

Manage a breeding programme for companion animals

Level 4

Credits 4

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to: select breeding animals; observe breeding cycles and mate at optimum time; care for the female during pregnancy; supervise parturition/whelping; and manage the lactating animal and wean according to species.

People credited with this unit standard may be involved with breeding small animals in a commercial or intensive breeding situation.

Subfield Animal Care and Handling

Domain Animal Husbandry

Status Registered

Status date 8 August 1996

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Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation and visit by NZQA, industry and teaching professional in the same field from another provider.

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. These include *Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Care of Animals in Boarding Establishments*, *Code of Animal Welfare No. 9* (ISBN 0-478-07332-1), and *Code of Recommendations and Minimum Standards for the Welfare of Dogs*, *Code of Animal Welfare No. 20*, (ISBN 0-478-07459-X).
Relevant New Zealand Veterinary Association (NZVA) standards, available from NZVA, PO Box 11-212, Manners Street, Wellington (<http://www.vets.org.nz>) (referred to in this unit standard as *standard procedures*).
Animal Welfare Act 1999, Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992, and any subsequent amendments.
- 2 Contact details for breed societies can be obtained from the New Zealand Kennel Club, Private Bag 50903, Porirua, Wellington; and New Zealand Cat Fancy, Private Bag 6103, Napier.
- 3 Underpinning Knowledge
The following areas of knowledge underpin performance of the elements in this unit standard:
Element 1
Breeding systems (in-breeding, line breeding, out-breeding, hybrid)
Gene, homozygous, heterozygous, dominant/recessive, phenotype/genotype, alleles, gene locus, filial generation, lethal factors
Mendel's first and second laws of inheritance
Sex linked genes, linked genes
Mutation, epistasis linkage
Congenital/hereditary defect
Common hereditary defects
Stud records, veterinary certificates
Element 2
External/internal reproductive organs of male and female systems
Signs of oestrous
Hormonal and non-hormonal factors which influence the oestrus cycle
Methods to manipulate oestrous
Normal mating procedures according to species
Methods of assisting if difficulties arise during mating
Care of female to prevent accidental matings
Contraceptive methods, contra-indications, side-effects, precautions
Misalliance treatment, contra-indications, side-effects, precautions

Element 3

Methods of pregnancy diagnosis according to species

Environment for birth/whelping

Timing, methods, and importance of health care according to species

Normal gestation length and stages

Complications and interruptions of gestation

Abnormalities of pregnancy, false pregnancy, care required

Effects of environment (chemicals) on embryo and foetus

Diseases affecting pregnancy (toxoplasmosis, brucellosis, leptospirosis, campylobacta)

Element 4

Normal times of severance of umbilical cord

Milk supply according to species, suckling behaviour

Problems of birth, when to summon assistance

Problems of newborn (genetic, physical, environmental)

Element 5

Dietary/calorie requirements of lactating mothers.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Select breeding animals.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Need for a litter is determined in terms of animal assessment, breeding, and breed requirements.
- 1.2 Appropriate breeding animals are sourced and selected according to pre-set criteria.
- Range progeny assessments, pedigree, genetic analysis, breed society requirements, temperament, age, health, suitability for purpose, movement, soundness.

Element 2

Observe breeding cycles and mate at the optimum time.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Oestrous cycle of female is determined according to individual pattern.
- Range behaviour, appearance, blood sample, vaginal smear.
- 2.2 Male and female are introduced for mating at optimum time, in a manner which is suitable for species and does not cause stress for either animal.

2.3 Mating is supervised to achieve desired conception while allowing natural courtship procedures to precede actual mating.

Range according to experience of male and female, possible differences in height, environment.

2.4 Mating is supervised according to breed society requirements.

Element 3

Care for female during pregnancy.

Performance criteria

3.1 Pregnancy is confirmed and approximate stage of gestation determined using methods suitable for species.

3.2 Pregnant female is fed to maintain optimum body condition for birth/whelping according to stage of pregnancy.

3.3 Health care is implemented and ensures female and offspring have opportunity for optimum health.

Range vaccination, endo and ectoparasite control, nutritional supplementation, exercise.

3.4 Abnormalities of pregnancy are identified according to standard procedures, and action taken is best for the animals.

3.5 Area for birth/whelping is prepared according to individual species, and female is introduced to area in a manner which assists nesting instinct.

Range size, bedding, location, company, security, heating, lighting.

Element 4

Supervise parturition/whelping.

Performance criteria

4.1 Parturition/whelping is supervised without unnecessary intervention.

4.2 Problems of parturition/whelping are identified according to standard procedures, and action taken is best for the animal.

Range assist with parturition, summon veterinary assistance.

4.3 Newborn are assessed to determine health status.

Range physical, physiological.

- 4.4 Documentation for breed society requirements is completed within required time period.
- 4.5 Caesarean section pre and post-operative care is provided for mother and newborn to maximise probability of survival.
- Range environment, nutrition/water for mother, introduction of newborn to mother, care of mothers' wound.

Element 5

Manage the lactating animal and wean according to species.

Performance criteria

- 5.1 Requirements and problems of lactation are recognised, and action taken alleviates the problem.
- Range bacterial, physical, behavioural, nutritional.
- 5.2 Lactating animal is provided with diet to maintain adequate body condition for self and to provide sufficient milk for offspring.
- Range frequency, amount, type, timing.
- 5.3 Offspring are weaned at appropriate age for species in a manner which is least stressful for mother and offspring and meets natural socialisation needs of species.
- 5.4 Documentation is completed according to breed society requirements.
- Range registration, transfer of ownership.

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.