

T Level Technical Qualification in Agriculture Land Management and Production: Livestock production Occupational Specialism (Level 3)

Practical Assignment

Assessor Pack (Sample)

September 2023 Version 2.1

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Version and date	Change detail	Section
V1.0	Draft version	n/a
V2.0 June 2023	Approved version	n/a
V2.1 September 2023	Document formatting	All
	Resource sections updated	Task specific guidance
	Indicative content updates	Marking grids
	Allocation of tasks	Task guidance

1. Assessment

The assessment for this component consists of a practical assignment that includes an assignment brief and then a number of tasks for the candidate to complete. Tasks are assessed by assessment themes that cover a range of knowledge and skills from the performance outcomes in the qualification specification. They are designed to allow judgement of the candidate to be made across different categories of performance.

Performance outcomes

The weightings for each performance outcome will remain the same for every version of the practical assignment. This ensures the appropriate depth and breadth of knowledge and skills for each specialism can be reliably assessed in every version and meets the needs of industry while keeping comparability between each assessment over time.

Performance outcome	Typical knowledge and skills	Weighting
PO2 Establish conditions for animal breeding	<p>Candidates will understand the principles of breeding, the factors that affect behaviour of livestock and be able to apply these to practical tasks.</p> <p>Candidates will complete and carry out health assessments on livestock and be able to safely restrain animals.</p> <p>Candidates will assess suitability for livestock breeding and follow processes to aid breeding.</p>	16%
PO3 Rear livestock from birth to production standard	<p>Candidates will understand the characteristics of livestock that indicate they are ready for different stages of production.</p> <p>Candidates will carry out the weighing, feeding and watering of livestock.</p> <p>Candidates will understand the principles, requirements and techniques of environment design and management.</p> <p>Candidates will be able to maintain livestock indoor accommodation.</p> <p>Candidates will prepare the environment and accommodation for arrival and departure of livestock.</p> <p>Candidates will carry out routine tasks for the rearing of livestock and be able to safely apply any appropriate treatments.</p> <p>Candidates will be able to identify grass, forage crop and weed species.</p> <p>Candidates will be able to take a soil sample and test for pH.</p>	34%
PO4 Optimise livestock production	<p>Candidates will understand the factors affecting the transportation of livestock and the requirements of transport when moving livestock.</p> <p>Candidates will carry out routine tasks for livestock production.</p> <p>Candidates will understand and be able to operate different types of equipment and machinery used for livestock management and crop production.</p> <p>Candidates will apply biosecurity measures, clean equipment for storage.</p>	30%
PO5 Maintain all areas of the livestock production environment	<p>Candidates will prepare and plan boundary installation and maintenance, including, creating</p>	20%

a risk assessment, preparing a budget, estimating resource requirements. Candidates will carry out installation and maintenance, including, using appropriate equipment, preparing materials, using hand and mechanical tools and carry out appropriate process when disposing of waste materials.

Performance Outcome Assessment Themes

A set number of marks are allocated against each performance outcome assessment theme, based on the performance outcome weightings recommended by stakeholders of the qualification. This mark allocation remains the same for all versions of the assessments, ensuring consistency across assessment versions and over time.

Candidates will be assessed against these assessment themes. This assignment brief has a total of 150 marks. The table below shows the mark distribution for this assessment.

Performance outcome (PO)	PO assessment themes	Marks per assessment theme	Marks per PO
Establish conditions for animal breeding	Health and welfare	12	24
	Breeding	12	
Rear livestock from birth to production standard	Health and welfare	6	51
	Handling	9	
	Rearing	12	
	Crop	12	
	Environment and accommodation	12	
Optimise livestock production	Health and welfare	6	45
	Transportation	9	
	Machinery and equipment	12	
	Production	18	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance data 	6	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Routine production 	12	
Maintain all areas of the livestock production environment	Health and safety	6	30
	Plan boundary maintenance	12	
	Carry out boundary maintenance	12	
Totals		150	150

2. Assignment brief

You are working as a trainee Farm Manager at Guilds Farm, a mixed enterprise farm in your local area, which includes the following enterprises:

- 200 cow dairy herd
- 500 ewe breeding flock
- 50 hectares of arable land producing feed and bedding for the livestock enterprises
- 240 hectares of grassland for grazing and forage production

Guilds Farm are planning an expansion to include the introduction of the following enterprises:

- 100 sow, straw based, indoor pig production unit

Breeding unit

- All sows served using a combination of artificial insemination and natural service
- Separate dry sow accommodation

Farrowing unit

- Batch farrowing system and weaning at 4 weeks
- Separate farrowing accommodation

And a

- 32,000 bird free range laying unit

As part of your role as a trainee Farm Manager you are responsible for assisting with the day-to-day husbandry tasks for all livestock enterprises on the farm. This will include breeding, rearing and production stages.

You are also required to assist with the arable and grassland enterprises including the growing and harvesting of the crops and to ensure that routine maintenance of outdoor facilities is carried out on the farm.

One of your day-to-day tasks is to safely carry out the operation of machinery and equipment and basic routine maintenance.

You are also required to contribute to the planning of the introduction of the new livestock enterprises.

This assignment contains **eleven** tasks and has a total time of **39 hours**.

Figure 1:

Estate materials list:

- Half round rails (3.6m): £6.31/each
- Straining posts (2.1m): £30.81/each
- Intermediate post (1.65m): £4.10/post
- Stock netting: £76.67/100 metres
- Staples: £38.39/20kg
- Barbed wire: £27.43/200 metres
- Plain wire: £37.87/100 metres
- Strut (2.7m): £8.00/each

(All prices are excluding VAT)

* Figures for assessment purposes (February 2022)

Figure 2:

The 500-ewe lowland breeding flock producing store lambs and finishing lambs for sale. The flock is spring lambing (indoor), selling lambs off grass.

For the flock of lowland ewes, the expected lambing period starts on 1st March 2024 and finishes on the 12th April 2024.

The current sheep flock physical and financial performance data for Guilds Farm is as follows:

- Lambing percentage: 188%
- Young lamb deaths: 5%
- Older lamb losses: 7%

- Average selling price of lambs: £105/lamb
- Ewe and ram depreciation: £24/ewe
- Wool sales: 2kg/ewe at £0.50/kg

- Vet and med costs: £11/ewe
- Concentrate costs: £20/ewe
- Miscellaneous costs: £12/ewe

3. Task guidance

General task guidance

Please read **all** information carefully before starting the assessment.

Ensure you have read the following guidance before you undertake the assessment of candidates:

- *T level technical qualifications – marking*
- *T level technical qualifications – moderation (updated annually)*
- *T level technical qualifications – teaching, learning and assessment*
- *Technical qualification guides on marking and moderation*
- *Assessor Observation forms*
- *Marking grids following the tasks below*
- *Feedback guidance for assessors.*

All work carried out should be to industry standards, undertaken in a safe manner and compliant with relevant regulations. If a candidate fails to carry out the activities in a safe manner, the assessment should be stopped. Further guidance for assessors can be found in the centre guidance section under health and safety.

Photos and videos must be used to support the qualitative statements captured on the Assessor Observation form and must be taken by the assessor. Details of specific photo/video requirements are outlined in the task information below. Photos/videos must have the date, the candidate's name and their candidate number attached so that they can be differentiated. The candidate does not need to be in the photo/video, the purpose of the photo/video is to demonstrate the quality and standard of work of the specific activities and of the work throughout various stages of the assignment.

