

Title	Demonstrate knowledge of health and behaviour, 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 variations to normal health and behaviour in one species of ornamental fish, and identify situations requiring isolation; and describe and maintain a fish aquarium and equipment for an ornamental fish species.
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Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
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Available grade	Achieved
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Guidance Information

1 Legislation, standards, and codes relevant to this unit standard include but are not limited to:

- Animal Welfare Act 1999;
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
- New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*, available at <https://www.standards.govt.nz/shop/nzs-43042002/>;
- Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available at <https://www.nzva.org.nz/>;
- Relevant National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (NAWAC) Codes of Welfare, available at www.mpi.govt.nz, under Animal Welfare;
- Relevant National Animal Ethics Advisory Committee (NAEAC) guidelines at www.mpi.govt.nz under Animal Welfare; and any subsequent amendments.

2 Definitions

Ornamental fish refer to small ornamental fish species exotic to New Zealand, excluding any banned species.

Workplace procedures refer to the documented procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer or organisation and must be consistent with equipment manufacturer's recommendations.

- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
- evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from a workplace or other commercial organisation.
 - evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.
 - feeding, watering and housing maintenance, must include evidence of ongoing care of fish.
 - the candidate is expected to be involved in the care of an ornamental fish in a commercial setting over the course of at least three days. The days are not required to be consecutive.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Identify ornamental fish.

Performance criteria

1.1 Identify ornamental fish species in terms of common name.

Range evidence of at least four is required.

1.2 Distinguish at least four fish from others of a similar species in terms of individual characteristics.

Range may include but is not limited to – common name, variety, distinguishing features; evidence of three is required.

Outcome 2

Feed ornamental fish.

Performance criteria

2.1 Supply food to fish that is balanced and complete according to species requirements.

Outcome 3

Demonstrate knowledge of health, and variations to normal health and behaviour in one species of ornamental fish, and identify situations requiring isolation.

Performance criteria

3.1 Describe the normal life cycle of a fish, including longevity.

3.2 Describe normal health and behaviour in terms of their signs.

Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, appetite.

3.3 Describe normal reproductive behaviour for fish according to breeding patterns.

3.4 Describe variations to normal health and behaviour in terms of their signs, and appropriate action to be taken.

Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, appetite, parasites, bacterial infections, fungal infections.

3.5 Describe procedures for netting, restraining, and transporting fish in terms of fish health and welfare.

3.6 Identify situations where isolation of fish is required.

Outcome 4

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

Performance criteria

4.1 Describe features of ideal aquaria according to species requirements.

Range includes but is not limited to – materials, site, size, stocking capacity, water quality, thermometer, water pump, water filter, environmental enrichment.

4.2 Describe environmental factors requiring monitoring 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 Clean and maintain the aquarium and equipment according to species requirements.

Range includes but is not limited to – water testing, partial water changes.

Replacement information	This unit standard and unit standard 21383 replaced unit standard 5150.
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Planned review date	31 December 2026
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Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	26 July 2005	31 December 2022
Revision	2	25 June 2007	31 December 2022
Review	3	26 August 2021	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference

0228

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.