

Title	Prepare a horse for a specific event		
Level	4	Credits	25

Purpose	People credited with this unit standard are able to: describe the aims of a training programme for horses; develop an equine training programme for a specific event; identify training problems that can cause a horse to perform poorly, and implement methods to aid remedial treatment; monitor and adjust the horse's training programme; and describe the causes and treatment of poor performance and maintain and provide records to the veterinarian.
----------------	--

Classification	Equine > Equine Training
-----------------------	--------------------------

Available grade	Achieved
------------------------	----------

Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation and code of welfare relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
 - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
 - Code of Welfare: Horses and Donkeys 2018, available at <http://www.mpi.govt.nz>; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Definition
Workplace procedures – the procedures and standards set by the client or employing organisation. Workplace procedures should reflect equipment manufacturer's requirements, and current legislation.
- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
 - evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.
 - assessment for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from a commercial horse enterprise.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Describe the aims of a training programme for horses.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Describe the reasons for training horses for specific events.
- Range may include but is not limited to – develop horsemanship skills, develop mental attitude, simulate competition situation, develop and fine tune performance skills, increase response to stimuli, increase coordination; evidence of four is required.
- 1.2 Describe the methods for training and their effects on the horse's body and body systems.
- Range effects on – muscles, bone, tendon, ligaments, cardiovascular, respiratory; evidence of two methods is required.
- 1.3 Describe the causes, effects, and prevention of lactic acid build-up and how it can be managed in a training programme.

Outcome 2

Develop an equine training programme for a specific event.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Assess the present level of fitness or training of the horse in relation to the requirements for the target event.
- 2.2 Set and document training objectives.
- Range training objectives – specify an end point; state conditions for achievement; are specific, precise, measurable, and observable.
- 2.3 Assess methods of training to determine their suitability for the individual horse.
- Range may include but is not limited to – traditional (preliminary, development, fast work), interval training, speed test, beach work, road work, track work; evidence of three is required.
- 2.4 Describe and incorporate the horse's psychological requirements within the training programme.
- Range individual needs, routine, changes to routine, stabling and paddocking, handler.

2.5 Assess methods to enhance training in terms of their suitability for the programme.

Range may include but is not limited to – swimming, treadmill, horse walker, massage, beach training; evidence of two is required.

2.6 Develop a balanced feeding programme to meet the horse's nutritional and individual requirements and in accordance with the stage of training.

Outcome 3

Identify training problems that can cause a horse to perform poorly, and implement methods to aid remedial treatment.

Performance criteria

3.1 Identify physical and psychological problems that can cause poor performance, and take action which are in the best interests of the horse.

Range includes but is not limited to – injury, lameness, ulcers, over training.

3.2 Describe causes of electrolyte problems, identify specific problems, and implement corrective measures which are in the best interests of the horse.

Range causes include – body use in excess of replacement, sweating, high humidity.

Outcome 4

Monitor and adjust the horse's training programme.

Performance criteria

4.1 Record the horse's daily activities, outputs, fitness indicators, and conditions.

Range includes but is not limited to – date, type of work done, distance, time, speed, temperature, heart rate, respiration, mental attitude, weather.

4.2 Maintain stable records.

Range includes but is not limited to – worming, vaccination, injury, illness, treatments, medications administered, shoeing, feeding programme.

4.3 Monitor the horse's progress in consultation with the veterinarian, and adjust the training programme where necessary.

4.4 Implement aids to treat training related problems which are in the best interests of the horse.

Range may include but is not limited to – acupuncture, massage, natural therapies;
evidence of two is required.

4.5 Describe how blood analysis can be used to monitor and adjust the horse's training programme.

Range situations where blood tests may be used include but are not limited to – prior to commencing serious work, regularly during training, poor performance, ill health;
evidence of two situations is required.

Outcome 5

Describe the causes and treatment of poor performance and maintain and provide records to the veterinarian.

Performance criteria

5.1 Describe respiratory problems that can affect a horse's performance in terms of causes and treatments.

Range includes but is not limited to – nasal obstruction, soft palate displacement, epiglottic entrapment, roaring, respiratory system infections, viruses, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), bleeders, tumours.

5.2 Describe circulatory problems that can affect a horse's performance in terms of causes and treatments.

Range includes but is not limited to – heart murmurs, heart rhythm problems, anaemia.

5.3 Maintain a medical history of the poorly performing horse in accordance with veterinary requirements.

Range includes but is not limited to – past problems, drugs administered, response to treatment.

5.4 Maintain a management history of the poorly performing horse in accordance with veterinary requirements.

Range feeding programme, changes to routine (feeding, training, competition), stabling, pasture, rate of decline, time first noticed, magnitude of change.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
----------------------------	------------------

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	28 October 1994	31 December 2023
Review	2	23 October 1996	31 December 2023
Review	3	24 June 1998	31 December 2023
Review	4	25 September 2003	31 December 2023
Review	5	18 July 2008	31 December 2023
Revision	6	12 February 2010	31 December 2023
Review	7	25 November 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0018
--	------

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

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Muka Tangata - People, Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council qualifications@mukatangata.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.