

LANLP34 SQA Unit Code H5B3 04

Monitor and maintain the incubation of eggs

Overview

This standard covers the monitoring and maintenance of the incubation of eggs in hatchery production. The system could be manual or mechanical.

The standard covers the overall responsibility for this part of production.

When working with livestock or machinery you need to be appropriately trained in line with current legislation, and hold a relevant award where appropriate.

This standard is suitable for those involved in monitoring and maintaining the incubation of eggs.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 monitor and maintain incubation areas to ensure they are clean and safe and ready for use
 - P2 monitor the system for selecting eggs for incubation
 - P3 ensure tools, equipment and machinery is fit for use and properly set up prior to undertaking activity
 - P4 monitor the selection of eggs for incubation in accordance with set times and the hatchery plan
 - P5 monitor the loading of eggs into the incubator
 - P6 monitor and maintain the incubator alarm system to ensure it is working correctly and take appropriate action if not
 - P7 monitor and maintain the environmental conditions within the incubator in accordance with production requirements
 - P8 check egg fertility at the correct intervals and the take appropriate action based on the correct interpretation of results
 - P9 ensure eggs are selected for transfer and hatching in accordance with production requirements
 - P10 monitor and maintain the hygiene and bio-security of the working environment in accordance with the required hygiene standards
 - P11 ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation and the organisation
 - P12 carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental, health and safety legislation and animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and company policies
 - P13 manage waste safely and correctly in accordance with legislation
 - P14 maintain effective communication with colleagues and others involved or affected by the work

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 production requirements and standards required for incubation and hatching
- K2 the timing requirements of the incubation system, what may affect these and any required remedial actions
- K3 the reasons why and ways in which eggs must be loaded into the incubator and the implications of not loading eggs properly
- K4 the purpose of functioning alarms and how they are monitored and maintained
- K5 the correct environmental conditions required within the incubator and how these are monitored and maintained
- K6 types of problems which may occur during the preparation and incubation and the action to take
- K7 indications that the incubator environment requires adjustment, how these should be carried out and the levels of authority for such adjustments
- K8 implications of system failure e.g. procedures, equipment, work force
- K9 methods of checking the fertility of eggs and how this information is used and the action to take when problems arise
- K10 when the eggs are ready for transfer and how the transfer is carried out
- K11 the reasons why hygiene and bio-security is important, the methods for maintaining hygiene and the measurement standards of hygiene environment
- K12 when and to whom information should be forwarded and why deadlines must be met
- K13 the legal and organisational requirements for the handling, transport, storage and disposal of waste
- K14 appropriate records to be kept and how long they should be retained
- K15 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K16 the importance of maintaining effective communication with those involved or affected by the work

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