
Overview

This standard deals with the competence required by individuals who are involved in the release of gamebirds in support of game shooting activities. It can be applied to any gamebird which is released into the wild. This standard is aimed at those who work in game conservation on either a full- or part-time basis.

To meet this standard you will be able to:

1. establish release programmes
2. control the release of gamebirds
3. deal with variations from planned release

This standard relates to the following applications or context:

Accounting for following resources:

people
materials
feed and water
release facilities
power
time
transportation

Organising the following facilities:

release areas
release pens
feeding and watering equipment
pest and predator deterrents
pest and predator traps

Taking account of the following estate characteristics:

habitat
shooting areas
availability of natural foods
availability of water
availability of safe roosting sites

Establishing procedures to deal with the following factors:

variations in environmental conditions
resources shortfalls
pest and predator actions
equipment failure

disease
human disturbance/influences
loss of game

Supervising the following release activities:

feeding and watering
maintaining release pens
the provision of shelter
managing the distribution of game
disposal of waste
disposal of dead game
pest and predator control

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Plan and organise the release of gamebirds

- P1 plan gamebird release such that targets can be achieved
- P2 develop the release system to support planned release within known **resource** constraints
- P3 organise the establishment of facilities to support the effective release of birds
- P4 make arrangements to support the effective release of birds according to estate characteristics
- P5 establish procedures to be followed to minimise the effect of factors which can disrupt release
- P6 establish procedures to monitor, record and control the release process

You must be able to:

Manage the release of gamebirds

- P7 ensure game birds are transported, handled and released according to legal requirements
- P8 supervise the application of release activities to maintain gamebird welfare and development
- P9 administer prophylactic and disease treatments according to veterinary instructions and legal requirements
- P10 maintain communication with those caring for game to facilitate an effective release
- P11 modify the release to take account of factors which disrupt production
- P12 maintain accurate records in respect of the release of gamebirds

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Plan and organise the release of gamebirds

- K1 the legal requirements and relevant codes of practice pertaining to the transport and release of gamebirds
- K2 the habitat and welfare requirements of the gamebird being produced
- K3 how to establish a release programme to support planned shooting activity
- K4 how to prepare gamebirds for release including the use of wing clipping
- K5 the advantages and disadvantages of the different systems used to support gamebird release
- K6 the habitat requirements of gamebirds including food, water, shelter and roosting
- K7 why it is important to monitor and control the release process
- K8 how to minimise the potential impact of factors which can disrupt release

You need to know and understand:

Manage the release of gamebirds

- K9 the legal requirements and relevant codes of practice pertaining to the transport and release of reared gamebirds
- K10 legal requirements associated with veterinary medicine and notifiable diseases
- K11 the objectives of the release
- K12 the environmental requirements of gamebirds during the release process
- K13 the nutritional requirements of gamebirds during release
- K14 husbandry techniques and how they can limit disease problems in gamebirds
- K15 common gamebird diseases and their associated symptoms and treatments
- K16 specialist handling requirements of juvenile gamebirds
- K17 the reasons for keeping records and importance of their accuracy
- K18 how pest and predator actions can disturb the release process
- K19 how to establish pest and predator controls to limit the impact of the release
- K20 how resources can be used to achieve objectives of release

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

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Manage the release of gamebirds

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