

Overview

This standard involves the exercise of racehorses under supervision, on the gallops and other training areas. You will be required to undertake the routine exercise of racehorses at different levels of fitness.

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 health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

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

Exercise racehorses under supervision

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear the appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. complete relevant preparations before the ride is commenced
3. approach the racehorse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the racehorse, and risk to yourself and others
4. mount and dismount the racehorse, according to procedures
5. adjust the gait and speed according to the prevailing conditions and exercise area
6. maintain the correct position and balance throughout
7. carry out exercise routines for the racehorse according to the conditions, the exercise area and the regime, under supervision
8. identify and report any difficulties to the appropriate person
9. maintain the 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 selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
3. the importance of following exercise routines
4. the preparation of racehorses for routine exercise
5. the hazards likely to be encountered when exercising racehorses and the appropriate person to report these to
6. the types and use of aids for simple movements
7. the effects of weather conditions on surfaces and how this may affect riding
8. how to adjust gait and speed according to the conditions and the exercise area
9. the actions to be taken in the event of an accident or incident
10. the risks to racehorses, 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.

Exercise racehorses under supervision

Scope/range

Prepare the following prior to exercising a racehorse:

- tack
- girth adjustment
- exercise instructions

Take into account the following conditions:

- weather
- riding in a group

Exercise racehorses in the following places:

- enclosed area
- training area
- training gallops

Perform the following exercise routines with a racehorse:

- walk
- trot
- canter

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Scope/range related to knowledge and understanding How to identify and report the following difficulties:

- horse condition
- inability to follow the exercise routine

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