

Catch and release horses, under supervision

Overview

This standard is about catching and releasing horses under supervision. This will involve the routine movement of horses between field and stable, including the identification of individual horses, and the process of catching, leading and releasing them.

The work described in this standard would be carried out under the direction of a supervisor. This could be direct supervision or it could be through providing instructions and monitoring work.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. check the area the horse will be released into to make sure it is safe and secure and report to the supervisor
3. report any problems that may affect the horse being caught and led to the supervisor
4. approach and catch the horse to be moved in a manner that minimises stress to the horse, and risk to yourself and others
5. lead the horse to the required location, under supervision
6. release and establish the horse in the required location, under supervision
7. be aware of the health and safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the use and care of personal protective equipment
2. what to look for when checking that the area the horse will be released into is safe and secure
3. how to identify horses including points of the horse, colours and markings
4. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
5. the correct and safe methods of catching and leading horses and the problems that may affect horses being caught or led
6. how to release and establish horses in a new location
7. basic horse psychology including herd instincts, actions and reactions
8. the effect of their environment on the behaviour of horses
9. your responsibilities for health, safety and animal welfare.

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Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	January 2017
Indicative Review Date	January 2021
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANEq108
Relevant Occupations	Equine Assistant
Suite	Equine
Keywords	equine; horse; catch; lead; walk; release
