Title	**Demonstrate knowledge of post-mortem examination of animal products used for human consumption**		
Level	**4**	**Credits**	**25**

Purpose	This unit standard is for people who are employed in a meat processing operation to carry out post-mortem examinations of animal products used for human consumption. People credited with this unit standard are able to demonstrate knowledge of the intent and outcomes of a post-mortem examination. They are also able to describe: anatomy and function as it applies to post-mortem examination to determine if the animal product is fit for purpose; pathology as it applies to post-mortem examination to determine if the animal product is fit for human consumption; disease and defects and their effect on the fitness for intended purpose of the animal products; and, legislation applicable to post-mortem examination.

Classification	Meat Processing > Animal Product Examination

Available grade	Achieved

Guidance Information

1 Legislation and references
Demonstration of competency must be consistent with all relevant legislation and subsequent amendments; this includes but is not limited to:
- Animal Products Act 1999.
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015
- Industry standards
- Workplace procedures

2 Industry standards refer to:
- Ministry for Primary Industries' Operational Codes available at Codes of Practice documents | NZ Government (mpi.govt.nz)
- Ministry for Primary Industries' standards available at https://www.mpi.govt.nz/
- Overseas Market Access Requirements (OMARs).

3 Definitions
Animal material – any live or dead animal.
Animal products – animals slaughtered for human consumption.
Dispositions – the action of ensuring that examined animal material or animal product with abnormalities is managed in accordance with legislative requirements.

Examiners – ante-mortem examiners and post-mortem examiners.
Fitness for intended purpose – animal product that has been processed such that relevant risk factors have been managed.
Official Assessors – ante-mortem examiners and post-mortem examiners appointed under Section 79 of the Animal Products Act 1999 to carry out animal material and animal product examinations.
Workplace procedures – the verbal and written policies and procedures on safety and operation set down by the employer or organisation.

4 In the context of this unit standard, *knowledge* means that there should be evidence of a learners' thorough comprehension of a topic. The term *describe* means the learner can demonstrate this knowledge using a variety of means (written, diagrams, showing the assessor, verbal) provided there is documented evidence. A learner with a good understanding of a topic should have applied or should be able to apply what they have learnt to a workplace situation and will be able to alter their practices to the different contexts they are applying their learning to. Assessors should be confident that the learners' understanding is embedded in their practices and behaviour.

5 Range
Carcasses may include but are not limited to – deer, possums, rabbits and hares, cattle, horses, pigs, bobby calves, hunted animals, sheep, goats, lambs, camelids.

6 Diseases requiring report are those listed in the Ministry for Primary Industries' Notifiable Organisms list, available at http://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/finding-and-reporting-pests-and-diseases/registers-and-lists/.

Outcomes and performance criteria

Outcome 1

Demonstrate knowledge of the intent and outcomes of a post-mortem examination.

Performance criteria

1.1 The purpose of a post-mortem examination is described.

1.2 The meaning of fitness for purpose is defined using examples.

Outcome 2

Describe anatomy and function as it applies to post-mortem examination to determine if the animal product is fit for purpose.

Performance criteria

2.1 The anatomy and function of a range of anatomical parts to determine if the animal product is fit for human consumption are described.

Range includes but is not limited to – urinary system including kidneys, gastro-intestinal tract including the spleen and liver, the circulatory system including the heart, blood and lymph, the lungs, reproductive system, anatomical parts including the head and teeth eruption in determining the age and sex of the animal.

Outcome 3

Describe pathology as it applies to post-mortem examination to determine if the animal product is fit for human consumption.

Performance criteria

3.1 The physical, biological, and chemical causes of disease to determine if the animal product is fit for human consumption are described.

Range includes but is not limited to the states of disease including aging of lesions and how disease spreads.

Outcome 4

Describe disease and defects and their effect on the fitness for intended purpose of the animal products.

Performance criteria

4.1 The generic diseases that are common to the species being examined are described.

Range includes but is not limited to the disease and its cause, its disposition, and the regulatory recording requirements.

4.2 The defects which result in contamination and their sources are described.

Range including but is not limited to – faecal and other contamination, the disposition, and the regulatory recording requirements.

Outcome 5

Describe legislation applicable to post-mortem examination.

Performance criteria

5.1 Obligations and responsibilities under the applicable legislation, the relationships between them and the consequences where legislation is not met are described.

Range includes but is not limited to – the Animal Products Act, and applicable parts of Animal Products Regulation and Notices, Red Meat Codes of Practice, relevant parts of Overseas Market Access Requirements, and any relationships between these documents.

5.2 The relationships and roles of the red meat industry stakeholders are described.

Range includes but is not limited to – Industry Operators, Post-Mortem Examiners, Official Assessors, Ministry for Primary Industry, Official Veterinarians.

Replacement information	This unit standard replaced unit standard 13497, unit standard 13498, unit standard 13499, unit standard 24501.

Planned review date	31 December 2028

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	19 July 2012	31 December 2016
Review	2	27 January 2015	31 December 2019
Review	3	20 July 2017	31 December 2019
Revision	4	28 September 2017	31 December 2026
Review	5	14 December 2023	N/A

Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference	0033

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

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact Hanga-Aro-Rau Manufacturing, Engineering and Logistics Workforce Development Council qualifications@hangaarorau.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.