

Title	Care for a sick foal and demonstrate knowledge of orphan foal fostering and care		
Level	4	Credits	5

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: care for a sick foal and monitor the mare's well-being; describe options for fostering an orphan foal, and methods to encourage the bonding process; and demonstrate knowledge of hand feeding and weaning an orphan foal off milk.
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Classification	Equine > Equine Husbandry
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Definition
Workplace procedures are the documented policies and practices for safety and procedures within a particular workplace, and are consistent with the Code of Welfare: Horses and Donkeys (2018) available at <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/11003-horses-and-donkeys-code-of-welfare>.
- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
 - evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from the workplace.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Care for a sick foal and monitor the mare's well-being.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Monitor and record the foal's health in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range	monitoring may include but is not limited to – nursing, temperature, respiratory rate, heart rate, passing meconium, urinating, standing, scours, behaviour, skeletal deviations.
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- 1.2 Administer medication to the foal as directed by the veterinarian.
- Range may include but is not limited to – enema, anti-inflammatories, antibiotics, specific medication, bandaging, fluids.
- 1.3 Confine the mare and foal and maintain facilities, apparatus, and formula feeds in a clean and hygienic state in accordance with workplace procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – stable, yard, water, bed, bedding, teats, bottles.
- 1.4 Feed the mare and foal according to health requirements in accordance with workplace procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to – milking the mare, bottle feeding foal, formula feed.
- 1.5 Monitor the mare's health and well-being and take action in the event of any ill health or problems in accordance with workplace procedures.

Outcome 2

Describe options for fostering an orphan foal, and methods to encourage the bonding process.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Describe options for fostering an orphan foal in terms of time and cost effectiveness.
- 2.2 Describe methods available for locating a foster mother.
- Range other breeders, advertising, foster foal services.
- 2.3 Describe methods used to encourage the bonding process between foster mare and orphan foal.
- Range includes but is not limited to – disguise smell, restrain to allow foal to drink, twitch mare, sedate mare, use skin of dead foal.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of hand feeding and weaning an orphan foal off milk.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Identify and describe types of milk formulations available and compare their nutritional value.
- Range cow's milk, goat's milk, milk replacer, other mare's milk, colostrum; evidence of three is required.

- 3.2 Formulate a feeding schedule in accordance with body weight of orphan foal.
Range method, amount, timing, frequency.
- 3.3 Describe the process to wean foal from bottle to self-feeding from bucket.
- 3.4 Formulate a balanced supplementary feed for an orphan foal to facilitate the weaning process from milk.
- 3.5 Describe special precautions to be taken when for caring for orphan foals.
Range companionship, handling not spoiling, education, prevention of development of developmental orthopaedic disease, nutritional needs and quantities, availability of colostrum.
- 3.6 Describe methods for introducing orphan foal to a herd and encouraging normal herd behaviour.

Planned review date	31 December 2025
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	28 October 1994	31 December 2022
Review	2	23 October 1996	31 December 2022
Review	3	24 June 1998	31 December 2022
Review	4	25 September 2003	31 December 2022
Review	5	26 November 2007	31 December 2022
Review	6	28 May 2020	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0018
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Comments on this unit standard

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