

## Monitor health and provide husbandry for ornamental fish

**Level** 2

**Credits** 2

**Purpose** People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify ornamental fish; feed ornamental fish; demonstrate knowledge of health and ill health in one species of ornamental fish, and appropriate responses; and describe and maintain a fish aquarium and equipment for an ornamental fish species.

**Subfield** Animal Care and Handling

**Domain** Animal Care

**Status** Registered

**Status date** 26 July 2005

**Date version published** 25 June 2007

**Planned review date** 31 July 2009

**Entry information** Open.

**Replacement information** This unit standard and unit standard 21383 replaced unit standard 5150.

**Accreditation** Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA and industry.

**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>.

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## 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.  
Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available from NZVA, PO Box 11-212, Manners Street, Wellington (<http://www.vets.org.nz>), including the current version of *Standard Procedures for Veterinary Nurses and Animal Care*.  
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 This unit standard relates to small ornamental fish species exotic to New Zealand, excluding any banned species.
- 3 Practical evidence requirements must include evidence of ongoing animal care. For this unit standard, the candidate is expected to be involved in the care of some fish over the course of at least two consecutive days.

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## Elements and performance criteria

### Element 1

Identify ornamental fish.

#### Performance criteria

- 1.1 Fish species are identified in terms of common name.  
  
Range may include but is not limited to – Goldfish, tropical fish species.
- 1.2 At least four fish are distinguished from others of a similar species in terms of individual characteristics.  
  
Range may include but is not limited to – common name, variety, distinguishing features.

### Element 2

Feed ornamental fish.

#### Performance criteria

- 2.1 Food is selected to supply a balanced and complete diet and fish are fed according to species requirements.

### Element 3

Demonstrate knowledge of health and ill health in one species of ornamental fish, and appropriate responses.

#### Performance criteria

- 3.1 The normal life cycle of a fish, including longevity, is outlined.
- 3.2 Normal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs.  
Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, appetite.
- 3.3 Normal reproductive behaviour for fish is described according to breeding patterns.
- 3.4 Abnormal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs, and appropriate action to be taken is identified.  
Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, appetite, parasites, bacterial infections, fungal infections.
- 3.5 Procedures for netting, restraining, and transporting fish are described in terms of fish health and welfare.
- 3.6 Situations requiring isolation of fish are identified.

### Element 4

Describe and maintain a fish aquarium and equipment for an ornamental fish species.

#### Performance criteria

- 4.1 Features of ideal aquaria are described according to species.  
Range includes but is not limited to – materials, site, size, stocking capacity, water quality, thermometer, water pump, water filter, environmental enrichment;
- 4.2 Environmental factors requiring monitoring are described according to species requirements.  
Range includes but is not limited to – water quality (including pH and nitrate level), water temperature, water oxygen content.
- 4.3 Aquarium and equipment are cleaned and maintained according to species requirements.  
Range includes but is not limited to – water testing, partial water changes.

### **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.

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### **Comments on this unit standard**

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