

Plait manes and trim horses

Overview

This standard involves plaiting manes and trimming horses. This procedure can be carried out for a range of horses.

The work described in this standard would be carried out following agreement with a supervisor about the responsibilities and methods of work.

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

You will need to be able to recognise hazards in the workplace.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. approach the horse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse, and risk to yourself and others
3. use restraint techniques that minimise stress and injury when plaiting manes and trimming horses
4. prepare and plait the horse's mane, according to instructions
5. carry out trimming of the horse's mane or tail, according to instructions
6. seek clarification when instructions are not clear
7. communicate with others and maintain affective team work
8. maintain a clean and tidy work area
9. maintain the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. the selection of a suitable work area and equipment
3. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
4. suitable techniques to restrain a horse when plaiting manes and trimming
5. when plaiting should take place and when not to plait
6. how to plait a horses mane
7. when trimming is required and how to trim
8. how to pull a mane and when this is appropriate
9. why it is important to have a clean and tidy work area
10. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimised
11. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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Scope/range

Plait manes and trim horses:

as appropriate

- laying a mane
- plaiting a mane
- pulling a mane (optional – in accordance with yard requirements)
- trimming a tail
- pull a tail (optional – in accordance with yard requirements)
- trimming a bridle path or gap (optional – in accordance with yard requirements)
- trimming feathers
- trimming ears
- trimming chin

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