

Recognise normal and abnormal behaviour and conditions in animals

Level 4

Credits 5

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: demonstrate knowledge of behaviour patterns of animals and identify abnormal behaviour; recognise indications of health and ill health in animals; and conduct animal examinations that meet health and safety needs of animal and examiner.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling

Domain Animal Care

Status Registered

Status date 21 April 1998

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.

Standard setting body (SSB) Primary Industry Training Organisation

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0228

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

- 1 For credit, evidence must be in accordance with the statutory and industry requirements contained in the following documents.
Relevant and current National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare and Codes of Recommendations and Minimum Standards, available at <http://www.maf.govt.nz>, under animal welfare.
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Health and safety requirements are those that satisfy the Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992 and satisfy the documented policies and procedures for animal handling and ethical behaviour required by the employer.

- 3 *In-house procedures* refer to the documented policies and procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer.
- 4 All descriptions must meet the documentary requirements established by the assessing body.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Demonstrate knowledge of behaviour patterns of animals and identify abnormal behaviour.

Range behaviour patterns will include the development, learning and activity states of domestic animals;
knowledge of behaviour of a minimum of three diverse species must be demonstrated.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Behaviour is described in terms of species, breed, and environment.
- 1.2 Behaviour is described in terms of the development, learning and activity state of the species.
- 1.3 Behaviour problems are identified by observation and analysis of available information.

Element 2

Recognise indications of health and ill health in animals.

Range indications must be identified for a minimum of three animal species;
indications may include but not be limited to – behaviour, movement, physical appearance (skin, coat, pelt), general demeanour, appetite, oestrous behaviour.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Normal health and behaviour is identified for an individual species.
- 2.2 Abnormal or ill health indications are identified for an individual species.

Element 3

Conduct animal examinations that meet and health and safety needs of animal and examiner.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Identify health and safety requirements.
- 3.2 Meet health and safety requirements.

Range safety and hygiene needs will be met in terms of pre handling assessment, personnel and equipment, and techniques used.

3.3 Need for restraint is established, and effective technique is selected and applied.

3.4 Pre handling examination is conducted and results analysed.

Range examination may include but is not limited to – location, posture, manner, feeding, movement, external stimulus response, presence of gross deformity.

3.5 Gross physical examination is conducted and results analysed.

Range examination may include but is not limited to – behaviour at close quarters, external appearance, discharges, abdominal activity, respiratory rate.

3.6 Detailed physical examination is conducted and results analysed.

Range examination may include but is not limited to – external appearance, discharges, at least one mucous membrane, vital signs, response to touch, specific abnormalities.

3.7 Abnormal health and behaviour is recognised, recorded and reported according to in-house procedures.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the Primary Industry Training Organisation standards@primaryito.ac.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.