

Handle stallions for semen collection under supervision

Overview

This standard is about handling stallions for semen collection under supervision. It includes preparation for the collection of semen including maintaining hygiene and bio-security.

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 and assess risks 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
2. select, prepare and use appropriate tools, equipment and materials safely and effectively
3. ensure the work area is safe and suitable for the collection of semen
4. correctly identify, prepare and handle the stallion in a way that is likely to minimise stress and injury to the stallion
5. present the stallion to the teaser mare if required
6. present the stallion to the live or dummy mare for semen collection as instructed
7. collect the semen from the stallion as instructed and in a manner that maximises the motility and density of the semen
8. return the stallion to his living environment safely and correctly
9. report any problems in handling the stallion or covering to the appropriate person
10. maintain suitable levels of hygiene and bio-security
11. monitor and maintain the health and safety of the horses, yourself and others 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. types of tools, equipment and materials required and how to maintain and use these safely
3. the methods for preparing the stallion for the collection of semen
4. the ways of reducing stress in stallions before and during the collection of semen
5. the implications of over-use of stallions
6. the safety precautions when handling stallions
7. the different methods of semen collection using a dummy and a live mare
8. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
9. the venereal diseases that can affect stallions and their symptoms
10. the Codes of Practice for prevention and control of venereal diseases and how to notify the relevant authority
11. the records required for management and legislative purposes
12. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
13. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

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Scope/range

Handle a well-behaved stallion for the collection of semen and swabs/tests.

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