

Overview

This standard describes your role in the production of fertile game eggs. it relates to work activities that you undertake to support game breeding stock and the production of viable game eggs. This standard is aimed at those who work in game conservation on either a full- or part-time basis, and can be applied to any sporting estate or game farm involved in the production of game eggs.

To meet this standard you will be able to:

1. handle gamebirds and establish them in breeding areas
2. care for gamebirds in a breeding area
3. collect, clean and store game eggs ready for incubation.

The standard relates to the following application or context:

Preparing gamebirds by:

fitting specs

fitting brails

Applying resources:

food

water

grit

medication

Preparing pens to collect from:

pest predators

adverse environmental conditions

Preparing and maintaining equipment and facilities used for:

egg collection

egg cleaning

egg storage

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

Establish and maintain breeding stock

- P1 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P2 prepare breeding pens to protect and secure gamebirds
- P3 prepare and establish gamebirds in breeding pens at specified male to female ratio
- P4 handle gamebirds with due regard for health and welfare to avoid injury and minimise stress
- P5 maintain gamebird welfare requirements through the efficient application of resources
- P6 observe behaviour of gamebirds and report on any signs of stress or disorder
- P7 remove and report on mortalities within breeding stock
- P8 dispose of mortalities and waste safely according to legal requirements
- P9 maintain accurate records

You must be able to:

Collect and store game eggs in preparation for incubation

- P10 carry out work safely in line with health and safety requirements
- P11 prepare and maintain **equipment and facilities** in a clean and hygienic condition
- P12 collect eggs in a manner which minimises disturbance to breeding stock and maintains the quality of eggs
- P13 grade, clean and sort game eggs
- P14 store eggs to maintain viability
- P15 dispose of non-viable eggs according to legal requirements
- P16 maintain accurate records

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

Establish and maintain breeding stock

- K1 how to prepare and maintain breeding areas to facilitate breeding
- K2 how to identify and sex breeding stock
- K3 normal behaviour and the signs indicating stress and disorder
- K4 breeding ratios for gamebirds
- K5 welfare requirements of breeding stock
- K6 legal requirements controlling the disposal of mortalities and waste
- K7 breeding specifications and their implications
- K8 likely causes of mortality within breeding gamebirds
- K9 how to maintain accurate records
- K10 how to fit specs and brails and why they are used on breeding stock
- K11 industry codes of practice
- K12 the health and safety requirements associated with the maintenance of breeding stock

You must be able to:

Collect and store game eggs in preparation for incubation

- K13 when eggs should be collected
- K14 how to collect and handle eggs
- K15 why it is important to minimise disturbance to breeding stock during egg collection
- K16 how to sort eggs and identify those which are non-viable
- K17 why eggs are sanitised before storage
- K18 egg storage requirements
- K19 egg viability and its importance to the breeding process
- K20 the legal requirements controlling the disposal of game eggs
- K21 the health and safety requirements associated with egg collection and storage

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Glossary

For you to fully understand the content of the standard, and the activities it describes, it is important that you are able to understand the terms used within the standard.

The definitions below should help you with this.

Game

Pheasant, partridges, duck

Closed flock

A breeding stock which is maintained in captivity throughout its life

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