Where audio recordings must be made of the candidates' response(s) to questions during the task, the assessor must only ask the questions provided in the task specific guidance below. The recording must start with the date, the candidate's name and their candidate number. Notes about the responses must also be made in the appropriate Assessor Observation form.

All work submitted must be securely saved in an appropriate format as dictated by the evidence requirements. It is important that assessors can access copies of submitted materials to provide to candidates in subsequent tasks as instructed in the task specific guidance.

Time

The time allocated for the completion of the tasks and production of evidence for this assessment is 39 hours. Timings for completion of specific tasks are outlined below.

- Task 1 – 4 hours
- Task 2 – 1 hour
- Task 3 – 6 hours
- Task 4 – 4.5 hours
- Task 5 – 4 hours
- Task 6 – 3 hours
- Task 7 – 6.5 hours
- Task 8 – 4 hours
- Task 9 – 3 hours
- Task 10 – 1 hour
- Task 11 – 2 hours

There may be sub tasks within each of the above tasks. Assessors should ensure that the duration for each sub task is adhered to.

There may be additional resources that are required for a task/sub task. These will be provided by the assessor and listed within the task instructions within the candidate pack and task specific guidance. These resources must only be administered to the candidate as per the task specific guidance.

Scheduling assessment sessions

It is the centre's responsibility to arrange how time is managed to fit with timetables and meet the times allocated for each task during the assessment window. Assessment windows are specified in the key date schedule.

Tasks/ sub tasks do not need to be issued in order, with the exception of task 1 and task 4 where task 1a must be completed before task 1b and task 4b must be completed before task 4c. Tasks/ sub tasks can be given in any order, one at a time to candidates by centres in the scheduled assessment times. Candidates can refer to the brief and scenario during all of the scheduled assessment time. Candidates are not permitted to return to tasks/ sub tasks after the assessment time for the task has ended and the next task/ sub task has begun. Candidates must not move on to the next task/ sub task within the assessment session until instructed to do so by the assessor. It is the assessor's responsibility to ensure that all evidence for a task/ sub task has been submitted before administering the next task. Candidates are not required to have formal reading time for the scenario and brief, this is included within the duration for Task 1.

When working under supervised conditions for longer sessions, breaks can be facilitated outside of the controlled conditions, ensuring the room is locked and all candidates have vacated the room once the break begins. All materials must be kept securely during the break.

Centres should aim to schedule tasks in the fewest amount of assessment sessions but ensure that the durations dictated for each task/ sub task are covered. However, to aid deliverability and manageability of assessment, sessions can be split where there is a requirement – for example where timetabling of an appropriate location for six hours is not possible, e.g. where centre's access to computer resources is limited, or where candidates

are not available for six consecutive hours (e.g. due to work placement commitments). Where this is necessary, sessions must be timetabled over consecutive days and in as few sessions as possible. All assessment evidence must be stored securely and access to assessment materials and their work only given to candidates during the formal assessment times. All candidates are required to complete a declaration of authenticity along with their evidence submission, and the arrangements must support the assessor in being confident in confirming authenticity.

Where assessments need to be completed in a number of assessment sessions or over consecutive days all practical work areas and any evidence produced must be kept secure and must only be accessed by the assessor. Information and notices should be used to inform other users of the facility that no access will be granted when assessment sessions are in progress. Practical work areas, tools, equipment and systems for the assessment must not be reset until a candidate has completed the full assessment.

Internet access

Where internet access is allowed as part of a task (e.g. for research purposes) candidates must be advised that this is the case and reminded of the importance of submitting their own work, with reference to relevant evidence, and the seriousness of plagiarism, malpractice and collusion. Candidates should be advised that their browser history can be monitored and checked. Depending on the type of task candidates may be requested to submit their internet search history to be considered as part of the submission of evidence, in order to confirm the authenticity of submitted evidence.

Where candidates are allowed the use of computer equipment, but not the use of the internet for a task, equipment should be provided with internet capability disabled (e.g. Wi-Fi disabled, machine disconnected from network etc).

Resources

Candidates must have access to a suitable range of resources as outlined in the task specific guidance to carry out the tasks and, where appropriate, to have the opportunity to choose components, tools and equipment that demonstrate their ability to select from a range of appropriate materials.

Where candidates need access to evidence that has been submitted as part of a previous task, this will be provided as a copy of the original evidence and will be given at the start of the relevant task.

Task specific guidance

Templates or proformas to support this version of the assessment can be found in section 11 of the assessor pack.

Templates must be provided in printed and digital format; candidates can choose to complete templates by hand or digitally.

Assessors must ensure that all candidate evidence submitted must be saved securely and accessible to the assessor to provide copies to candidates as may be instructed to in this specific task guidance.

Assessors should familiarise themselves with the tasks as well as this guidance for centres.

Assessor observations must include detailed, accurate and differentiating notes on performance.

Photographic/ video evidence must be carried out by the assessor and used to support the holistic assessment decision.

Question and answer sessions:

- assessor must ask all listed questions.
- assessors should ask questions at the natural point during and/or at the end of the task, ensuring it is safe to do so.
- assessors must make notes of responses from the questioning on the Practical Observation form for the task.
- assessors must make an audio recording (where video does not capture this) of the responses for moderation purposes.

Where resources and facilities are not available within the centre, arrangements can be made to use offsite resources and facilities.

The assessment will be carried out by the centre in line with the assessment conditions if carried out at the centre or an offsite facility.

Animals used for practical activities must be at a suitable state of health and stage of production to avoid compromising animal welfare.

Task 1 – Husbandry tasks

Task 1a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2.5 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- For the ‘working with two others to safely move animals...’ part of the task, others refer to other candidates. The three candidates must work together to move the animals safely. If appropriate all three candidates can be assessed at one time.
- For the ‘take the lead...’ part of the task, others refer to another competent person e.g. Centre staff, stock person. In this task the other person must do exactly as instructed by the candidate.
- Candidates may use a realistic simulation for the administering of oral treatment
- Candidates are required to complete a supervised visit to observe the livestock to gather the required information for the tasks. Candidates will not be directly assessed but they must take notes and use any information gathered to inform the completion of task 1b
- Candidates will be able to take a clipboard and paper to make notes whilst carrying out task 1a
- Observation notes must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage which cannot be accessed by candidates
- Candidate’s observation notes should be returned to them at the start of the controlled written assessment in task 1b
- Assessors must provide candidates with the age of one animal for their observation
- Animals must be observed in their natural environment (field or barn/ yard) from a maximum distance of approximately 5-10 metres
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 3:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area
 - collaboration with others to effectively move livestock into the handling area
 - use of appropriate techniques to handle and move livestock
- take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment
 - clear and appropriate instructions given to the other person
 - use appropriate techniques to handle and restrain cattle safely
 - apply physical dexterity with appropriate application of force and pressure when interacting with cattle
 - use of equipment to restrain cattle could include:
 - halter, race, crush, yoke, calf by hand, handling pens
- full health assessment on one animal

- use of techniques to identify and monitor the health and wellbeing of livestock
- appropriate handling techniques
- identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings
 - accurate identification of animal (ear tag, collar)
 - techniques and application of a temporary marking to an animal (tape, wax/spray marker)
- check equipment and weigh one animal
 - check equipment for accuracy and weigh cattle using scales
 - use appropriate techniques to handle and weigh cattle safely
- administer oral treatment
 - setting up of treatment equipment
 - measure treatment with precision
 - safe application of oral treatment to one animal

Photographic evidence:

- check equipment and weigh one animal
 - the equipment being checked for accuracy
 - the scales showing a zero reading
 - the animal being weighed (with scales showing reading)
- identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings
 - use of the digital tag reader
 - the applied markings

Video evidence:

- Work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area – to include the collaboration and communication between the three candidates, the moving of the group of animals into the handling area.
- Take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment – to include the candidate instructing the other person, the use of equipment to restrain animal.
- Administer oral treatment – to include setting up of treatment equipment and administering of treatment.

