
Overview

This standard covers caring for the mare and foal. You should be able to monitor the health of the newborn foal and the mare, identify any health problems, take the appropriate action in response to health problems and implement routine healthcare. You should be able to carry out appropriate methods of weaning, check the health of the horses post-weaning and check the health of young stock.

You should be fully aware of the importance of health and safety in connection with this work and be able to recognise hazards and assess risks within the workplace.

**Performance
criteria**

You must be able to:

- P1 Monitor and maintain the health of the newborn foal and mare
- P2 Identify any health problems in the mare and foal and take the appropriate action
- P3 Establish and implement the daily handling routine of the mare and foal
- P4 Plan and implement routine healthcare for the mare and foal e.g. worming, vaccination and foot care
- P5 Introduce the mare and foal to grazing according to current good practice
- P6 Establish and implement appropriate methods of weaning
- P7 Monitor and maintain the health and well-being of the mare and the foal post-weaning
- P8 Identify when to seek specialist advice and support
- P9 Monitor and maintain the health and safety of horses, self and others during the work.

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 The identification, treatment and appropriate action to take in response to health problems e.g. haemolytic foals, entropion, urinary problems, neonatal maladjustment syndrome, joint ill, meconium retention
- K2 The importance of colostrum and how to ensure that the foal has obtained sufficient colostrum
- K3 Management procedures for deformed foals
- K4 Caslick's operation
- K5 Fostering procedures and care of the orphan foal
- K6 Timing and methods of weaning for groups, individual, stalled and paddocked foals
- K7 Problems which may affect mare and foal after weaning
- K8 Reasons for substitution of mare and foal e.g. mare not accepting foal
- K9 Developmental problems in growing youngsters
- K10 When and how to seek advice and support from specialists
- K11 Maintain appropriate records
- K12 Risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimised
- K13 Your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation/codes of practice

Additional Information (Delete any sections not needed)

Scope/range

Scope/range
related to
performance
criteria

Scope/range
related to
knowledge and
understanding

Values [VALUES]

Behaviours [BEHAVIOURS]

Skills [SKILLS]

Glossary [GLOSSARY]

Links to other NOS [LINKS]

External Links [EXTERNAL]

[Care for the mare and foal]

Developed by Lantra

Version number 1.0

Date approved January 2011

Indicative review date October 2015

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating organisation Lantra

Original URN 313.2

Relevant occupations All Equine Occupations

Suite Equine 2011

Key words Equine; horses; mare; foal