

LANLP17 SQA Unit Code H5AF 04

Maintain the health and well-being of livestock

Overview

This standard covers the maintenance of the health and well-being of livestock. The term well-being is used to cover the broader welfare of the livestock such as minimising stress and the potential for injury.

You must monitor and check the condition of the livestock in accordance with production requirements. Specific measures may be required to maintain the health and well-being of the livestock such as making adjustments to environmental conditions or changing feed and water provision. You must be able to recognise signs of poor health in the livestock and take the appropriate action.

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 maintaining the health and well-being of livestock.

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Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 monitor the physical condition, behaviour and general well-being of the livestock at suitable intervals and take appropriate action
 - P2 handle livestock in a manner which complies with relevant legislation, minimises any likelihood of stress and injury, and maintains their health and well-being
 - P3 provide livestock with sufficient and effective opportunities to move, and maintain physical functioning
 - P4 promote and maintain the appropriate health and welfare standards for different livestock species according to codes of practice where required
 - P5 seek advice from the appropriate person where you are unsure about the behaviour or condition of the livestock and the action to be taken
 - P6 maintain suitable levels of hygiene and bio-security
 - P7 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
 - P8 deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with legislation
 - P9 keep accurate and up-to-date records as required by relevant legislation and the organisation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 how to maintain the health and well-being of livestock and minimise their stress and injury
- K2 what to check for when monitoring livestock and how to assess their welfare
- K3 the five basic welfare freedoms: (freedom from fear and distress, freedom from pain, injury and disease, freedom from hunger and thirst, freedom from discomfort, freedom to exhibit normal behaviour
- K4 why livestock need feed and water where appropriate and how the type and amount varies at different times in the production process
- K5 the appearance, posture and movement, behaviour and bodily functioning of healthy livestock
- K6 signs which indicate potential problems with livestock health and well-being and the appropriate actions to take
- K7 organisational policy in relation to the treatment of livestock and your responsibility under welfare legislation
- K8 why livestock may require movement and how the type and amount of this varies at different times in the production process
- K9 criteria for and importance of culling selected stock and knowledge of different methods of euthanasia/culling
- K10 how the environment may be adjusted to maintain the health and well-being of the livestock
- K11 how to recognise a health emergency in livestock and the correct actions to take
- K12 the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
- K13 appropriate records to be kept and their significance
- K14 your responsibilities under current environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and company policies
- K15 how to handle, transport, store and dispose of waste in accordance with legal and organisational requirements

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Glossary

problems within livestock: disease, disability, disorders, pest infestations, trauma

Links to other NOS

Delivery of basic treatments is covered in LP18

Delivery of routine husbandry procedures in LP19

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