

Domain	ANIMAL HUSBANDRY	Unit ID:	1348
Title:	Care for support animals		
Level: 2			Credits: 2

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to:

- Identify common support animals for farming operations and describe their benefits
- Appraise condition and behaviour of support animal for service
- Feed support animals
- Handle support animals
- Maintain housing for support animals.

This unit standard is intended for people working in agriculture and other occupations working with farm animals.

Special Notes

1. Entry information

Prerequisite:

- *Unit 1357 - Handle farm animals*

2. This unit standard is to be delivered and assessed in the context of agricultural operations and can be assessed in conjunction with other relevant technical unit standards.

3. The evidence required to demonstrate competency in this unit must be relevant to workplace operations.

4. Assessment evidence may be collected from a real workplace or an appropriate simulated environment in which agricultural operations are carried out.

5. Assessment of practical application to caring for support animals for farm operations is demonstrated on at least one ruminant and one non-ruminant animal species as relevant to this unit standard.

6. All inspection, operation and maintenance procedures associated with the use of tools and equipment shall comply with manufacturers' guidelines and instructions.

7. Glossary of terms

- '*Feeds and supplements*' may include but not limited to commercially available and farm produced raw materials and pre-mixes.
- '*Support animals*' include limited to horses, oxen, donkeys, mules, cats and dogs.
- '*Workplace procedures*' may include but not limited to work, feeding and provision of supplements plans, product labels, manufacturer's

specifications, operator's manuals, safety plans, fire control, waste disposal, recycling, re-use guidelines and supervisors oral or written instructions.

- '*Safety requirements*' may include but not limited to safe systems and procedures for handling animals, hazard and risk control, operating handling equipment, safe use of hand tools and equipment, manual handling procedures, application and storage of hazardous substances, maintaining personal hygiene, outdoor work and the use of personal protective equipment.
- '*Hazards*' for people may include but not limited to animal movement and handling, handling facilities, manual handling, solar radiation, noise, dust, equipment and tools, moving machinery and vehicles.
- '*Personal protective equipment (PPE)*' may include but is not limited to boots, overalls, gloves, protective eyewear, hearing protection, respirator or face mask and sun protection.
- '*Hazards for animals*' may include but not limited to foreign objects in feed components, unsafe and inappropriate storage of feed components, and contamination by weather conditions and from other sources, incorrect mixing, feed component deterioration and unsound feeding procedures and containers.

8. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard include the following:

- Labour Act No. 11, 2007
- Regulations relating to the Health and Safety of employees at work, 1997
- National Agricultural Policy, 1995
- Animal Health Act 2011
- Animal Protection Act of 1962
- Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act, 1991
- FANMeat standards for producers 2010
- Fertilisers, farm feeds and agriculture and stock remedies Act No. 46, 1998
- Stock Theft Act 1990
- Animal disease and parasite act No. 10 2005
- Biosafety Act No. 7 of 2006
- Standards Act, 2005, Standards Regulations: Standards Act, 2005 and relevant Namibian Standards as established

and all subsequent amendments to any of the above.

- All current sets of Good Agricultural Practices to which Namibia subscribes and that regulate agricultural products entering a country to which Namibian producers may export.

Quality Assurance Requirements

This unit standard and others within this subfield may be awarded by institutions which meet the accreditation requirements set by the Namibia Qualifications Authority and the Namibia Training Authority and which comply with the national assessment and moderation requirements. Details of specific accreditation requirements and the national assessment arrangements are available from the Namibia Qualifications Authority on www.namqa.org.na and the Namibia Training Authority on www.nta.com.na.

Elements and Performance Criteria

Element 1. Identify common support animals for farming operations and describe their benefits

Range

Benefits of support animals include but are not limited to providing services for guarding, transport, removing vermin and controlling stock movement.

Performance Criteria

- 1.1 Most common support animals for farming are named.
- 1.2 The benefits and purpose of support animals are described.

Element 2. Appraise condition and behaviour of support animal for service

Range

Condition may include but is not limited to being checked by weight and general condition; the health status may be determined by general observation of soundness and well-being.

Behaviour includes preferred and undesirable characteristics and attributes of support animals.

Performance Criteria

- 2.1 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 2.2 Body condition of support animal for work is assessed and monitored.
- 2.3 Behaviour of animal is assessed for suitability of service.
- 2.4 Abnormal body and health conditions and behaviour are reported according to workplace procedures.
- 2.5 Suitability of animals to carry out work is determined according to work place procedures and regulation.

Element 3. Feed support animals

Range

Feeding abnormalities and effects thereof may include but are not limited to the general observation of sick animals, shy feeders, consumption deviating from recommended intake, weight loss, diarrhoea, greedy (bossy) feeders and ill thrift.

Basic nutritional needs include but are not limited to water, appropriate animal feeds, mineral and vitamin supplements.

Feeding methods include but are not limited to the hygienic mixing, weighing, storing and providing feeds, supplements and water to animals.

Performance Criteria

- 3.1 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 3.2 Hazards for people and animals are identified, risks assessed and risk controls are implemented according to workplace procedures.
- 3.3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is selected, used and maintained according to workplace procedures.
- 3.4 Space requirements for feeding and watering are adhered to in line with animal numbers.
- 3.5 Basic nutritional needs of support animals are described and confirmed against the feeding plan.
- 3.6 Feeding methods for specified support animals are described.
- 3.7 Feed and water is provided to animals according to feeding plan.
- 3.8 Feeding abnormalities and effects thereof are identified and reported according to workplace procedures.

Element 4. Handle support animals

Range

Appropriate handling includes but is not limited to applying acceptable measures in line with animal welfare regulations.

Grooming measures include but are not limited to hoof trimming, nail clipping, washing, brushing and hair trimming.

Performance Criteria

- 4.1 Animals are handled according to regulations and workplace procedures.
- 4.2 Animals are groomed according to workplace procedures.

Element 5. Maintain housing for support animals

Range

Appropriate housing includes but is not limited to stables, dog houses, paddocks and kraals.

Basic criteria for suitable environments and housing for support animals include but are not limited to the housing being clean, free from insect infestations, well ventilated and of appropriate size for wellbeing.

Performance Criteria

- 5.1 Knowledge on the basic criteria for suitable environment or housing for support animals is demonstrated.

- 5.2 Appropriate housing and a clean and healthy surrounding are provided and maintained according to regulations and workplace procedures.

Registration Data

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