.g. paddock, moving, yards, sentinel animals.
- typical livestock behaviour, e.g. livestock as prey animals, seasonal variations in behaviour (e.g. mating, oestrus, parturition), curiosity, anxiety, confusion, animals retreating to safe places.
- livestock pain and stress indicators.
- observing signs of healthy and unhealthy livestock, e.g. gait, wounds, body condition, coat condition, respiration rate, discharges, general demeanour, learner's senses (sight, smell, hearing, touch).
- key health and welfare indicators, e.g. Body Condition Score (BCS), lameness, mastitis.
- animal welfare, e.g. physical and mental wellbeing.
- Code of Welfare, e.g. best practice, minimum standard.
- farmer influence on livestock welfare, e.g. human-animal interactions, paddock selection, stocking.

Reporting and responding to welfare concerns

- reporting procedures in the workplace.
- welfare concerns and sign of neglect and mistreatment.
- escalation processes for health and welfare issues on and off the farm, e.g. supervisor, veterinarian, MPI, WorkSafe.

Carrying out routine, workplace-directed livestock health and welfare interventions

- routine livestock health and welfare interventions, e.g. drenching, vaccination, footbaths, teat spraying, supporting tasks associated with tailing or crutching, yard weaning, acclimation, preferential feeding for low body condition score animals.
- following clear instructions and workplace procedures when carrying out interventions.
- carrying out interventions using prepared products, equipment, and instructions.
- safe handling and restraint of livestock during interventions.
- avoiding harm to self or animal while carrying out interventions.
- recognising when to seek assistance or escalate concerns during an intervention.

Rauemi | Resources

- [Health and Safety at Work Act \(2015\)](#)
- [Animal Welfare Act \(1999\)](#)
- [Animal Welfare \(Care and Procedures\) Regulations 2018](#)
- [Code of Welfare – Dairy Cattle](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries)
- [Code of Welfare – Deer](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries)
- [Code of Welfare – Goats](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries)
- [Code of Welfare – Sheep and Beef Cattle](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries)
- [Reporting an animal welfare concern](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries)
- [Notify WorkSafe](#) (WorkSafe New Zealand)
- [Animal health and welfare](#) (DairyNZ)
- [Animal health and welfare](#) – DeerHub (Deer Industry NZ)
- [Animal health and welfare](#) (Beef + Lamb New Zealand).

Pārongo Whakaū Kounga | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries > Agriculture > Livestock Husbandry
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0052

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	1	27 August 2026	N/A
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard replaced unit standard 19103.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2031		

Please contact the Food and Fibre Industry Skills Board at info@foodandfibresb.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.