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- A group of 6-10 cattle
- Appropriate PPE
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Handling and restraint equipment
- A livestock marker (spray, wax)
- Thermometer
- Weighing scales
- Stopwatch / watch

- A digital tag reader
- Oral treatment and administration equipment
- Medicine treatment record template (figure 3)
- Risk assessment template (figure 4)
- Camera for the assessor

Task 1b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1.5 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates must use the information collected in task 1a for the one animal
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Notes from task 1a
- Health check report template (figure 5)
- Appropriate IT equipment

Task 2 – Rearing

Task 2a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **30 minutes**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 2:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- attach a halter to a calf
- fit a calf jacket
 - correct fitting of a calf jacket (correct fastening, correct length of straps)
 - correct attaching of halter (correct direction/ orientation, tightened appropriately)

Photographic evidence:

- fit a calf jacket
 - the calf with the jacket fitted
- attach a halter to a calf
 - the calf with the halter fitted

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Appropriate PPE
- A calf/ves
- Halter
- Calf jacket
- Camera for the assessor

Task 2b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **30 minutes**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- You will ask candidates the questions from the question and answer session below to confirm understanding of the practical tasks
- Any notes from the questioning must be captured as part of the assessor observation
- The task will start with the sheep in a holding/ catching pen
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 2:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- catch one sheep from a group
 - appropriate methods used to restrain and catch the sheep with minimum stress to sheep
- manually tip and turn a sheep using the correct techniques and check feet to identify if treatment is needed
 - use tip and turn technique correctly, appropriate restraint whilst sheep is turned
 - observation and handling (checking for heat, parting of hooves, smell, damage, inflammation) of all feet to identify if treatment is needed
- age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition
 - correct techniques and identification of presence of broad teeth (incisors)
- **Photographic evidence:**
- N/A

Video evidence:

- catch a sheep from a group
- manually tip and turn a sheep

Question and answer session:

- What are the signs that indicate that the feet require treatment?
- How many broad teeth (incisors) are present?
- Based on the number of broad teeth (incisors) present, approximately how old is the sheep?

Resources:

- Sheep
- Appropriate PPE
- Camera for the assessor

Task 3 Livestock production

Task 3a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Industry guidance should be used during task, for body condition and locomotion scoring
- The task will start with the sheep in a holding pen or race
- You will ask candidates the questions from the question and answer session below to confirm understanding of the practical tasks
- Any notes from the questioning must be captured as part of the assessor observation
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 2:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- determine body condition score of a group of three animals
 - safe handling of sheep in the appropriate areas to determine BCS

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

- body condition score for three animals - to show the candidate handling the animal in the appropriate points of the body to determine body score
- locomotion for three animals – supporting evidence to determine the score given by the candidate.

Question and answer session:

- What is/was the body condition score for each of the three animals?
- What is/was the locomotion score for each of the three animals?
- What visual signs and industry guidance have enabled you to determine the locomotion score for these three animals?

Resources:

- A small group (three) of sheep
- Appropriate PPE

- Industry guidance for body condition scoring
- Industry guidance for locomotion scoring
- Camera for the assessor

Task 3b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- You will ask candidates the questions from the question and answer session below to confirm understanding of the practical tasks
- Any notes from the questioning must be captured as part of the assessor observation
- The task will start with the sheep in a holding/ catching pen
- Transport must comply with current regulations; the loading ramp must be down to allow for visual inspection
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 1:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- visually assess condition of transport for livestock
 - correct checks carried out as part of the visual assessment including roadworthy condition, well-constructed and maintained transport.
- visually assess livestock for fitness for travel
 - correct checks carried out as part of the visual assessment to determine fitness for travel.
- load and unload livestock onto and off transport
 - the appropriate techniques for loading and unloading sheep onto and off transport

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

- loading and unloading livestock onto and off transport

Question and answer session:

- What are you checking/what have you checked, and why, regarding the suitability of the transport vehicle and loading facilities?
- What are you checking/ what have you checked, and why, regarding the fitness of the livestock for travel?
- What actions would you take if you discover one of the animals is unfit for travel?

Resources:

- Six Sheep
- Transport (trailer)
- Twine
- Camera for the assessor

Task 3c

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **3 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates must carry out the milking on a minimum of 30 cattle
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 1:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- set up milking equipment
 - set up milking equipment as per protocols
- strip and inspect foremilk
 - strip and inspect foremilk
- milk livestock
 - cleaning teats
 - attach clusters and ensure cow is milked correctly
 - teat dipping/ spraying
- clean down milking equipment
 - clean down milking equipment

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

- milk livestock (three cows)
 - cleaning teats
 - strip and inspect foremilk
 - attach clusters and ensure cow is milked correctly
 - teat dipping/ spraying

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- 30 cattle
- Protocols for setting up equipment and milking
- Milking equipment
- Cleaning equipment
- Appropriate PPE (e.g. Apron, gloves, parlour suit, steel toe capped wellingtons)
- Camera for the assessor

Task 3d

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- The assessor must make the candidate aware of what product has been used and the instructions for use prior to the candidate beginning the task
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 2:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- handle sheep into and through a race
 - use of appropriate, welfare friendly handling techniques to move 6 -10 sheep through the race
- crutch or dag two sheep
 - appropriate handling techniques or equipment
 - crutching or dagging carried out safely without injury to sheep or candidate
 - crutching or dagging carried out to requirements
- foot bath a group of sheep
 - appropriate movement and speed/ or duration of the sheep through/ or in the footbath

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

- handle a small group (6-10) of sheep into and through a race
- crutch or dag one sheep
- foot bath a small group (6-10) of sheep
 - either entering and standing in the bath if stand in footbath product is used

Or

 - walking through the footbath if a walk-through product is used

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- A small group (6-10) of sheep
- Appropriate PPE
- Pen with gates

- Race
- Crutching or dagging equipment
- Foot bath
- Camera for the assessor

Task 4 – Feeding and accommodation

Task 4a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **30 minutes**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 3:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding, and feed one animal using a bottle
 - calculation of feed requirements (type and quantity of feed) as appropriate to the requirements of the sheep
 - preparation and mixing of feed (weighing out milk powder and mixing, removal of lumps in feed, checking temperature)
 - feeding sheep using a bottle (keep bottle at correct angle to ensure sheep is not taking in excessive air)

Photographic evidence:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding
 - measure ingredients
 - mix ingredients

Video evidence:

- feed one animal using the bottle

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- One sheep
- Appropriate PPE
- Scoop/spoon
- A bottle
- The feed (whole milk or milk substitute/ water)
- Weigh scales
- Thermometer
- Whisk
- Bucket
- Camera for the assessor

Task 4b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates must have access to industry codes of welfare recommendations
- You will provide details of the size and weight of livestock to candidates
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 4:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- prepare indoor accommodation
 - ensuring environment is safe and free from hazards
 - use of hygienic techniques and biosecurity
 - use of hand tools (e.g. brush, shovel, fork) to prepare accommodation
- measure accommodation to determine stocking density
 - appropriate use of measuring equipment to determine floor area
- measure available feed and water access
 - appropriate use of measuring equipment to determine available feed and water access.

