

Monitor health and provide husbandry for pigs

Level 2

Credits 4

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: identify pigs; handle a pig safely for routine activities; provide feed and water for a pig; describe indications of health and ill health in pigs, and appropriate responses; carry out routine health procedures for a pig; and describe and maintain optimal environment for a pig, according to the relevant NAWAC code.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling

Domain Animal Care

Status Registered

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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, including the *Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Animals Transported within New Zealand, Code of Animal Welfare No. 15* (ISBN 0-478-07372-0); 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*).
New Zealand Standard NZS 4304:2002 *Management of Healthcare Waste*.
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 pig over the course of at least two consecutive days.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Identify pigs.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Pigs are identified in terms of common breeds.
Range at least three breeds.
- 1.2 Pigs are identified in terms of age and sex.
Range piglet, gilt, sow, boar, castrated male.
- 1.3 A pig is distinguished from others of the same breed in terms of individual characteristics.
Range may include but is not limited to – colour, approximate weight, identifying marks, distinguishing features, brand, ear notch, ear tag, tattoo, microchip.

Element 2

Handle a pig safely for routine activities.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 A pig is handled safely for routine procedures without injury to the handler or animal and with minimum stress to the animal.
- Range moving, penning, catching, restraining for examination.
- 2.2 Safe handling of pigs is described in terms of age.
- Range young, adult.
- 2.3 Safe restraint of fractious, pregnant, injured or unwell pigs is described in terms of the procedure.
- Range moving, penning, catching, mouth rope, crush.

Element 3

Provide feed and water for a pig.

Performance criteria

- 3.1 Storage of food is described in terms of maintaining optimum quality.
- Range temperature, humidity, light, vermin control, contamination.
- 3.2 Feed type is selected according to animal's age, type, and condition.
- 3.3 Pig is fed and watered to ensure it is maintained in good health and body condition.
- Range may include but is not limited to – pasture feeding, meal feeding, daily water requirements.
- 3.4 Feeding and watering equipment is maintained in a clean and hygienic state.

Element 4

Describe indications of health and ill health in pigs, and appropriate responses.

Performance criteria

- 4.1 Normal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs.
- Range movement, physical appearance, posture, general demeanour, social interaction, appetite, approximate weight.

- 4.2 Significant biological events in the normal life cycle of pigs are described in terms of time and/or duration.
- Range includes but is not limited to – weaning age, breeding age, oestrus cycle, gestation, longevity.
- 4.3 Signs of oestrus are identified in terms of physical and behavioural changes.
- 4.4 Abnormal health and behaviour are described in terms of their signs, and appropriate action to be taken is identified.
- Range movement, physical appearance, posture, general demeanour, social interaction, appetite, body condition.
- 4.5 Situations requiring isolation of animals are identified.

Element 5

Carry out routine health procedures for a pig.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Normal biological data are collected and recorded according to standard procedures.
- Range respiration, temperature, approximate weight.
- 5.2 Management of a litter is described in terms of piglets' optimum development.
- Range litter size, environment, feeding, hygiene.
- 5.3 Condition of the animal is assessed in terms of physical appearance.
- Range includes but is not limited to – body condition, skin, eyes, mouth; lactation.
- 5.4 Routine health procedures are carried out to ensure the animal's health and welfare.
- Range parasite control, vaccination.
- 5.5 Routine procedures requiring attention by qualified personnel are identified and described in terms of individual pig's requirements.
- Range may include but is not limited to – castration, nose ringing, ear notching, teeth clipping.

Element 6

Describe and maintain optimal environment for a pig, according to the relevant NAWAC code.

Performance criteria

- 6.1 Features of ideal housing design are described in terms of animal health and welfare, safety, and management.
- Range internal materials, internal features, ventilation and temperature control, lighting, size, security, monitoring systems.
- 6.2 Suitable bedding is provided and changed to ensure the health and welfare of the pig.
- 6.3 Housing and equipment are maintained in a clean and hygienic state according to the requirements of the animal.
- 6.4 Features of outdoor environment are identified in terms of pig health and welfare, and management.
- Range may include but is not limited to – shelter, bedding, fencing materials, size, poisonous plants, pasture management, position of trough and feeding utensils, stocking rate.
- 6.5 Features of good farrowing accommodation design are identified in terms of pig and litter health and welfare, safety, and management.
- Range may include but is not limited to – size, temperature, railings, materials.
- 6.6 Requirements for collection and disposal of pig wastes are described in terms of current waste management standards.

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.