

41310**Carry out livestock health interventions**

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	This skill standard is intended for people working with livestock, including deer, sheep, beef and dairy animals, in various pastoral farming systems. They will be able to identify common livestock health conditions, and confirm requirements for and carry out preventative and responsive livestock health interventions, under limited supervision. This skill standard is aligned to the New Zealand Certificate in Agriculture (Level 3) [Ref: 5680].

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

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Identify common livestock health conditions to inform livestock health interventions.	a. Identify livestock management practices and conditions that keep animals safe from harm during an intervention.
	b. Observe and report signs of ill health in livestock.
	c. Identify common livestock health problems through observation and reporting.
2. Carry out preventative and responsive livestock health interventions for common livestock health problems.	a. Confirm intervention requirements for livestock health interventions.
	b. Carry out preventative livestock health interventions to reduce the risk of common livestock health problems using appropriate restraint and maintaining animal welfare.
	c. Carry out responsive livestock health interventions for common livestock health problems using appropriate restraint and maintaining animal welfare.

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 ākonga/learner's performance.

Euthanasia must not be required as assessment evidence for this standard. Where euthanasia occurs as naturally occurring evidence, it may only be used where the ākonga/learner is authorised, adequately trained, and supervised in accordance with workplace procedures, legal requirements, and relevant animal welfare requirements.

For this standard, identifying common livestock health problems and confirming intervention requirements involves observing and reporting signs of ill health, checking the required intervention, product, equipment, dose, timing, route, withholding, recording, and escalation requirements, and carrying out interventions in accordance with workplace procedures. It does not require the learner to independently diagnose conditions, prescribe treatments, or make veterinary decisions.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content**Preventative and responsive health interventions**

- difference between preventative and responsive health measures.
- preventative interventions as planned actions to reduce the risk, severity, spread, or impact of common livestock health problems.
- responsive interventions as actions taken when signs of ill health or a health problem have been identified.
- prevention in response to increased risk, e.g. targeted vaccination, isolation, or biosecurity measures during or following an outbreak.

Safe conditions, observation, and diagnosis

- livestock management practices and conditions that keep animals safe from harm during health interventions, e.g. permanent fencing, temporary fencing, housing, shelter, trough positioning, surface condition, space, animal flow, and low-stress handling setup.
- recognising stressors that may affect livestock health and welfare, e.g. lack of water, water quality, transport, parturition, loud noise, dogs, lack of food, feed quality, shearing, handling, heat stress, moving according to conditions, speed of movement.
- observing livestock using active and passive observation, and the learner's senses, e.g. sight, smell, hearing, touch.

- signs of ill health in livestock, e.g. uneven weight bearing, gait abnormalities, wounds, Body Condition Score (BCS), Faecal Egg Count (FEC), scouring, faecal blood, skin or coat condition, respiration rate, breathing difficulties, nasal discharge, cast or down animals, expected livestock weight targets, udder health problems, bulk milk somatic cell count, muscle control issues, abnormal odours, distended rumen, sunken rumen.
- common livestock health problems, e.g. facial eczema, fly strike, mastitis, parasites, milk fever, staggers, lameness, bloat, bearings, retained foetal membranes, scours, pink eye, cancer eye, collar rub, abscesses, cast or down animals, respiratory disease.
- reporting processes and workplace procedures for recording and communicating signs of ill health.
- identifying common livestock health problems through observation, recording, reporting, and escalation in according with workplace procedures.

Confirming requirements for livestock health interventions

- interpreting livestock health plans, workplace procedures, product labels, and veterinary or supervisor directions to confirm intervention requirements.
- confirming the intervention required for the animal, mob, class, or identified health problem.
- product type, suitability, expiry date, storage, handling, and method of administration.
- dose rate and dose calculation for livestock class, liveweight, or treatment group.
- equipment checks or calibration, e.g. drench gun, injector, applicator, weigh system, race, crush, or handling facility.
- timing, frequency, route, site, and order of treatment.
- hygiene, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), safe disposal, and contamination controls.
- withholding, traceability, National Animal Identification and Tracing (NAIT), Animal Status Declaration (ASD) (paper and electronic), quality assurance, and recording requirements.
- recognising when requirements are unclear, outside authority, or need escalation.

Carrying out preventative livestock health interventions

- preventative livestock health interventions to reduce risk, severity, spread, or impacts of common livestock health problems, e.g. vaccination, drenching, mineral or supplement administration, teat spraying, foot bathing, quarantine or isolation.
- preventative management practices that support livestock health, e.g. low-stress environments, feed quality, and preferential feeding where linked to a health risk.
- carrying out interventions according to confirmed requirements and workplace procedures.
- maintaining low-stress handling and animal welfare during preventative interventions.
- monitoring animals during and after preventative interventions for adverse reactions or welfare concerns.
- recording completed preventative interventions.

Carrying out responsive livestock health interventions

- responsive livestock health interventions for common livestock health problems, e.g. basic wound care, treating lameness, mastitis response, bloat response, parasite treatment, treatment for scours, fly-strike treatment, managing cast or down animals, treatment of eye conditions, hoof trimming, euthanasia.
- administering treatments using confirmed dose, route, site, timing, and equipment requirements.
- appropriate restraint for responsive livestock health interventions, including use of suitable equipment and methods that maintain the safety and welfare of people and livestock.

- monitoring animal response during and after intervention.
- maintaining animal welfare and recognising when pain, distress, deterioration, or non-response requires escalation.
- recording treatment, withholding, traceability, and follow-up requirements.

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).
- [National Animal Identification and Tracing \(NAIT\) programme](#) (Ministry for Primary Industries).
- [Animal status declarations](#) (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](#) (Deer Industry NZ).
- [Animal health and welfare](#) (Beef + Lamb New Zealand).

Pārongo Whakaū Kouna | 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 32009.		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2031		

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