Photographic evidence:

- prepare indoor accommodation for livestock
 - using hygienic techniques (e.g. clean pen)
 - applying biosecurity measures (e.g. foot dip, use of signage)
 - the finished indoor accommodation

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Access to livestock building
- Appropriate PPE
- Foot dip/disinfectant/antibacterial powder
- Straw
- Wheelbarrow

- Fork
- Brush
- Shovel
- Buckets
- Access to water
- Sprayer
- Tape measure/ measuring wheel/ range finder
- Calculator
- Paper and pen
- Camera for the assessor

Task 4c

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates must have access to the relevant industry codes of welfare recommendations according to species
- Candidates must have access to the stocking density requirements e.g. Farm assurance requirements
- Candidates can have access to their measurements and calculations from task 4b
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Calculator
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment
- The relevant industry codes of welfare recommendations according to species
- The stocking density requirements e.g. Farm assurance requirements

Task 5 – Crop production

Task 5a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- You must allocate a field for candidates to take their representative soil sample from
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 6:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- take and test a soil sample for pH
 - appropriate techniques used to take a representative soil sample (Depth, W pattern, areas to avoid, suitable timing)
 - testing a soil sample to identify the pH

Photographic evidence:

- take a representative soil sample
 - collecting the sample
- test the soil sample for pH
 - carrying out the test
 - completed test result

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Field for sampling
- Appropriate PPE
- Soil sampling equipment (e.g. Spear)
- pH testing equipment
- Camera for the assessor

Task 5b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Plant identification proforma (figure 6)
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment

Task 5c

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources

- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment

Task 6 – Machinery and equipment

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **3 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates must reverse a tractor and trailer into a confined area. A confined area must be no more than 1.5 times the width of the tractor and trailer and the same length as the tractor and trailer
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 1:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on to a trailer
- hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse the tractor and a trailer into a confined area
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock

Photographic evidence:

- trailer hitched to tractor, to show safe and correct connection including any ancillary services

Video evidence:

- reversing the tractor into a confined area
 - optimum use of available area
 - safe use of mechanical equipment
 - smooth operation of controls
 - loads placed in specified positions
 - tractor left in a safe position after use
 - all round observations
- use mechanical equipment to load and unload one large bale of forage or straw on to a trailer
 - tractor aligned with trailer
 - correct and safe use of hitching mechanism
 - accurate manoeuvring when reversing into a confined area
 - smooth operation of controls
 - tractor left in a safe position after use
 - all round observations
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock
 - correct use and smooth operation of controls
 - accurate driving and even distribution of feed
 - tractor left in a safe position after use
 - all round observations

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Pre use checklist template (figure 7)
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Grab/ bale spike
- Bales of forage or straw
- Trailer
- Tractor with front end loader
- Diet feeder
- Camera for the assessor

Task 7 – Estate maintenance

Task 7a

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1.5 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation
- **Assessor observation:**
- N/A
- **Photographic evidence:**
- N/A
- **Video evidence:**
- N/A
- **Question and answer session:**
- N/A

Resources:

- Appropriate IT equipment
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Figure 1 from the assignment brief
- Calculator

Task 7b

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Candidates can assist each other with the post driving and rolling out of the wire and netting during the task. The candidate being observed must direct their assistant.
- Candidates can use either manual or mechanical post driving equipment
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 2:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- safely undertake the installation of a 6-metre section of stock proof fence with stock netting and two strands of barbed wire above the stock netting
 - correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery
 - demonstrating safe and efficient use of hand, power and/or mechanical tools appropriate to the task
 - post placement: depth, vertical, spacing, in line with marker
 - netting: tensioned, attachment (number and depth of staples)
 - barbed wire: tensioned, attachment (number, position, and depth of staples)
- dispose of waste materials appropriately
 - process for waste disposal followed
 - waste separated and segregated and put into correct containers/ sacks

Photographic evidence:

- the finished fence
 - photo of the finished boundary: full section, sample of post (vertical), sample of wire attachment (including staple), strainer (how wound wire)

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Risk assessment template (figure 4)
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Level area for installing a minimum of 6 metres of fence per candidate
- Tools, materials, and equipment for installing a stock proof boundary
- Stock netting and two strands of barbed wire for a distance of a minimum of 6 metres per candidate (strainers pre-installed)
- Suitable straining facility e.g. Strainer clamp, additional post for straining against
- Appropriate PPE
- Camera for the assessor

Task 7c**Assessor guidance:**

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 4:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- check a ditch and drain outfalls
- carry out remedial work
 - correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery
 - correct pre-use checks on tools, equipment and machinery
 - safe and efficient use of tools, equipment and machinery as appropriate to the task

Photographic evidence:

- photos of 'before' and 'after' the candidate has undertaken the task: whole area

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Ditch and associated drain which requires remedial work e.g. vegetation clearance, or de-silting
- Tools, materials, and equipment as appropriate to the task and site (spade, shovel, drain rod, bill hook/ slasher)
- Appropriate PPE
- Camera for the assessor

Task 7d**Assessor guidance:**

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - 4:1

Assessor observation:

Detailed, accurate and differentiating notes must be captured on the Assessor Observation form:

- plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded
 - correct selection of tools
 - demonstrating safe and efficient use of tools: spade
 - planting: spacing, depth, heeled in, no damage

- guarding

Photographic evidence:

- the finished hedge: full hedge (in line), individual guarded plant (depth)

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Prepared area for installing 20 hedging plants (cleared area, ready for planting)
- Tools, materials, and equipment for planting a hedge (selection of spades, support canes, hedge guards, marker paint, measuring tape)
- 20 plants per candidate – species appropriate to the location
- Guards appropriate to the plants
- Appropriate PPE
- Camera for the assessor

Task 8 – Environment and accommodation

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **4 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment
- Calculator

Task 9 – Health, welfare and performance

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **3 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Health, welfare and performance template (figure 8)
- Appropriate IT equipment
- Paper, pen, pencil

Task 10 - Areas of the livestock production environment

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **1 hour**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Figure 2
- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment
- John Nix Pocketbook (current edition)
- Calculator

Task 11 – Performance data

Assessor guidance:

- The time allocated to this task is **2 hours**
- All candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled assessment conditions
- Ratio of candidates to assessors
 - group invigilation

Assessor observation:

N/A

Photographic evidence:

N/A

Video evidence:

N/A

Question and answer session:

N/A

Resources:

- Paper, pen, pencil
- Appropriate IT equipment
- John Nix Pocketbook (current edition)
- Calculator

4. Tasks

Task 1 - Husbandry tasks

a) Candidates must carry out routine husbandry tasks for **cattle** by completing the following:

- i) Complete a risk assessment for the routine husbandry tasks in part ii)
- ii) Carry out the following routine husbandry tasks:
 - work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area
 - take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment.
 - identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings.
 - check equipment and weigh an animal.
 - administer oral treatment (drench) and complete medicine treatment record.
- iii) Carry out a full health assessment and observation of one animal to determine the suitability of the livestock for breeding including:
 - age (provided by assessor)
 - condition
 - weight
 - size

Candidates must make notes whilst carrying out the full health assessment and observation of one animal to determine the suitability of the livestock for breeding, in preparation for the written tasks in Task 1b.

