

## Manage the collection of equine semen for future use

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### Overview

This standard is about managing the collection of equine semen for future use. This will include organising and overseeing the handling of stallions as well as the collection of equine semen. It also involves the evaluating and processing of the equine semen once it has been collected, and includes fresh and chilled equine semen. As well as this, it encompasses controlling staff and determining yard policy.

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 ensure the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horses, at all times.

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**Performance criteria**

You must be able to:

1. ensure appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment is worn for the activity
2. select and implement appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures and ensure they are maintained
3. manage the collection of equine semen from stallions in accordance with agreed policy
4. manage the identification of stallions, which are unsuitable for equine semen collection, and take the appropriate action
5. define and communicate handlers' responsibilities and the limits of their authority
6. obtain feedback from handlers on the progress of collection
7. make necessary adjustments to working methods and equipment throughout the process, and take appropriate action if difficulties are encountered during collection
8. ensure that the equine semen collected is of the correct quality and quantity for future use, and identify sub-fertility in stallions and take appropriate action
9. manage the preparation and handling of equine semen in accordance with production specifications for future use
10. ensure equine semen samples are labelled clearly and accurately and placed in the correct location, as necessary
11. carry out all work in accordance with relevant legislation and codes of practice
12. deal with waste safely and correctly in accordance with legislation
13. ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation and the organisation you work for
14. assess hazards and control risks to horses, yourself and others in connection with this activity

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**Knowledge and understanding**

You need to know and understand:

1. the clothing and personal protective equipment that should be worn for the activity
2. the importance of implementing appropriate hygiene and bio-security measures and how these can be achieved
3. the suitability of stallions for the collection of equine semen and the reasons why stallions may be unsuitable for equine semen collection
4. the methods for assessing the condition of the equine semen for future use
5. the methods for processing the equine semen for future use
6. the actions to be taken where equine semen does not meet correct quality requirements
7. the ways in which semen must be labelled and stored for future use
8. how to use nitrogen flasks and the use of nitrogen in the freezing process
9. the stallion's reproductive system
10. the detection, prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases
11. equine semen quality, the implications of overuse and causes of and treatment for sub-fertility and infertility in stallions
12. your responsibilities under current environmental, animal welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice
13. the correct methods of disposing of waste and excess material
14. the appropriate records to be kept and their significance
15. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
16. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
17. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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**Scope/range related to performance criteria** How to process the following equine semen for future use:

- fresh equine semen
- chilled equine semen
- frozen equine semen

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<b>Developed by</b>	Lantra
<b>Version Number</b>	1
<b>Date Approved</b>	January 2017
<b>Indicative Review Date</b>	January 2021
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating Organisation</b>	Lantra
<b>Original URN</b>	LANEq412
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Equine Manager
<b>Suite</b>	Equine
<b>Keywords</b>	equine; horse; semen