

| | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------------|
| Domain | NATURAL RANGELAND | Unit ID: 1396 |
| Title: | Demonstrate knowledge of condition of rangeland and use by livestock | |
| Level: 2 | | Credits: 3 |

Purpose

This unit standard specifies the competencies required to:

- Describe condition and grazing behaviour of livestock
- Describe rangeland condition.

This unit standard is intended for people working in agriculture and other occupations working in natural resources management.

Special Notes

1. Entry information:

Prerequisite:

- *Unit 1393 - Demonstrate an understanding of basic environmental principles*

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 demonstrate knowledge of condition of rangeland and use by livestock is performed on at least two different 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

- 'Livestock' may include but not limited to sheep, cattle, goats, game, donkeys and horses.
- 'Rangeland' refers to all natural velds being used by livestock and game for production purposes.

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
- Stock Theft Act 1990
- Animal disease and parasite act No. 10 2005
- Environmental Management Act No. 7, 2007
- Communal Land Reform Act No. 5, 2002
- Environmental Management and Assessment Bill 2004
- Pollution Control and Waste Management Bill, 2003 3rd draft
- National Policy on Human and Wildlife Conflict Management, 2009
- Desertification and Biodiversity Policy March 2005
- Proposed Climate Change Policy October 2009
- Namibia National Rangeland Management Policy and Strategy, September 2012
- 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. Describe condition and grazing behaviour of livestock

Range

Body condition is determined by condition scoring and also includes appearance of hide and fullness of rumen.

Condition scoring includes but is not limited to the use of photo guides, and physical evaluation of the body condition.

Grazing behaviour includes but is not limited to number of hours grazing and resting, selection of forage species and movement patterns across the veldt, feeding and parasite stress.

Performance Criteria

- 1.1 The body condition of animals is described.
- 1.2 Grazing behaviour of animals is described.
- 1.3 Abnormal grazing behaviour and condition is reported.

Element 2. Describe rangeland condition

Range

Criteria for rangeland include species diversity, density, cover, capping, litter, overutilisation, underutilisation, undesirable plants and erosion.

Deviations from optimal rangeland condition includes but is not limited to recovery time for regrowth of forage species, excessive defoliation, picking up of litter, not eating less palatable species, increase of less palatable and less desirable species, decrease in desirable plant density.

Performance Criteria

- 2.1 Important criteria for describing rangeland condition are defined.
- 2.2 Condition of rangeland is described.
- 2.3 Deviations from optimal rangeland condition are recognised and reported.

Registration Data

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Subfield: | Rangeland and Pastures |
| Date first registered: | 25 November 2015 |
| Date this version registered: | 25 November 2015 |
| Anticipated review: | 2020 |
| Body responsible for review: | Namibia Training Authority |