

Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes

Overview

This standard is about selecting horses and identifying their suitability for specific purposes, which could be for breeding or for performance.

It involves identifying the qualities needed for successful performance in a chosen discipline. This includes considering breeds, bloodlines and performance records. It also requires the assessment of static and dynamic conformation, in relation to the chosen discipline, and the ability to make a judgement on the suitability and potential of the horse.

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

You will need to ensure the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horses, at all times.

Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. assess hazards and control risks to horses, yourself and others in connection with this activity
2. establish and confirm the specific purpose for which the horse is intended
3. confirm any specific requirements for the horse
4. identify suitability by obtaining and assessing breeding information and records for the horse you are considering
5. check or estimate the age of the horse
6. establish and evaluate the horse's performance, temperament and experience
7. make an evaluation of the horse's static conformation against specific requirements
8. make an evaluation of the horse's dynamic conformation including gait, balance and movement
9. note any defects and discuss their implications with relevant individuals
10. determine the most suitable method of establishing the horse's soundness and health
11. assess the potential, suitability and value of the horse against requirements, and make a selection
12. ensure that appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation and the organisation you work for

Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
2. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.
3. how and why certain breeds and types are suitable for specific purposes
4. the importance and implication of pedigrees
5. the role of the breeding and performance databases
6. how to age a horse
7. registration procedures, horse identification and passports
8. the differences in conformation for varying work roles
9. the implications of poor conformation and bone deformities
10. the implications of shoeing and hoof balancing
11. the assessment of static and dynamic conformation, including ageing
12. the relationship between skeletal anatomy, muscular make up and soundness of the horse
13. the conditions of sale and warranties where horses are being purchased
14. the veterinary examinations for purchase, X-rays and blood tests
15. the areas of the law associated with the purchase and sale of horses
16. insurance requirements and recommendations
17. the importance of giving accurate advice and the consequences of errors
18. the importance of establishing and maintaining records

Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes

Glossary

Specific requirements for the horse could include height, colour, sex, etc.

Select horses and identify their suitability for specific purposes

Developed by	Lantra
Version Number	2
Date Approved	January 2017
Indicative Review Date	January 2021
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Lantra
Original URN	LANEq402
Relevant Occupations	Equine Manager
Suite	Equine
Keywords	equine; horses; identify; tasks