



Higher National Unit specification

General information for centres

Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion

Unit code: DP25 34

Unit purpose: This Unit is designed to provide candidates with the knowledge and skills to select a stallion and manage its health and welfare throughout the breeding season. Candidates will also gain knowledge and understanding of current stud technology, the legislation affecting it and its role in the horse industry.

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

- 1 Appraise the breeding potential of a stallion.
- 2 Develop a management programme for a stallion during the covering season.
- 3 Explain the range of reproductive techniques used in thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horse breeding.

Credit points and level: 1 HN credit at SCQF level 7: (8 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: Access to this Unit will be at the discretion of the centre, however it would be expected that candidates will have some experience of working in stable yards and wish to develop their skills in the stud / breeding areas.

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

Context for delivery: 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.

This Unit is part of the Optional section of the HND in Equine Studies. It is a free-standing Unit and may be delivered for the purposes of continuing professional development. It will enable candidates to select and manage the health and welfare of stallions throughout the covering season. Candidates will have knowledge of a variety of current techniques used to assist in the breeding of horses.

Assessment: This Unit will be assessed by three written assessments, a practical exercise and an observation checklist.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards

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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

Appraise the breeding potential of a stallion

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Anatomy and physiology of the reproductive system of the stallion
- ◆ Selecting stallions for specific purposes.
- ◆ Classification of stallions according to type
- ◆ Types of stallion available for breeding purposes
- ◆ Assessing of stallions applying the selection criteria
- ◆ Selection criteria

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ classify stallions according to type
- ◆ select a stallion; thoroughbred, part breed, warm blood, cold blood, pony, native for a specific purpose
- ◆ assess selected stallion in terms of the selection criteria
- ◆ implement selection criteria; pedigree, fertility rate, location, stud fee, reputation, offspring, competition record, temperament, movement, soundness, conformation, hereditary defects

Assessment Guidelines

Candidates should be given a written assignment that ensures all the points in the Evidence Requirements are covered. A practical exercise should also be used to assess selection of a stallion. Assessors would then complete the observation checklist appropriately.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion

Outcome 2

Develop a management programme for a stallion during the covering season

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Fitness requirements for types of stallions during the covering season
- ◆ Nutritional requirements of types of stallion during the covering season with regard to type of ration, calculation of ration
- ◆ Correct handling techniques for the stallion during the covering season,
- ◆ Health checks

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ determine the fitness and nutritional needs of the stallion correctly in relation to his workload
- ◆ explain the covering procedure
- ◆ explain the importance of health checks required pre and post service

Assessment Guidelines

The evidence required for this Outcome will be provided in the form of a written assignment.

Higher National Unit specification: statement of standards (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion

Outcome 3

Explain the range of reproductive techniques used in thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horse breeding

Knowledge and/or Skills

- ◆ Available techniques;
- ◆ Advantages and disadvantages of each
- ◆ Current legislation affecting training of staff, licensing, and registration

Evidence Requirements

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

- ◆ explain the range of reproductive techniques currently available in the horse industry
- ◆ explain the advantages and disadvantages of reproductive techniques available
- ◆ explain the current legislation in reproductive technology

Assessment Guidelines

This Outcome is assessed by a written report covering the topics to provide evidence that the candidate can explain the reproductive technique and requirements.

Administrative Information

Unit code: DP25 34
Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion
Superclass category: SH
Original date of publication: August 2004
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History of changes:

Version	Description of change	Date

Source: SQA

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Higher National Unit specification: support notes

Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion

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 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this Unit

This Unit is aimed at enabling candidates to develop and utilise a sound knowledge in the care and management of the stallion. They should develop the knowledge to select, care for and manage the stallion throughout the covering season. It is aimed at those who have had some experience in general horse care and health.

Guidance on the delivery and assessment of this Unit

In Outcome 1 types of stallion should include: thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horses and ponies.

The selection criteria should cover: pedigree, fertility rate, location, stud fee, reputation, offspring, competition record, temperament, movement, soundness, conformation and hereditary defects.

In Outcome 2 fitness requirements should be covered with respect to: condition, muscle tone, exercise programme and number of mares.

Correct handling techniques should cover handling, covering procedure, teasing and serving in hand and naturally.

Health checks should cover: pre and post service, disease prevention, blood testing, swabbing, hygiene measures and infection abrasions.

In Outcome 3 available techniques should include: AI, sperm collection, embryo transfer, hormones, manipulation, ultrasound scanning and super ovulation.

The advantages and disadvantages of techniques should make reference to the cost, success rate, availability and the welfare of the horse.

Higher National Unit specification: support notes (cont)

Unit title: Equine Studies: The Stallion

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

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

Open learning

For information on normal open learning arrangements, please refer to the SQA guide *Assessment and Quality Assurance of Open and Distance Learning* (SQA, 2000).

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).

General information for candidates

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On completion of the Unit you will be able to:

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- 2 Develop a management programme for a stallion during the covering season.
- 3 Explain the range of reproductive techniques used in thoroughbred and non-thoroughbred horse breeding.

The Unit is assessed by written assessments and a practical exercise.