



## Higher National Unit specification

### General information for centres

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

**Unit code:** DN8Y 34

**Unit purpose:** This Unit is designed to provide candidates with the knowledge and skills required for gundog identification, care and maintenance of gundogs and kennel management. It also provides the underpinning knowledge for training and breeding programmes suitable for the working gundog. Candidates will be made aware that gundogs are an essential element of the Gamekeeping industry.

On completion of the Unit the candidate should be able to:

- 1 Describe the four main gundog groups.
- 2 Plan a feeding and health programme for a gundog.
- 3 Implement a training programme for a gundog.
- 4 Identify and analyse a breeding programme for a gundog.

**Credit points and level:** 2 HN credits at SCQF level 7: (16 SCQF credit points at SCQF level 7\*)

*\*SCQF credit points are used to allocate credit to qualifications in the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Each qualification in the Framework is allocated a number of SCQF credit points at an SCQF level. There are 12 SCQF levels, ranging from Access 1 to Doctorates.*

**Recommended prior knowledge and skills:** Prior knowledge and skills are not required for this Unit. However, it would be beneficial if candidates had some vocational experience of managing and handling gundogs. Alternatively, it would be beneficial if they had studied or were at present studying dog management, or had gained certification in dog training or management, for example, National Certificate Unit E8WR 11 *Gundog Care and Handling*.

**Core Skills:** There are opportunities to develop the Core Skills of *Communication, Problem Solving* and *Information Technology* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skills components.

**Context for delivery:** This Unit sits within the optional framework of the HNC Gamekeeping with Wildlife Management. It may also be taken as a free-standing Unit and used as a source of continuing professional development.

If this Unit is delivered as part of a Group Award, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Group Award to which it contributes.

**Assessment:** This Unit is assessed by a series of written reports and by observation.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards**

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

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The sections of the Unit stating the Outcomes, Knowledge and/or Skills, and Evidence Requirements are mandatory.

Where evidence for Outcomes is assessed on a sample basis, the whole of the content listed in the Knowledge and/or Skills section must be taught and available for assessment. Candidates should not know in advance the items on which they will be assessed and different items should be sampled on each assessment occasion.

### **Outcome 1**

Describe the four main gundog groups

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Identification of the four main gundog groups in the UK
- ◆ Gundog breed selection appropriate to shooting requirements
- ◆ History of individual gundog groups

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ identify and describe gundog breeds
- ◆ analyse pedigrees
- ◆ describe the history of gundogs

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Outcome will be assessed by a written report of an assignment in which the candidate is required to research the various breeds of gundogs and to select one to his/her specific requirements.

The written report should normally be of at least 500 words.

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

### **Outcome 2**

Plan a feeding and health programme for a gundog

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Kennel requirements.
- ◆ Feeding requirements.
- ◆ Health and welfare.
- ◆ Gundog diseases.

#### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ describe the kennelling requirements for a chosen gundog
- ◆ plan an annual feeding programme for a chosen gundog
- ◆ describe common diseases associated with gundogs

#### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Outcome will be assessed by an assignment in which the candidate is required to research and produce a written report on the kennel management, feeding programme taking into account the nutrition requirements for different breeds of gundogs, highlighting their requirements when working. Candidates should also describe the common diseases associated with Gundogs and plan an appropriate health plan for his/her gundog.

The written report should normally be of at least 500 words.

### **Outcome 3**

Implement a training programme for a gundog

#### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Socialisation and humanisation
- ◆ Canine psychology
- ◆ Development of natural instincts
- ◆ Basic obedience commands
- ◆ Advanced commands
- ◆ Shoot day practices

## **Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)**

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need to provide evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ contribute to the socialisation and humanisation process within a training programme
- ◆ analyse the process of canine psychology in relation to a training programme
- ◆ describe the development of natural instincts during a training programme for a gundog
- ◆ use basic obedience commands in terms of a training programme
- ◆ use advanced commands in terms of an advanced training programme
- ◆ describe shoot day practices in relation to advanced training

### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Outcome will be assessed by an assignment in which the candidate is required to research and produce a written report on gundog training. Candidates could also give a practical demonstration if they had a gundog of their own.

## **Outcome 4**

Identify and analyse a breeding programme for a gundog

### **Knowledge and/or Skills**

- ◆ Pedigree analysis
- ◆ Puppy selection
- ◆ Breeding cycle
- ◆ Genetic selection

### **Evidence Requirements**

Candidates will need evidence to demonstrate their Knowledge and/or Skills by showing that they can:

- ◆ evaluate a pedigree in relations to your requirements
- ◆ describe the selection of a puppy in relation to health and personal preference
- ◆ describe the breeding cycle of a gundog
- ◆ describe the processes of genetic selection within a gundog breeding programme

### **Assessment Guidelines**

This Outcome should be assessed by an assignment in which the candidate is required to research and produce a written report on a gundog breeding programme of his/her choice.

The written report should be 500 words

## Administrative Information

**Unit code:** DN8Y 34

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

**Superclass category:** SH

**Original date of publication:** August 2004

**Version:** 01

### History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

**Source:** SQA

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## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes**

### **Unit title: Gamekeeping: Gundog Management**

This part of the Unit specification is offered as guidance. The support notes are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this Unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 80 hours.

