

LANGa9v1 - SQA Unit Code F9NY 04

Assist the establishment of reared gamebirds in the wild



Overview

This standard describes your role in establishing gamebirds in the wild. It relates to the work activities that you undertake to support the release of gamebirds and establish them at specified locations on the sporting estate. 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 involved in the release of game.

To meet this standard you will be able to:

1. establish gamebirds in release areas
2. maintain the welfare of gamebirds during release
3. support the release process to establish gamebirds in the wild
4. maintain gamebirds in specified locations on sporting estate.

This standard relates to the following applications or context:

Prepare release areas in respect of:

shelter
protection

Observe behaviour in terms of:

feeding
movement

Achieving release specifications in terms of:

location of gamebirds
distribution of gamebirds

Taking action in respect to the following disturbances:

human
pest and predator

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Assist with the care of gamebirds during release

- P1 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P2 **prepare release** areas to optimise the survival of juvenile gamebirds during release
- P3 prepare poults for release
- P4 transfer juvenile gamebirds safely to release areas in a way which minimises stress
- P5 establish juvenile gamebirds in release areas at required density
- P6 handle juvenile gamebirds in a manner which maintains their welfare and minimises stress
- P7 provide feed and water to suit the development needs of juvenile gamebirds
- P8 observe **behaviour** and condition of gamebirds and report any signs of stress or disorder
- P9 maintain accurate records

You must be able to:

Assist with the release and establishment of gamebirds into the wild

- P10 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P11 establish the process of gamebird release so that the release specification can be achieved
- P12 provide feed and water to control the location and distribution of released birds to meet release specification
- P13 maintain pest and predator controls to limit their impact on the released gamebirds
- P14 observe released birds and report any behaviour which varies from that expected
- P15 take action to minimise the impact of disturbances likely to disrupt planned release
- P16 maintain accurate records of release

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Assist with the care of gamebirds during release

- K1 how to prepare release areas to receive game
- K2 release equipment and its application within the release process
- K3 gamebird preparation methods and relevant codes of practice
- K4 living conditions required to maintain gamebird health and development during release
- K5 expected gamebird behaviour during release and the actions to be taken if behaviour varies from the norm
- K6 signs which indicate stress or disorder in gamebirds
- K7 why it is important to minimise the stress caused through handling
- K8 why it is important maintain accurate release records
- K9 how to minimise the stress to gamebirds during handling
- K10 how sites of conservation designations can affect the release of birds
- K11 the health and safety requirements associated with the release process including the implications associated with lone working

You must be able to:

Assist with the release and establishment of gamebirds into the wild

- K12 legal restrictions on the release of gamebirds
- K13 effects of pests, predators, trespass and poaching on the release process
- K14 welfare requirements of released gamebirds
- K15 the importance of accurate record keeping
- K16 the release specification and its relationship with planned sporting activities
- K17 release techniques for game birds
- K18 release timing in respect to gamebird development and shooting activities
- K19 how the location and distribution of released birds can be controlled through the application of feed, water and shelter
- K20 the factors that can affect the release process and how they can be controlled
- K21 how to minimise damage to natural habitat and wildlife during release
- K22 the health and safety requirements associated with the release 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

Release areas

Areas on a sporting estate which have been developed to support the release of gamebirds into the wild

Wild

Term used to describe when birds have been established free on an area of land

Release specification

Intended location and distribution of game on sporting estate

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