The templates for the risk assessment (fig 4) and medicine treatment record (fig 3) report must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2.5 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- risk assessment
- medicine treatment record

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence: by the assessor
- video evidence by the assessor

b) Candidates must use the information collected during the observation and full health assessment in **task 1a** to complete:

- the health check report
- the written report to include the following:
 - the suitability of the livestock for breeding, including:
 - age (provided by assessor)
 - condition
 - weight
 - size

The template for the health check report (fig 5) must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1.5 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates can have access to their notes taken in Task 1a.

What must be produced for marking:

- health check report
- written report of the suitability of livestock for breeding (typically 500 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 2 – Rearing

a) Candidates must carry out the following routine tasks for cattle:

- attach a halter to a calf
- fit a calf jacket

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **30 minutes**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

b) Candidates must carry out the following routine tasks for sheep:

- catch one sheep from a group. The sheep to be caught will be selected by the assessor
- manually tip and turn a sheep using the correct techniques and check feet to identify if treatment is needed
- age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **30 minutes**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor
- responses to questions, including audio recording (If not captured during the video recording)

Task 3 – Livestock production

a) Candidates must carry out the following production tasks for **sheep** using industry guidance:

- determine individual body condition score for three animals
- assess individual livestock for locomotion for three animals

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**.
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor
- responses to questions, including audio recording (If not captured during the video recording)

b) Candidates must carry out the following for **six** sheep:

- visually assess condition of transport for livestock
- visually assess livestock for fitness for travel
- load and unload livestock onto and off transport

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor
- responses to questions, including audio recording (If not captured during the video recording)

c) Candidates must carry out the procedure for milking **30 cattle**, including:

- set up milking equipment
- strip and inspect foremilk
- milk livestock
- clean down milking equipment

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **3 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor

d) Candidates must carry out the following routine production tasks:

- handle a small group (6-10) of sheep into and through a race
- crutch or dag two sheep
- foot bath a small group (6-10) of sheep

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor

Task 4 – Feeding and accommodation

a) Candidates must carry out the following for **sheep**:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding, and feed one animal using the bottle

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **30 minutes**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor
- photographic evidence by the assessor

b) Candidates must carry out the following for **sheep**:

- prepare indoor accommodation for livestock (size/ weight/ stage of production to be specified by the assessor):
 - using hygienic techniques
 - applying biosecurity measures
- measure accommodation to determine stocking density
- measure available feed and water access

Candidates must keep a note of all measurements and calculations, these will be used to inform task 4c.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

- c) Candidates must use their findings from task 4b to complete:
- a written report with justifications, on the suitability of the accommodation for the stage of production, including all measurements, calculations and stocking densities.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates can have access to their measurements and calculations from Task 4b.

What must be produced for marking:

- written report with measurements and calculations (typically 1000 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 5 – Crop production

a) Candidates must:

- take a representative soil sample from a field allocated by the assessor
- test the soil sample for pH

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

b) Candidates must:

- identify two grasses, two legumes, two forage crops and three weeds
- produce a written report explaining the potential impact of invasive plants on livestock

The proforma for the plant identification task (figure 6) must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- proforma with images
- written report (250 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

c) Candidates must:

- produce a written plan for establishing a new grass ley in a field, for grazing sheep and conservation

The plan must include the establishment method based on previous cropping, reasons for the seed mixture selection and weed control. The seed mixture selection must be appropriate for the livestock species and the proposed length of ley. The plan must also include timings for conservation.

Type of crop	Grass
Previous cropping	Winter barley
Soil type	Medium loam
Soil conditions at time of sowing	Dry, friable seedbed

- produce a written plan for establishing a cereal crop in a field, which will be harvested for the grain and straw

The plan must include the establishment method based on the information provided below, reasons for the type of cereal crop and the required weed control.

Type of cereal crop	Wheat
Previous cropping	Forage maize
Soil type	Medium loam
Soil conditions at time of sowing	Moist, friable seedbed

The plans should include reference to the types of records that should be produced and stored in relation to this task.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- written plan for establishing a new grass ley (typically 500 words)
- written plan for establishing a cereal crop (typically 500 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 6 – Machinery and equipment

Candidates must carry out the following:

- complete pre-use checks on machinery and equipment
- use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on and off a trailer
- hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse the tractor and a trailer into a confined area.
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock

The templates for the pre-use checks (figure 7) must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **3 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- pre-use checks

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- video evidence by the assessor
- photographic evidence by the assessor

Task 7 - Estate maintenance

Candidates are responsible for the maintenance of the boundaries surrounding the areas of production.

- a) Candidates must produce a written report to plan the maintenance of a permanent stock proof boundary (fence) on the estate to keep sheep enclosed, which must include:
- a justified plan for and costing the materials for a replacement 200 metre length of fence using the materials list in figure 1 of the brief. Labour does not need to be costed. To be installed on a level site with a 90 degree turn after 50 metres
 - a labelled side elevation diagram of the proposed maintenance. This can be handwritten or digital. It does not need to be to scale
 - the environmental considerations, legislation and codes of practice (including potential malpractice) which are relevant to the task.

Figure 1 must be provided to candidates. Candidates must select the appropriate materials from the list and are not expected to use all of them

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1.5 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under controlled conditions

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on the task in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- written report on the maintenance plan (typically 500 words, plus diagram)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

b) Candidates must:

- complete a risk assessment for the planned maintenance
- safely undertake the installation of a 6-metre section of stock proof fence with stock netting and two strands of barbed wire above the stock netting
- dispose of waste materials appropriately.

Candidates can assist each other with the post driving and rolling out of the wire and netting during the task. The candidate being observed must direct their assistant.

The template for the risk assessment (figure 4) must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- risk assessment

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

- c) Candidates must safely maintain a ditch/drain specified by the assessor:
- check a ditch and drain outfalls to ensure free flow of water
 - safely carry out remedial work using appropriate tools and equipment

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for all parts of this task is up to **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

d) Candidates must:

- plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded. Spacing to be appropriate to the species and local setting.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on the task in the allocated times
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

N/A

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photographic evidence by the assessor

Task 8 - Environment and accommodation

Candidates are required to carry out planning based on the expansion of Guilds farm and the introduction of the new indoor pig production units.

Candidates must:

- calculate the annual breeding performance (litters per sow per year) for the 100 sows based on the following:
 - Piglets are weaned at 28 days of age
 - 70% conception rate at first service
 - 30% conception rate at second service

Using the breeding performance calculations candidates must propose accommodation and handling facilities to comply with the code of welfare and industry best practice to meet farm assurance standards.

It is expected that both units are set up within the same building.

Candidates must produce:

- an annotated plan (A3 size) of the layout of the units to include:
 - dry sow accommodation
 - boar accommodation
 - insemination/ service facilities
 - farrowing accommodation
 - handling facilities
 - feed/ water facilities
 - space allowances

The plan does **not** need to include feed, bedding or manure storage facilities.

The plan does **not** need to be to scale but measurements **must** be included.

Candidates must produce:

- a written report to include justifications for the plan, this must include:
 - principles and requirements of livestock accommodation design to meet environmental requirements
 - how accommodation design can optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **4 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates

- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- calculations of annual breeding performance
- an annotated (A3 size) plan of the units
- written report (typically 1000 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 9 – Health, welfare and performance

As part of the plan to introduce a new enterprise on to the farm, candidates must:

- complete the template for the 32,000 bird free range laying unit

The health, welfare and performance template (fig 8) must be provided to candidates.

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **3 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- health, welfare and performance template

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 10 - Areas of the livestock production environment

The owners of Guilds Farm are looking for alternative uses for the areas surrounding the production environment. The alternative uses must be a land use scheme. The primary aim is to add environmental benefits to the farm business.

