

<b>Domain</b>	<b>ANIMAL HUSBANDRY</b>	<b>Unit ID:</b>	<b>1355</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Demonstrate knowledge of caring for farm animals before during and after birth</b>		
<b>Level: 2</b>			<b>Credits: 3</b>

### Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to:

- Demonstrate knowledge on pre-natal care
- Demonstrate knowledge on birthing process
- Demonstrate knowledge on post-natal care of animals.

This unit standard is intended for people working in agriculture and other occupations working 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 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 farm animals before, during and after birth is demonstrated on at least one small and one large livestock 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

- 'Safety requirements' may include but are not limited to safe systems and procedures for handling livestock, hazard and risk control, operating livestock 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' may include but are not limited to animal movement and handling, obstacles, veterinary chemicals, damaged infrastructure, solar

radiation, slippery and uneven surfaces, electricity, sharp tools, unsafe and damaged equipment and machinery and loose clothing.

- '*Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*' may include but are not limited to boots, hat, overalls, gloves, eye and hearing protection, face mask and sun protection.
- '*Livestock*' may include but are not limited to cattle, sheep, horses, goats, donkeys, pigs and support animals.
- '*Workplace procedures*' may include but are not limited to work notes, farm management 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.

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
- 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
- Environmental Management and Assessment Bill 2004
- National Policy on Human and Wildlife Conflict Management, 2009
- 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](http://www.namqa.org.na) and the Namibia Training Authority on [www.nta.com.na](http://www.nta.com.na).

### **Elements and Performance Criteria**

#### **Element 1. Demonstrate knowledge on pre-natal care**

##### **Range**

Preparation of maternity area includes but is not limited to selection of secure, clean and sanitized area, organizing appropriate bedding, heating, feed, water and shelter.

The content of the emergency kit includes but is not limited to ropes, calf puller, needles, thread, surgical gloves, disinfectants, scissors, antibiotics, lubricants and artificial rubber teats.

Signs of imminent birth include but are not limited to swollen flaccid vulva, full udder, waxing of teats, running milk, relaxed muscles and ligaments under tail, unusual restlessness, isolating itself from other animals and changes in behavior related to giving birth.

### **Performance Criteria**

- 1.1 Safety requirements are followed according to work place safety plans and policies.
- 1.2 Hazards for people and animals are identified, risks assessed and risk controls are implemented according to workplace procedures.
- 1.3 Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is selected, used and maintained according to workplace procedures.
- 1.4 Signs of imminent birthing are described.
- 1.5 Area for birthing is prepared according to workplace procedures.
- 1.6 Pregnant animals are moved to maternity area.
- 1.7 Pregnant animals are monitored for signs of birth.
- 1.8 Emergency kit is prepared for use.

## **Element 2. Demonstrate knowledge on birthing process**

### **Range**

Signs of onset of birth include but are not limited to water bursts and appearance of amnion bag and positioning of mother animal.

Birth problems include but are not limited to animals too weak to deliver, mal-presentation, lengthy delivery process and abnormal size of offspring.

### **Performance Criteria**

- 2.1 Signs of the onset of birth are described.
- 2.2 The birthing process is described.
- 2.3 Birthing problems are described and the level of assistance with such problems is correctly determined.

## **Element 3. Demonstrate knowledge on post-natal care of animals**

## **Range**

Condition and security may include but are not limited to weather protection, the availability of feed and water supplies. Other factors may include the provision of lamb/kid proof water troughs, kraals that are suitable to the size of herd/flock, adequate shelter and housing, safe fencing and yards.

Mothering behaviour includes but is not limited to licking, motivating offspring to suckle and bonding.

Mothering problems include but are not limited to abandoning offspring, failure to suckle and harming offspring and offspring too weak.

After birthing health problems include but are not limited to lameness, retained placenta and uterus prolapse.

Problem animals may include but are not limited to jackals, lynx, cheetah, leopard, lion, wild dogs, baboons, porcupine, aardvark and domestic animals.

## **Performance Criteria**

- 3.1 Mothering behaviour is described.
- 3.2 Mothering problems are described and the level of assistance with such problems is correctly determined.
- 3.3 After birthing health problems are described and the level of assistance with such problems correctly determined.
- 3.4 Maternity sites and equipment are cleaned where appropriate according to workplace procedures.
- 3.5 Bonding between mother and offspring is encouraged according to workplace procedures.
- 3.6 Protection measures against infections, natural elements and predation for newborn offspring are described.
- 3.7 Births are recorded according to workplace procedures.

## **Registration Data**

<b>Subfield:</b>	Livestock
<b>Date first registered:</b>	25 November 2015
<b>Date this version registered:</b>	25 November 2015
<b>Anticipated review:</b>	2020
<b>Body responsible for review:</b>	Namibia Training Authority