
Overview

This standard describes your role in the caring for game chicks. It relates to the work activities that you undertake to support the development of game chicks during the early part of their life. This standard is aimed at those who work in game conservation on either a full- or part-time basis, and can be applied to any sporting estate or game farm involved in the rearing of game chicks.

To meet this standard you will be able to:

1. handle game chicks
2. safely establish game chicks in a rearing unit
3. care for game chicks and juvenile gamebirds
4. maintain the welfare of juvenile gamebirds

This standard relates to the following applications or context:

Preparing rearing equipment and maintaining rearing areas to provide the required environmental conditions in terms of:

temperature
hygiene

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Establish game chicks in a rearing unit

- P1 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P2 prepare rearing unit into a safe and hygienic condition ready to receive game chicks
- P3 prepare rearing equipment to provide environmental conditions required by game chicks
- P4 establish game chicks securely in rearing area
- P5 handle game chicks in a manner which maintains their welfare and optimises survival
- P6 provide feed and water appropriate to the age and development stage of game chicks
- P7 observe behaviour of newly stocked game chicks and report signs of stress or disorder
- P8 dispose of waste and mortalities according to legal requirements
- P9 maintain accurate records

You must be able to:

Care for juvenile gamebirds

- P10 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P11 maintain rearing areas in a safe and secure condition to provide required environment conditions
- P12 monitor and maintain the function of rearing equipment to optimise survival
- P13 maintain cleanliness of rearing areas
- P14 provide feed and water to suit the development needs of the game chicks
- P15 observe behaviour and report anything unusual
- P16 handle game chicks in a manner which maintains their welfare and maximises survival
- P17 dispose of waste and mortalities responsibly according to organisational and legal requirements
- P18 maintain accurate records of rearing activities

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Establish game chicks in a rearing unit

- K1 how to prepare and maintain rearing areas
- K2 the environmental conditions required by game chicks
- K3 normal chick behaviour and the signs indicating stress and disorder
- K4 welfare requirements of game chicks
- K5 legal requirements controlling the disposal of mortalities and waste
- K6 likely causes of mortality within newly hatched game chicks
- K7 how to handle game chicks
- K8 feed and water requirements for different development stages of game chicks
- K9 the health and safety requirements associated with hatchery work
- K10 the legal requirements controlling the unloading of birds

You need to know and understand:

Care for juvenile gamebirds

- K11 rearing area requirements which maintain chick condition and survival
- K12 environmental requirements of chicks and the importance of maintaining these requirements
- K13 how to maintain environmental conditions taking account of prevailing weather conditions
- K14 requirements for different chick development stages
- K15 characteristics of normal behaviour and the signs which indicate stress and disorder
- K16 how to harden off juvenile gamebirds
- K17 how to prevent feather pecking
- K18 common disorders associated with chicks and how to deal with them
- K19 chick handling techniques which minimise stress
- K20 the signs that indicate stress in juvenile gamebirds
- K21 how and when to bit gamebirds
- K22 the health and safety requirements associated with the care of gamebirds

Glossary

For you to fully understand the content of the standard, and the activities it describes it is important that you are able to understand the terms used within the standard.

The definitions below should help you with this.

Game

Pheasant, partridges, duck

LANGa8v1 - SQA Unit Code D9K4 04

Assist in the care of game chicks

Developed by LANTRA

Version number 1

Date approved April 2009

Indicative review date April 2011

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation LANTRA

Original URN NGa8

Relevant occupations Agriculture, Horticulture and Animal Care; Agriculture; General

Suite Gamekeeping and Wildlife Management

Key words juvenile, rearing, development, handling
