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
Assist in the care of game chicks

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
Assist in the care of game chicks

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
Assist in the care of game chicks

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