Candidates must:

- produce a written report proposing, with justification, one alternative use of areas surrounding the production environment

The report must include the benefits to the farm business and the implications of the alternative use.

Candidates must be provided with a clean copy of the John Nix Pocketbook (current edition)

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **1 hour**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- written report on alternative uses of areas surrounding the production environment (typically 500 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

Task 11 – Performance data

Using the performance data for the 500-ewe lowland breeding flock candidates must:

- produce a written report analysing and comparing the flock physical and financial performance with industry benchmark data. The report must also include the suggested date of the rams being introduced to the flock (the tupping period)

Fig 2 must be provided to candidates.

Candidates must be provided with a clean copy of the John Nix Pocketbook (current edition)

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **2 hours**
- candidates must carry out the task on their own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

- candidates must only work on their tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- candidates must not share or discuss their work with other candidates
- candidates are not permitted to bring any additional materials into the assessment session

What must be produced for marking:

- written report (typically 1000 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

5. Centre guidance

Guidance provided in this document supports the administration of this assessment.

The following documents, available on the City & Guilds website, provide essential generic guidance for centres delivering T Level technical qualifications and **must** be referred to alongside this guidance:

- *T level technical qualifications – marking*
- *T level technical qualifications – moderation (updated annually)*
- *T level technical qualifications – teaching, learning and assessment.*

This assessment is designed to require the candidate to make use of their core knowledge, understanding and the practical skills they have built up over the course of their learning to tackle tasks/problems/challenges.

This approach to assessment emphasises to candidates the importance and applicability of the full range of their learning to practice in their industry area and supports them in learning to take responsibility for transferring their knowledge, understanding and skills to the practical situation, fostering independence, autonomy and confidence.

Candidates are provided with an assignment brief. They then have to draw on their knowledge and skills and independently select the correct processes, tools, equipment, materials and approaches to take, to complete the brief.

During the learning programme, it is expected that tutors will have taken the opportunity to set shorter, formative tasks that allow candidates to be supported to independently use the learning they have so far covered, drawing this together in a similar way, so they are familiar with the format, conditions and expectations of the assessment.

Candidates should be made aware during learning what the assessment themes are and how they are implemented in marking the assignment, so they will understand the level of performance that will achieve them high marks.

Candidates should not be entered for the assessment until the end of the course of learning for the qualification, so they are in a position to complete the assignment successfully.

Health and safety

Candidates must not be entered for assessment without being clear of the importance of working safely and having attended sufficient practical training to be able to work safely. The assessor must immediately stop an assessment if a candidate works unsafely. At the discretion of the assessor, depending on the severity of the incident, the candidate may be given a warning. If they continue to work unsafely, risking the safety of themselves or others, their assessment must be ended for that specific task. Candidates are permitted to progress to the other tasks/sub tasks in the assessment. The candidates will only be awarded marks based on the evidence they produced within the task and any subsequent tasks which link to the assessment theme. If a candidate does not gain enough marks from other tasks then the candidate will have the opportunity to retake another version of the Occupational Specialism (OS) assessment in a future series. Any warnings issued to a candidate must be considered as part of the marking process and recorded on the candidate record form (CRF). Any actions that have led to that warning must be detailed on the CRF so they can be considered along with the other evidence when applying the descriptors in the mark scheme.

Compliance with timings

Due to the nature of this assessment, the maximum time allowances provided must be adhered to. They refer directly to assessment time, not any additional setting up times the centre needs to create an appropriate assessment environment.

It is the centre's responsibility to plan sufficient assessment sessions as stated in each of the tasks, under the appropriate conditions, within the assignment window, to allow candidates the opportunity to complete the assessment tasks.

Where candidates are required to plan their work, they should have their plans confirmed for appropriateness in relation to the time allocated for each task, to ensure their planning has not left them with too short a time to complete the tasks safely. Any planning that is not appropriate must be recorded on the candidate record form (CRF) as part of the marking process.

Candidates should be allowed sufficient time to fully demonstrate the range of their skills, however this also needs to be reasonable and practicable. Candidates should be allowed to overrun their own planned timings in order for evidence of a range of their skills to be captured. If, however, the time required exceeds the maximum time allowance for the task, the centre must stop the assessment and base the marking on the evidence up to that point.

Any guidance or feedback relating to timings/planning should follow the guidance provided in the section *Guidance and feedback* below.

Word counts

Typical word counts, where indicated, are to be used as approximates for guidance to support the production of sufficient evidence. The marking will relate to the quality of the evidence produced and not whether the word count has been met.

Assessor candidate ratios

The number of candidates an assessor will be able to observe at one time will vary depending on local conditions relating to:

- monitoring and maintaining safety during assessment
 - any specific hazards related to the task that pose a risk of harm in relation to the competence of the learners
 - availability of supervisory staff to support the assessor.
- the practicalities of collecting evidence
 - the complexity of evidence collection for the task
 - whether there are any peak times where there is a lot of evidence to collect that will need additional support or any that are quieter which may be eased through staggered starts etc.
 - local conditions e.g.
 - layout of the assessment environment and sufficient assessor line of sight to task activity throughout the assessment period
 - amount of additional support available (e.g. to capture image/video evidence)
 - availability of suitable workspaces/bays or of shared resources and equipment.

Centres are advised to trial the planned arrangements during formative assessment, reviewing the quality of evidence captured and manageability. It is expected that for straight forward observations, with favourable local conditions and support, (and unless otherwise specified) no more than six candidates will be observed by a single assessor at one time, and the number will usually be fewer than this maximum. The key factors to consider are the logistics of collecting sufficient evidence and remain working safely in the assessment environment. A timetable of assessments and layout of the workspaces, detailing:

- the candidates being assessed at each workstation,
- the assessor(s) and
- support staff present

must be available for the moderator on request.

Observation evidence

Observation notes form part of the candidate's evidence and must capture evidence of candidate performance during the practical tasks describing how well the activity has been carried out, rather than stating the steps/actions, the candidate has taken. The notes must be very descriptive and focus on the quality of the performance in relation to the quality indicators in the marking grid. They must provide sufficient, appropriate evidence that can be used by the assessor (and moderator) to mark the performance using the marking grid. These descriptions will be used, along with e.g. photo and video evidence to choose the relevant marking band and mark within the band so that candidates can be reliably and validly differentiated based on their performance. Evidence captured in the observation form must give the necessary information to enable the final assessment of the task at a later date. This is to allow a holistic judgement to be carried out after all evidence for the task is available, at which point full consideration of how the candidate has applied both their skills and their knowledge during the practical can be given.

Identifying what it is about the performances that is different between candidates can clarify the qualities that are important to record. Each candidate is likely to carry out the same steps, so a checklist of this information would not help differentiate between them. However, qualitative comments on how well they do it, and quantitative records of accuracy and tolerances would.

The assessor should refer to the marking grid to ensure appropriate aspects of performance are recorded. These notes will be used for marking and moderation purposes and so must be detailed, accurate and differentiating.

Assessors should refer to The *T Level technical qualifications guides on marking and moderation* and the *Guide Standard Exemplification Materials* to support with the collection of evidence through observation.

Assessors should ensure that any required additional supporting evidence including e.g. photos or video can be easily matched to the correct candidate, are clear, well-lit and show the areas of particular interest in sufficient detail and clarity for assessment (i.e. taken at appropriate points in production, showing accuracy of measurements where appropriate).

Assessor marking and justification is completed on a separate form (CRF) to differentiate this evidence from the judgement, since in some cases the observation form will provide evidence relating to the judgement for more than one assessment theme.

