

Domain	ANIMAL HUSBANDRY	Unit ID:	1351
Title:	Conduct Livestock Castration		
Level: 2			Credits: 3

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to:

- Prepare to castrate animal
- Castrate animal
- Complete castration procedure.

This unit standard is intended for people working in agriculture and other occupations who work with livestock.

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 standard 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 conduct livestock castration is demonstrated on at least two different animal species using two different castration methods, 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

'*Safety requirements*' may include but are not limited to safe systems and procedures for handling livestock, operating livestock handling equipment, hazard and risk control, safe use of hand tools and equipment, manual handling, outdoor work and the use of personal protective equipment.

'*Hazards*' may include but are not limited to animal movement and handling, manual handling, sharp instruments, veterinary remedies, solar radiation, excessive noise, dust, predator activity and adverse weather conditions.

'*Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*' may include but not limited to boots, hat, overalls, gloves, eye and hearing protection, face mask and sun protection.

'*Livestock*' includes but is not limited to calves, lambs and kids.

8. Regulations and legislation relevant to this unit standard includes but not limited to the following:

- Labour Act No. 11, 2007
- Regulations relating to the Health and Safety of employees at work, 1997
- Animal Health Act 2011
- Animal Protection Act of 1962
- Prevention of Undesirable Residue in Meat Act, 1991
- FANMeat standards for producers 2010
- 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 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. Prepare to castrate animal

Range

Equipment and materials may include but are not limited to elastrators, knives and Burdizzos.

Suitable facilities may include but are not limited to crush pens, holding boxes or other facilities, which are in appropriate proximity to animals with weather protection for animals and people.

Supportive health treatments may include but are not limited to disinfectants, vaccines, sterilisation liquid antiseptics, fly strike prevention preparations and spot tick treatment.

Performance Criteria

- 1.1 Safety requirements are followed in accordance with safety plans and policies.
- 1.2 Hazards for animals and people are identified, risks assessed and risk controls are implemented according to workplace procedures.
- 1.3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and clothing is selected, used and maintained according to safety requirements.
- 1.4 Suitable sites and facilities for castrating livestock are selected, checked and prepared according to workplace procedure.
- 1.5 Equipment and materials for castrating livestock are selected and checked for functionality and cleanliness according to manufacturer's specifications and workplace procedures.

- 1.6 Supportive health treatments are prepared according to manufacturer's specifications and workplace procedures.
- 1.7 Livestock is selected according to instructions for the castration procedure.

Element 2. Castrate animal

Range

Restraining may include but is not limited to immobilising the animals using ropes, crush pens, neck clamps, fixed or portable yards.

Animals are moved includes but is not limited to allowing young animals adequate time to settle, mother-up, prior to moving them in controlled and calm manner on a planned route.

Performance Criteria

- 2.1 Animals are moved into handling facilities according to workplace procedures.
- 2.2 Animals are restrained according to workplace procedures.
- 2.3 Castration is carried out according to animal welfare regulations and workplace procedures using the prescribed tools, materials and drugs.
- 2.4 Castrated animals are recorded according to workplace procedures.
- 2.5 Animals are moved to holding pens or paddocks and mothered up.

Element 3. Complete castration procedure

Range

Post-procedural abnormalities may include but is not limited to haemorrhage infection and fly strike and shock.

Residues may include, but are not limited to skin, testes and blood.

Performance Criteria

- 3.1 Equipment and facilities are cleaned, maintained and stored according to workplace procedures.
- 3.2 Animal residues and waste are disposed of according to workplace procedures.
- 3.3 Animals are monitored and reported for post procedural abnormalities.

Registration Data

Subfield:	Livestock
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