### **Guidance on the content and context for this Unit**

The aims of this Unit are to develop underpinning knowledge about gundog training and to develop skills in Gundog management and training. On completion of this Unit the candidate should achieve the level of competence of someone who could implement a breeding plan, select a puppy for a specific purpose and train it through to an advanced level.

Outcome 1 introduces candidates to the required underpinning knowledge of Gundogs. Candidates should be shown a range of different breeds of Gundogs and their purpose should be covered. The history of individual Gundog groups and how they evolved should also be highlighted. Emphasis should be placed on the importance of pedigree evaluation in the decision making of which Gundogs to use in breeding.

Outcome 2 deals with feeding and health and welfare of Gundogs. Candidates will receive instruction on kennelling requirements for different Gundogs taking into account the time of year. The importance good health should be stressed in terms of feeding, health/welfare.

A practical session is suggested as a way of reinforcing signs of good health and students should be aware of good health indicators such as:

Coat/Skin Condition

Eyes

Behaviour, appetite, Alertness, ECT

Weight

Defecation

Urination

Temperature

Outcome 2 will also equip candidates with knowledge of common canine diseases and how to look for clinical signs in a Gundog.

Outcome 3 deals with practical aspects of gundog training. Candidates will receive instruction on how to plan a training programme. The benefits of creating a suitable training plan for a particular breed of Gundog will be stressed.

## Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

### Unit title: Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

The plan will include canine psychology and the development of natural instincts and take a Gundog through from basic commands, to advanced commands, including humanisation and socialisation. For example walking to heel, sit, stay, are basic commands to more advanced commands of recognising the whistle, hand signals, retrieving on land and water.

This Outcome should be taught in the field and should be supported by the use of visual aid materials, visits to a range of Gundog training kennels, and talks by established Gundog trainers. There should be opportunities to practise with gundogs and if this is impossible it could be substituted by role-play.

Outcome 4 provides candidates with an opportunity to develop an in depth knowledge of pedigree evaluation and how it is linked to Genetic Selection ie Unlike other important species of domestic animals, Gundogs have not yet been affected by the revolution in the methods and technologies of Genetic improvement. The importance of different forms of breeding will be stressed. ie Line Breeding, In Breeding, Outcross Breeding in the selection of a puppy. Candidates should also be taught the major stages of a Gundogs life, from mating and gestation through birth, nursing through weaning, and growth in puppies. The consequence of old age is also explained especially regarding the breeding cycle.

### Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

This Unit will normally be undertaken as part of the HNC in Gamekeeping. It may also be used for part of a Wildlife Management programme and may also be delivered as a free-standing Unit.

Visits to gundog kennels should be carried out as appropriate. Demonstrations from gundog trainers will be most beneficial. All aspects of this Unit could be covered by a project. The project would require that the instruments of assessment in the outcomes are integrated and should be supplemented with an oral and practical presentation by the candidate if they have their own Gundog.

#### *Opportunities for developing Core Skills*

There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards the Core Skills of *Communication, Problem Solving* and *Information Technology* at SCQF level 6 in this Unit, although there is no automatic certification of Core Skills components.

### Open learning

This Unit could be delivered by distance learning. However, it would require planning by the centre to ensure the sufficiency and authenticity of the candidate evidence. Arrangements would have to be made if the candidate wished to give a practical demonstration as part of Outcome 3 assessment.

To keep the administrative burden to a minimum, it is recommended that a single assessment based on a project is used for open and distance learning candidates.

## **Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)**

**Unit title:** Gamekeeping: Gundog Management

### **Candidates with disabilities and/or additional support needs**

The additional support needs of individual candidates should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment instruments, or considering alternative Outcomes for Units. Further advice can be found in the SQA document *Guidance on Assessment Arrangements for Candidates with Disabilities and/or Additional Support Needs* ([www.sqa.org.uk](http://www.sqa.org.uk)).

## **General information for candidates**

### **Unit title: Gamekeeping: Gundog Management**

This Unit is designed to enable you to develop skills associated with Gundog management and training to understand the different types of Gundogs, their history, and the purpose that they are used for. The specific needs for different breeds in terms of feeding health/welfare, kennelling, taking into account the time of year. Areas that will be highlighted will be canine diseases external/internal parasites and nutrition. It is intended to introduce you to skills required to enable you to select a Gundog puppy for a specific purpose and train it through to a advanced level, each step in the training will be taught from basic commands, sit, stay, walk to heel, through to the advanced level where the use of hand signals, whistle, dummies, cold/warm game, gunfire and other aids will be shown.

The Unit will show the importance of pedigree evaluation and how it is linked to genetic selection in the breeding of Gundogs what one is looking for good natural ability, enhancing good characteristics within the blood line, the different type of breeding will be highlighted, Line Breeding, In breeding, and outcross breeding.

The Gundogs life from mating and gestation through birth, to weaning, the growth in puppies and the consequence of old age is also explained.

Upon completion of this Unit you will be expected to be able to identify different breeds of Gundogs and the purpose they are used for and to choose the Gundog suitable for your requirements, be able to evaluate a pedigree and how it is linked to genetic selection and what a breeder of good Gundogs would be looking for to enhance their blood lines and as through the process of training a Gundog from a puppy implementing basic training through to advanced training taking into account the health/welfare and nutritional needs.