

Title	Monitor health, provide husbandry for, handle, and transport 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, and describe procedures for handling birds with special requirements, and transport a bird; feed and water a caged bird; describe indications of health and variations to normal health and behaviour in caged birds, take appropriate action, and identify situations requiring isolation; assess condition, and carry out routine health procedures for a caged bird; and describe and maintain housing and equipment for a caged bird.
----------------	---

Classification	Animal Care and Handling > Animal Care
-----------------------	--

Available grade	Achieved
------------------------	----------

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

Animal facility refers to a facility such as an animal boarding facility, a veterinary clinic, pet shop, or an animal welfare facility.

Workplace procedures refer to the documented procedures for animal care, handling, and ethical behaviour codes required by the employer of the animal facility 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 an animal facility or other commercial organisation.
 - evidence must be presented in accordance with workplace procedures.
 - feeding, watering and housing maintenance, must include evidence of ongoing bird care.
 - the candidate is expected to be involved in the care of a bird in an animal facility or other 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 caged birds.

Performance criteria

1.1 Identify caged birds 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 Distinguish a caged bird 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;
evidence of three is required.

Outcome 2

Handle a caged bird safely for routine activities, describe procedures for handling birds with special requirements, and transport a bird.

Performance criteria

2.1 Restrain the bird safely for routine procedures without injury to bird or handler, and with minimum stress to the bird.

Range catch, leg band.

2.2 Describe procedures for handling fractious, egg bound, injured or unwell birds in terms of animal welfare.

2.3 Transport a bird safely within the animal facility.

Outcome 3

Feed and water a caged bird.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Feed and water a caged bird in accordance with nutrient and water requirements and as appropriate to species, body condition and housing.
- 3.2 Maintain feeding equipment in a clean and hygienic state.

Outcome 4

Describe indications of health and variations to normal health and behaviour in caged birds, take appropriate action, and identify situations requiring isolation.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Describe normal health and behaviour of caged birds in terms of their signs.
- Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, activity, appetite.
- 4.2 Describe variations to normal health and behaviour of caged birds in terms of their signs and workplace, procedures, and take appropriate action as required.
- Range movement, physical appearance, general demeanour, activity, appetite, excreta, regurgitation, respiration.
- 4.3 Identify situations where isolation of caged birds is required.

Outcome 5

Assess condition, and carry out routine health procedures for a caged bird.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Assess condition of the bird in terms of plumage, eye and breast muscle.
- 5.2 Carry out routine health procedures to ensure the bird's health and welfare.
- Range includes but is not limited to – parasite control, trimming claws, oral medication;
evidence of three health procedures is required.

Outcome 6

Describe and maintain housing and equipment for a caged bird.

Performance criteria

6.1 Describe features of ideal housing for a caged bird in accordance with species and consistent with welfare standards.

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

6.2 Clean bird housing and equipment in accordance with species and individual requirements.

Planned review date	31 December 2026
----------------------------	------------------

Status information and last date for assessment for superseded versions

Process	Version	Date	Last Date for Assessment
Registration	1	8 August 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	2	16 December 1996	31 December 2022
Revision	3	16 November 1998	31 December 2022
Review	4	12 June 2000	31 December 2022
Revision	5	16 October 2002	31 December 2022
Review	6	26 July 2005	31 December 2022
Revision	7	25 June 2007	31 December 2022
Review	8	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.