

MANAGE LAYER HEALTH AND WELFARE

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UNIT DESCRIPTION:

This unit specifies the competencies required to manage poultry health and welfare. It involves maintaining poultry biosecurity, acquiring poultry health equipment and materials, managing poultry vaccination and controlling poultry parasites. It also entails managing poultry diseases and vices and maintaining poultry health records.

ELEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
These describe the key outcomes which make up workplace function.	These are assessable statements which specify the required level of performance for each of the elements. <i>Bold and italicized terms are elaborated in the range.</i>
1. Maintain poultry biosecurity	1.1 <i>Biosecurity structures and equipment</i> are constructed and installed respectively in accordance with the designs and <i>poultry production manuals (PPM)</i> 1.2 <i>Biosecurity measures</i> are determined as per farm practice 1.3 Personal Protection Equipment and Apparel are identified, gathered and donned based on job requirements
2. Acquire poultry health equipment and materials	2.1 Flock health management <i>tools, equipment, materials</i> and <i>supplies</i> are identified based on PPM guidelines and work place policy 2.2 Flock health management tools, equipment, materials and supplies are sourced based on PPM guidelines and work place policy 2.3 Flock health management tools, equipment, materials and supplies are stored based on PPM guidelines and work place policy
3. Manage poultry vaccination	3.1 Poultry vaccination schedule developed according to guidelines of PPM, work place policy and disease prevalence 3.2 Vaccination <i>preparations</i> are done accordance with PPM and vaccine manufacturer's guidelines 3.3 Poultry vaccine is re-constituted according to manufacturer's guidelines

	<p>3.4 Poultry vaccines are administered in accordance with developed schedule</p> <p>3.5 Vaccinated poultry are observed to ascertain vaccine intake and check for abnormal reactions in accordance with PPM and vaccine manufacturer's guidelines</p> <p>3.6 Vaccination details are recorded as per PPM guidelines and farm policies</p>
4. Control poultry parasites	<p>4.1 Poultry flock performance, behavior and droppings are observed daily to detect presence of internal and external parasites as per PPM guidelines</p> <p>4.2 Poultry flock is de-wormed to control internal parasites following drug manufacturer's guidelines</p> <p>4.3 External parasites are controlled using guidelines in the PPM</p> <p>4.4 Parasite control details are recorded as per PPM guidelines and farm policies</p>
5. Manage poultry diseases and vices	<p>5.1 Poultry showing signs of disease are isolated for further observation per PPM guidelines</p> <p>5.2 Qualified veterinary professional is contacted for diagnosis and treatment of sick birds.</p> <p>5.3 Poultry are monitored for vices as per farm practice</p> <p>5.4 Poultry vices are controlled as per poultry production manuals</p> <p>5.5 Samples are collected for diagnostic laboratory analysis using standard sampling procedures</p>
6. Maintain poultry health records	<p>6.1 Poultry health record charts are designed as per PPM</p> <p>6.2 Data is entered and monitored daily, weekly or monthly as per the chart</p> <p>6.3 Poultry record results acted upon as per PPM</p>

RANGE

This section provides work environments and conditions to which the performance criteria apply. It allows for different work environment and situations that will affect performance.

Variable	Range
1. Biosecurity structures and equipment may include but not limited to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundary fence (electric or stone wall) • Gate • Entry showers, both at the gate and at the house sites • Foot bathes and vehicle sprayers • Hand washing gadgets • Post mortem rooms • Mortality disposal pits • Rodent and pest control traps
2. Biosecurity Measures may include but not limited to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Color coded clothing for different parts of the farm e.g. feed stores, egg sorting and flock houses • Human traffic restriction • Showering • Rodent and pest control traps • Personal protective equipment
3. Poultry production manuals (PPM) includes but not limited to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Poultry Development Programme Manual • Breeder's manuals by breeders like Cobb and Issa Brown
4. Tools, equipment, materials and supplies may include but not limited to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprayers • De-beakers • Chicken catching rods
5. Preparations may include but not limited to:	<p>Activities that are carried out before, during and after vaccination;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of anti-stress nutritional premixes • Feed and water withdrawal • Confirmation of bird numbers to determine dosage • Provision of disinfectant free water • Positioning vaccine receptacles in the poultry house for oral vaccines • Confine and restrain poultry for injectable and ocular-nasal vaccines

6. Vaccination details may include but not limited to:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of vaccine • Type of disease vaccinated against • Age of poultry • Date and time of vaccination • Date of manufacture and expiry of vaccine • Vaccine source and batch number • Route of vaccine administration (IM, wing stab, sub cutaneous, intra nasal, intra ocular or spray) • Number of birds vaccinated • Identification of birds (flock, type, breed)
7. Parasite details includes but not limited to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Type of vaccine • Type of disease vaccinated against • Age of poultry • Date and time of vaccination • Date of manufacture and expiry of vaccine • Number of birds vaccinated • Identification of birds (flock, type, breed)
8. Samples includes but not limited to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swabs • Blood • Feaces • Organs • Feed • Sick bird • Carcass • Water • Vaccines • Litter material • Parasites

REQUIRED SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE

This section describes the skills and knowledge required for this unit of competency.

Required skills

The individual needs to demonstrate the following skills:

- Animal health applied skills
- Cleaning
- Communication

- De-beaking
- Diagnostic
- Farm equipment operation skills
- Negotiation
- Observation
- Poultry handling and care
- Record keeping
- Vaccination

Required knowledge

The individual needs to demonstrate knowledge of:

- Animal health care
- Animal welfare
- Cleaning and disinfection procedures
- De-beaking procedure
- Microbiology
- Mode of disease and parasite spread
- Parasitology
- Poultry behavior
- Poultry biosecurity measures
- Poultry gross anatomy and basic physiology
- Poultry Immunology
- Poultry nutritional disorders
- Procurement procedures
- Reconstitution of vaccines
- Record keeping
- Refrigeration methods
- Sampling procedures
- Signs of ill health in poultry
- Types of cleaning agents, sanitizers and disinfectant
- Types of external and internal poultry parasites
- Types of parasitic poultry diseases
- Types of poultry records
- Types of vaccines
- Vaccination sites

EVIDENCE GUIDE

This provides advice on assessment and must be read in conjunction with the performance criteria, required skills and knowledge and range

1. Critical Aspects of Competency	Assessment requires evidence that the candidate: 1.1 Implemented biosecurity measures 1.2 put in place control measures for internal and external parasites 1.3 Implemented vaccination program 1.4 Entered and kept accurate and up to date poultry vaccination / health records
2. Resource Implications	The following resources must be provided: 2.1 Assessment location / Poultry production farm 2.2 Personal Protective Equipment and Apparel
3. Methods of Assessment	Competency may be assessed through: 3.1 Observation 3.2 Written tests 3.3 Oral questioning 3.4 Third party report
4. Context of Assessment	Competency may be assessed on the job, off the job or during industrial attachment. Off the job assessment must be undertaken in a closely simulated workplace environment.
5. Guidance information for assessment	Holistic assessment with other units relevant to the industry sector, workplace and job roles is recommended.