

<b>Title</b>	<b>Describe and assist with post-foaling health of mares and foals to pre-weaning and describe orphan foal care</b>		
<b>Level</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>5</b>

<b>Purpose</b>	<p>People credited with this unit standard are able to describe: normal and abnormal behaviour and common illnesses in the foal post-foaling; common conformation faults, and their management in young foals; and orphan foal care.</p> <p>They are also able to assist with the care of foal and mare post-foaling; and monitor mares and foals from post-foaling to pre-weaning.</p>
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<b>Classification</b>	Equine > Equine Husbandry
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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:
  - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015; and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Definitions
 

*Post-foaling* refers to the period from 24-72 hours following foaling, through to pre-weaning.

*Workplace procedures* are the documented policies and practices for safety and procedures within a particular workplace, and are consistent with the Code of Welfare: Horses and Donkeys (2018) available at <https://www.mpi.govt.nz/dmsdocument/11003-horses-and-donkeys-code-of-welfare>.
- 3 For the purposes of assessment:
  - evidence for the practical components of this unit standard must be supplied from the workplace.

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### Outcomes and performance criteria

#### Outcome 1

Assist with the care of foal and mare post-foaling.

**Performance criteria**

- 1.1 Assist with routine post-foaling activities as directed in accordance with workplace procedures.
- Range may include but is not limited to mare checks for – vaginal tears; may include but is not limited to foal checks for – entropion, leakage or hernias of navel, nursing behaviour, drinking behaviour, dummy foal syndrome, septicaemia, lethargy, hydration levels; evidence of five is required.
- 1.2 Observe the mare's behaviour toward the foal, identify any actions required, and restrain the mare as required in accordance with workplace procedures.
- Range suckling both sides of udder, settled, attentive, allowing foal to suckle.

**Outcome 2**

Describe normal and abnormal behaviour and common illnesses in the foal post-foaling.

**Performance criteria**

- 2.1 Describe normal behavioural patterns for a foal in the first 72 hours.
- Range may include but is not limited to – standing unassisted, nursing unassisted, alert, following mother, sleeping in between feeds, passing meconium normally; evidence of five is required.
- 2.2 Describe abnormal behavioural patterns for a foal in the first 72 hours.
- Range may include but is not limited to – pacing the stall, head bunting or standing in the corner, nap patterns, colic symptoms, respiratory distress, not following mother, not nursing, lying down excessively, not knowing how to lie down; evidence of five is required.
- 2.3 Describe common illnesses of foals.
- Range may include but is not limited to – foal scours, swelling joints, meconium impactions, nursing issues, respiratory issues, colic, navel discharge; evidence of five is required.

**Outcome 3**

Monitor mares and foals from post-foaling to pre-weaning.

**Performance criteria**

3.1 Monitor mare and foal health in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – checking the naval for healing, foal is nursing, mare not running around, no signs of infection in mare or foal, mare and foal temperature, conformation, foal heat scours; worming programme; evidence of five is required.

3.2 Monitor the mare and foal in the paddock in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – feeding, mare sharing with foal, foal weight gain, weather effects on foal, health; evidence of three is required.

3.3 Demonstrate the method to hold the developing foal in a manner that restrains but causes minimum stress in accordance with workplace procedures.

3.4 Monitor foal's preparation for weaning in accordance with workplace procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – worming, feed consumption, vaccinations; evidence of two required.

**Outcome 4**

Describe common conformation faults, and their management in young foals.

Range windswept, knock kneed, off set, toed in, toed out, down on bumpers, contracted tendons.

**Performance criteria**

4.1 Describe common conformation faults in foals in terms of their features.

4.2 Describe management techniques of conformation faults in foals.

Range evidence of three is required.

**Outcome 5**

Describe orphan foal care.

**Performance criteria**

5.1 Describe foal fostering in terms of the procedures.

Range may include but is not limited to – disguise smell of foal, restrain mare to allow foal to drink, twitch mare, sedate mare, use skin of dead foal, suitability of foster mare; evidence of four is required.

5.2 Describe methods of, and schedule for feeding an orphan foal in the absence of a foster mare.

Range may include but is not limited to – hand feeding, bucket feeding, supplementary hard feed, colostrum; evidence of four is required.

5.3 Describe the ongoing requirements for an orphan foal.

Range may include but is not limited to – companionship, handling not spoiling, education, nutritional needs and quantities, health checks, evidence of four is required.

<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	28 May 2020	N/A

<b>Consent and Moderation Requirements (CMR) reference</b>	0018
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This CMR can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

**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.