
Overview

This standard is about managing the storage and distribution of equine semen for external use. This will include organising and overseeing equine semen storage, processing the equine semen for distribution, including chilled and frozen equine semen, and 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.

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 preparation of equine semen using the appropriate methods and in accordance with production specifications for distribution and external use
4. identify equine semen that is of unsuitable quality for distribution and take the correct action
5. ensure equine semen samples are labelled clearly and accurately
6. manage the packaging of the equine semen samples and ensure they are placed in containers suitable for the type of equine semen to be distributed
7. manage the correct documentation to accompany the equine semen as required by the relevant legislation and the organisation
8. arrange for the equine semen to be collected or posted as per your organisation's policy
9. make necessary adjustments to working methods and equipment throughout the process and take appropriate action if difficulties are encountered
10. carry out all work in accordance with relevant legislation and codes of practice
11. deal with waste safely and correctly, in accordance with legislation
12. ensure appropriate records are maintained and stored as required by the relevant legislation and the organisation you work for
13. assess hazards and control the risks to horses, yourself and others in connection with this activity

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 maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
3. the methods of processing equine semen for distribution for external use, including chilled and frozen equine semen
4. the ways in which equine semen samples must be labelled when shipped for external use
5. the use and maintenance of equitainers, mini tubs and dry shippers for distributing equine semen
6. the correct certification and health documentation to accompany the equine semen
7. the storage arrangements to meet relevant legislation for UK and EU frozen equine semen
8. the current legislation regarding EU export license and approval
9. the correct methods of disposing of waste and excess material
10. the appropriate records to be kept and their significance
11. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these are controlled
12. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice.

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