

Monitor health and provide husbandry for caged birds

Level 2

Credits 3

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify caged birds; handle a caged bird safely for routine activities; feed and water a caged bird; describe indications of health and ill health in caged birds, and appropriate responses; carry out routine health procedures for a caged bird; and describe and maintain caged bird housing and equipment.

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.

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>.

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 versions of *Standard Procedures for Veterinary Nursing and Animal Care* (referred to in this unit standard as *standard procedures*) and *BESTPRACTICE™ Companion Animal Practice Standards*.
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Practical evidence requirements, especially those relating to feeding, watering and housing maintenance, must include evidence of ongoing animal care. For this unit standard, the candidate is expected to be involved in the care of a bird over the course of at least two consecutive days.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Identify caged birds.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Birds are identified in terms of common species.

Range may include but is not limited to – budgerigar, cockatiel, lorikeet, lovebird, parakeet, cockatoo, canary, zebra finch, quail, dove, pigeon, bantam, domestic fowl;
evidence of one bird for each of six species is required.
- 1.2 A bird is distinguished from others of the same species in terms of individual characteristics.

Range may include but is not limited to – breed, colour, sex, age, weight, physical features, leg band, comb punch, microchip.

Element 2

Handle a caged bird safely for routine activities.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Bird is restrained safely for routine procedures without injury to bird or handler, and with minimum stress to the bird.
- Range catching, leg banding, wing feather clipping.
- 2.2 Procedures for handling fractious, egg bound, injured or unwell birds are described in terms of animal welfare.

Element 3

Feed and water a caged bird.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Bird is fed and watered according to nutrient and water requirements and as appropriate to species, body condition and housing.
- 3.2 Feeding equipment is maintained in a clean and hygienic state.

Element 4

Describe indications of health and ill health in caged birds, and appropriate responses.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Normal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs.
- Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, activity, appetite.
- 4.2 Abnormal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs, according to standard procedures, and appropriate action to be taken is identified.
- Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, activity, appetite, excreta, regurgitation, respiration.
- 4.3 Situations requiring isolation of birds are identified.

Element 5

Carry out routine health procedures for a caged bird.

Performance criteria

5.1 Condition of bird is assessed in terms of plumage, eye and breast muscle.

5.2 Routine health procedures are carried out to ensure the bird's health and welfare, according to standard procedures.

Range parasite control, trimming beak and claws, wing feather clipping, oral medication; evidence of three is required.

Element 6

Describe and maintain housing and equipment for a caged bird.

Performance criteria

6.1 Features of ideal housing are described according to species and consistent with animal health and welfare.

Range includes but is not limited to – size, siting, safety features, security, predator and vermin control, internal features, environmental enrichment.

6.2 Bird housing and equipment are cleaned and maintained according to species and individual requirements.

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.

Comments on this unit standard

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