

Overview

This standard is about trimming and/or dressing equine hooves as determined by the footcare plan. Trimming is of the foot surface by cutting and rasping. Dressing is rasping of the dorsal (outside) of the hoof wall.

In order to 'trim and dress hooves' you will need to approach and handle the equine in a humane manner which is likely to eliminate stress and alarm and work in a position that is safe for the equine and yourself. You must be able to work on both fore and hind feet and will be able to trim and/or dress hooves safely, taking into account the following factors:

1. equine's approximate age
2. equine temperament
3. condition of hooves
4. welfare
5. environment
6. use of equine
7. shod or unshod

You will know how to trim and dress a variety of types of equines, both young and mature, which could include:

1. pony
2. hunter
3. driving horse
4. donkey
5. competition horse
6. draft horse
7. race horse
8. riding horse
9. mule

You will take action on any conditions that cause changes to the footcare plan.

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Trim and dress hooves

Performance criteria

- You must be able to:*
- P1 select a method of humane handling and control that is appropriate for the equine concerned and its requirements in order to minimise the risks to the animal, the handler, yourself and others
 - P2 adopt a working position that is safe for the equine and yourself
 - P3 trim and dress hooves using appropriate tools and methods
 - P4 trim and dress hooves in accordance with the agreed footcare plan
 - P5 following trimming and dressing, amend the footcare plan if required
 - P6 ensure that the animal's health and welfare is maintained throughout
 - P7 maintain the health and safety of the equine, yourself and others at all times

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Working with equines

K1 safe working methods to trim and dress hooves

You need to know and understand:

Tools

K2 the types of tools for this work and how to use and maintain them

You need to know and understand:

Trimming and dressing

K3 the importance of foot balancing when trimming and dressing

K4 the purpose of trimming and dressing equine hooves

K5 limits of safe trimming and dressing and why these must not be exceeded

K6 effects of trimming and dressing on the stance and action of the equine

K7 how to work safely when trimming and dressing

K8 how to implement the footcare plan

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