As far as possible candidates must not be distracted, or their performance affected by the process of observation and evidence collection.

The T Level technical qualifications guides on marking and moderation are essential guidance documents and are available on the City & Guilds website. These provide further information on preparing for assessment, evidence gathering, standardisation, marking and moderation, and must be referred to when planning and carrying out assessment.

Video and photo evidence in T Level Technical qualifications

The assessment materials for each assignment identify the minimum candidate and assessor evidence requirements to support marking and moderation. Where ephemeral evidence (e.g. areas of candidate performance that may be hard to capture with photos and assessor notes alone) plays a significant part of the practical assessment, City & Guilds will prescribe the type/capture where the use of video is necessary for practical assessment components (e.g. specifying exactly which elements of the practical must be videoed, or photographed), and any technical specifications for these forms of evidence (e.g. length of videos, maximum file sizes etc) will also be supplied. Photo and video evidence will be submitted along with the written candidate evidence and assessor evidence (AO forms) as described in the additional evidence section of the task.

If this is the case then the video evidence must meet these minimum requirements, in order to be considered by moderators:

- as per the guidance in section 2.3.2 of the *Marking and Moderation Guide for Centres*, assessors must ensure that this evidence can be easily matched to the correct candidate and task, is clearly shot, well-lit and shows the areas of particular interest in sufficient detail and clarity for assessment (i.e. filmed at appropriate points in production, showing accuracy of measurements where appropriate)
- the qualitative written evidence provided by assessors must
 - clearly identify the parts of the video that are being referred to, when used as supporting evidence. Using a timecode for this is recommended.
 - include their judgement on the performance being demonstrated.
- Section 6.5 of the *Centre Manual* also contains general information about the requirements for video evidence submission.

Please note that centres must ensure that video evidence is clear and meets the minimum requirements. The ability of the moderators to take this evidence into account may be impaired and delay the moderation process if the requirements are not met.

Minimum evidence requirements for marking and moderation

The sections in the assignment:

- **What must be produced for marking, and**
- **Additional evidence for this task**

These list the minimum requirements of evidence to be submitted for marking and the moderation sample.

Evidence produced during assessment above and beyond this may be submitted, as long as it provides useful information for marking and moderation and has been produced under appropriate conditions.

While technological methods which support the capturing or creating of evidence can be helpful, e.g. pin board style websites for creating mood boards, the final evidence must be converted to a suitable format for marking and moderation which cannot be lost/deleted or amended after the end of the assessment period (e.g. screen prints, pdf files). Considerations around tracking authenticity and potential loss of material hosted on such platforms during assessment is the centre's responsibility.

Note: Combining candidates' individual pieces of evidence into single files or zip files may make evidence management during internal marking more efficient and will greatly simplify the uploading of the moderation sample.

Where the minimum requirements have not been submitted for the moderation sample by the final moderation deadline, or the quality of evidence is insufficient to make a judgement, the moderation, and therefore any subsequent adjustment, will be based on the evidence that has been submitted. Where this is insufficient to provide a mark on moderation, a mark of zero must be given.

File names for evidence

All electronic files submitted must be given a clear file name to support the moderation process, that allows the candidate work to be identified.

Evidence must have a file name that clearly indicates the content of the document including: City & Guilds enrolment number/candidate name/qualification number/task/type of evidence.

We strongly recommend the following file name convention style:

- XYZ1234_Firstname_Surname_0123-012_Task_1a_Assessor_observation_form
- XYZ1234_Firstname_Surname_0123-012_Task_1b_Written_report

Centres must include the candidate's name and enrolment number in the filename as above. This helps the moderator reconcile the evidence.

File names should be consistent throughout the cohort, with each candidate's evidence using the same file naming convention.

Preparation of candidates

Candidates should be aware of which aspects of their performance will give them good marks in assessment. This is best carried out through routinely pointing out good or poor performance during the learning period, and through formative assessment. Although candidates will not have access to the marking grids during the assessment, candidates should be made aware of what they need to do to achieve a pass or distinction by referring to and being formatively assessed against grade descriptors as part of their formal learning programme.

During the learning programme, direct tutor instruction in how to approach tasks through modelling, support, guidance and feedback are critical. However, gradual removal of this support is necessary in preparation for summative assessment. This supported approach is not valid for summative assessment.

The purpose of summative assessment is to confirm the standard the candidate has reached as a result of participating in the learning process. Candidates should be encouraged to do the best they can and be made aware of the difference between these summative assessments and any formative assessments they have been subject to. Candidates will not have access to the marking grids. Refer to the *T Level Technical qualifications – teaching, learning and assessment* centre

guidance document, available on the City & Guilds website for further information on preparing candidates for Technical qualification assessment.

Guidance on assessment conditions

The assessment conditions that are in place for this assignment are to:

- ensure the rigour of the assessment process
- provide fairness for candidates
- give confidence in the outcome.

They can be thought of as the rules that ensure that all candidates who take an assessment are being treated fairly, equally and in a manner that ensures their result reflects their true ability.

Conditions outlined within the tasks in this assignment do not affect any formative assessment work that takes place, although it is advised that candidates are prepared for the conditions they will need to work under during summative assessment.

The evidence for the tasks that make up this assignment must be completed under the specified conditions. This is to ensure authenticity and prevent malpractice as well as to assess and record candidate performance for assessment in the practical tasks. It is the centre's responsibility to ensure that local administration and oversight gives the assessor sufficient confidence to be able to confirm the authenticity of the candidate's work.

Security and authentication of candidate work

Candidate evidence must be kept secure to prevent unsupervised access by the candidate or others. Where evidence is produced over a number of sessions, the assessor must ensure learners and others cannot access the evidence without supervision. This might include storing written work or artefacts in locked cupboards and collecting memory sticks of evidence produced electronically at the end of each session.

Candidates are required to sign declarations of authenticity, as is the assessor. The relevant form is included in this assignment pack and must be signed after the production of all evidence.

Where the candidate or assessor is unable to or does not confirm authenticity through signing the declaration form, the work will not be accepted at moderation and a mark of zero will be given. If any question of authenticity arises e.g. at moderation, the centre may be contacted for justification of authentication.

Accessibility and fairness

Where a candidate has special requirements, assessors should refer to the *Access arrangements and reasonable adjustments* section of the City & Guilds website.

Assessors can support access where necessary by providing clarification to any candidate on the requirements or timings of any aspect of this assignment. Assessors should not provide more guidance than the candidate needs as this may impact on the candidate's grade, see the guidance and feedback section below.

All candidates must be provided with an environment, time frame and resources that allows them reasonable access to the full range of marks available.

Where candidates have worked in groups to complete one or more tasks for this assessment, the assessor must ensure that no candidate is disadvantaged as a result of the performance of any other team member. If a team member is distracting or preventing another team member from fully demonstrating their skills or knowledge, the assessor must intervene.

Guidance and feedback

Guidance must only support access to the assignment brief and must not provide feedback for improvement. The level and frequency of clarification and guidance must be

- recorded fully on the candidate record form (CRF)
- taken into account along with the candidate's final evidence during marking
- made available for moderation.

Assessors must not provide feedback on the quality of the performance or how the quality of evidence can be improved. This would be classed as malpractice. However, this does not apply if the assessor asks questions as part of the assessment process. Such requirements will be specifically stated within task centre guidance.

Assessors should however provide general reminders to candidates throughout the assessment period to check their work thoroughly before submitting it, and to be sure that they are happy with their final evidence as it may not be worked on further after submission.

