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| <b>Title</b> | <b>Describe rural pest animals, monitoring and control operations in New Zealand</b> |                |           |
| <b>Level</b> | <b>3</b>   | <b>Credits</b> | <b>10</b> |

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| <b>Purpose</b> | People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: rural pest animal introduction to New Zealand; rural pest animal physical appearance and behaviour; traps used for control of rural pest animals; toxins or fumigants used for control of rural pest animals; and rural pest animal population monitoring in New Zealand. |
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| <b>Classification</b> | Pest Management > Pest Control |
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| <b>Available grade</b> | Achieved |
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### Guidance Information

- 1 Legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but is not limited to:
  - Animal Welfare Act 1999;
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015;
  - Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996; and any subsequent amendments.
  
- 2 Definitions
 

*Predator* refers to mustelid, rodents, and feral cats.

*Rural pest animal* refers to possums, rabbits, predators and avian pests.

*Workplace procedures* are the documented policies and practices for safety and procedures within a particular worksite and are consistent with equipment manufacturers' guidelines; site signage; and company health and safety plans. This includes all best practice guidelines and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) as set out by industry groups such as - Environmental Protection Authority (EPA), and Department of Conservation (DOC).
  
- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
  - evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from the workplace and in accordance with workplace procedures.

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### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Describe rural pest animal introduction to New Zealand.

Range possum, rabbit, one predator, one avian.

**Performance criteria**

- 1.1 Describe rural pest animal introduction into New Zealand in terms of the reasons or causes for introduction.

**Outcome 2**

Describe rural pest animal physical appearance and behaviour.

Range possum, rabbit, one predator, one avian.

**Performance criteria**

- 2.1 Describe rural pest animals in terms of their distinguishing features.

Range evidence of three distinguishing features is required.

- 2.2 Describe rural pest animals in terms of their habitat characteristics, and preferred food sources.

Range evidence of three habitat characteristics and two preferred sources is required.

- 2.3 Describe rural pest animals in terms of their day and night activity, and typical home range size.

- 2.4 Describe rural pest animals in terms of their social structure and behavioural characteristics.

Range evidence of two aspects of social structure and two behavioural characteristics is required.

- 2.5 Describe rural pest animals in terms of the visual signs of presence.

**Outcome 3**

Describe traps used for control of rural pest animals.

Range traps must include two of – leg hold, kill, cage, self-resetting traps.

**Performance criteria**

- 3.1 Describe the modes of actions of traps in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

- 3.2 Describe the baits and/or lures used in each trap in accordance with manufacturer's specifications and pest animal preference.

- 3.3 Describe traps in terms of their advantages and disadvantages in trapping rural pest animals.

Range evidence of two advantages and two disadvantages is required.

3.4 Describe traps in terms of the situations best suited to their use.

Range evidence of two situations is required.

#### Outcome 4

Describe toxins or fumigants used for control of rural pest animals.

Range four toxic agents or fumigants.

#### Performance criteria

4.1 Describe toxins or fumigants in terms of the target rural species for each.

4.2 Describe the modes of action for each toxin or fumigant in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

4.3 Describe two best practice considerations for use of each toxin in accordance with manufacturer's specifications.

#### Outcome 5

Describe rural pest animal population monitoring in New Zealand.

Range possum, rabbit, one predator, one avian.

#### Performance criteria

5.1 Describe pest animal population monitoring for pest management in New Zealand in terms of the purpose.

5.2 Describe monitoring of rural pest animals according to the procedures undertaken.

Range evidence of two monitoring techniques is required.

5.3 Describe rural pest animals in terms of the index of estimation of population abundance.

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| <b>Replacement information</b> | This unit standard replaced unit standards 20787, 20788, 20789, 20790 and 20791. |
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| <b>Planned review date</b> | 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       | 17 March 2016 | 31 December 2022         |
| Review       | 2       | 25 March 2021 | N/A                      |

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| <b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b> | 0052 |
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

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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.