Candidates can rework any evidence that has been produced for each task during the time allowed.

Assessors should check and be aware of the candidates' plans to ensure management of time and resources is appropriate, and so any allowed intervention can take place at an appropriate time.

The information on the guidance given and captured on the CRF is part of the evidence that must be taken into account along with the other evidence for the task when marking. It is up to the assessor to decide if the guidance the candidate has required suggests they are lacking in any performance outcome and consider the severity of the issue when applying the marking criteria. The assessor must record where and how guidance has had an impact on the marks given, so this is available should queries arise at moderation or appeal.

What is, and is not, an appropriate level of guidance

- The assessor should intervene with caution if a candidate has taken a course of action that will result in them not being able to submit the full range of evidence for assessment. However, this should only take place once the assessor has prompted the candidate to check that they have covered all the requirements. Where the assessor has to be explicit as to what the issue is, this is likely to demonstrate a lack of understanding on the part of the candidate rather than a simple error, and full details should be recorded on the CRF.
- The assessor should not provide guidance if the candidate is thought to be able to correct the issue without it, and a prompt would suffice. In other words, only the minimum support the candidate actually needs should be given, since the more assessor guidance provided, the less of the candidate's own performance is being demonstrated and therefore the larger the impact on the marks awarded.
- The assessor must not provide guidance that the candidate's work is not at the required standard or how to improve their work. In this way, candidates are given the chance to

identify and correct any errors on their own, providing valid evidence of knowledge and skills that will be credited during marking.

- The assessor must not produce any templates, pro-formas, work logs etc. If templates are provided by City & Guilds as part of the assignment, these should not be adapted but can be provided to candidates either electronically or on paper. Compliance with this requirement will be checked at moderation.

All specific prompts and details of the nature of any further guidance must be recorded on the relevant form and reviewed during marking and moderation.

6. Marking

Guidance on marking

Please refer to the *T Level Technical qualifications – marking and moderation* centre guidance documents for further information on gathering evidence suitable for marking and moderation, and on using the marking grid and forms.

The Candidate Record Form (CRF) is used to record:

- details of any guidance or the level of prompting the candidate has received during the assessment period
- rough notes bringing together relevant evidence from across tasks during marking
- summary justifications when holistically coming to an overall judgement of the mark for each assessment objective and overall
- if an assessment has to be stopped on the grounds of Health and Safety or if a candidate has been working in an unsafe manner.

The Assessor Observation form is used to record:

- descriptive information and evidence of candidate performance during an observation.

Carrying out marking using assessment themes

The process of marking each assessment theme is iterative and should follow the process below which will become more embedded over time as the descriptors become familiar. It is recommended to refer back to these frequently however, so the standard does not unintentionally drift over the marking period.

The indicative content gives an indication of the expected content parameters the responses are likely to cover, and which aspects of the evidence are relevant. It is not exhaustive, and an acceptable answer may concentrate more on depth rather than fully cover the range indicated or deviate into relevant topics not listed.

The specific task evidence listed within the assessor guide and marking grid must be used to make a judgement on performance in relation the specific assessment theme.

The assessment tasks guide the production of valid evidence under appropriate conditions for assessment. Candidate evidence from a range of tasks may contribute to the marking of a single assessment theme, or from a single task to more than one assessment theme. In this case different aspects of the evidence are being considered for each theme and need to be judged against the marking descriptors specified in the assessment themes independently of each other.

In some cases, the quality indicators looked for in the judgement may naturally be more strongly evidenced in one piece of evidence than another. For instance, more formulaic/prescriptive forms of evidence may not be able to generate evidence of higher levels of performance, so this evidence would need to be looked for in the other forms of evidence. This means that where a range of evidence is to be assessed, it should be treated as a single package of evidence for the purposes of marking even if generated through different tasks.

Timing of marking

As some assessment themes require the triangulation of a number of pieces of evidence, marking cannot take place until after all of these are available. This does not however mean that all marking needs to take place after all candidates have completed the whole assessment. Assessors can start marking against an assessment theme once all contributing evidence has been collected for that assessment theme.

Also, it is possible to begin recording the notes that will justify the marking for some assessment themes as evidence is produced, with the final mark only being decided once the complete array of evidence is available. This is particularly the case if later evidence is more confirmatory, and the earlier evidence is sufficiently informative for the qualities being assessed to make this a useful exercise.

Through planning, it should be possible to identify any evidence that can start being reviewed earlier, and the assessment themes which could be scheduled for earlier completion of marking e.g. while observation evidence is fresh in the mind should this be helpful. Care must of course be taken to ensure any evidence required by candidates to progress with another task are available for that task to take place. In addition, a sense check must take place across marking for each assessment theme, and across assessors, at the end to ensure marking has not drifted during the period. This may take the form of comparing candidate work to check that the ranking of quality of evidence matches the ranking of marks – where there are discrepancies marking should be checked for accuracy. These checks should be the responsibility of the Internal Quality Assurer and undertaken as part of the centre's Internal Quality Assurance strategy.

Process for each assessment theme:

- Select the range of evidence relevant for making the judgement – this is indicated in the mark scheme for each assessment theme.
- Scan/read the candidate evidence, any notes on the CRF e.g. regarding level of support/guidance recorded, evidence captured by the assessor and the indicative content and band descriptors in the mark scheme.
 - Note: for any warnings given during the assessment, the actions that have led to that warning must be detailed on the CRF so they can be considered along with the other evidence when applying the descriptors in the mark scheme.
 - Note: the evidence contained on the CRF must be considered and a judgement made on the level of performance the candidate has independently demonstrated – this will vary depending on the level of support detailed on the CRF – i.e. consider all relevant evidence and then judge the appropriate mark following the process below.
- Make an initial assessment of the required evidence as a whole (acknowledging uneven performance across evidence), considering each band in turn and considering the level of performance described in the context of the knowledge and skills in the indicative content to make a balanced judgement of the best band to use as a starting point.
- Read the evidence and review it against the band descriptor in more detail,
 - deciding if the response is securely sitting within the band, i.e. all quality characteristics described by the band descriptor are seen, and strongly meets the level of performance described by the descriptor holistically (i.e. across the range of relevant evidence):
 - check the descriptor for the level above
 - if the evidence clearly shows some of the characteristics of the higher band, select a suitable mark at the bottom of that band

- if *not* showing characteristics of the higher band revert to the original band, select a mark at the higher end of that mark range.
- If the response is not securely in the band, but *is partially* showing the characteristics of the band,
 - check the descriptor of the level below
 - decide on a suitable mark either at the bottom of the original band as some characteristics shown, or top of the lower band if it better describes the quality of the characteristics being shown.
- If the response is largely meeting the band, with only a few concerns, and is not showing characteristics aligning with the higher or lower bands, the appropriate mark is likely to be in the middle range.
- If there is no alignment with the descriptor, reassess the starting band, and begin again.
- Based on the level of alignment with the descriptor, confirm the final mark within the band, bearing in mind that the available marks form an *evenly distributed scale*:
 - if the quality of response fully aligns with the performance described by the descriptor – assign a high mark within the band
 - if the quality of the response partially aligns with the performance described by the descriptor – assign a low to medium mark within the band
 - consider the quality compared to a range of similar responses (e.g. relevant annotated training material exemplars, responses reviewed during standardisation, and through experience) choose a mark on the point on the scale that would give an appropriate ranking for the assessed piece of evidence in relation to this information and in comparison with that of the rest of the cohort for that assessment theme.

7. Marking grid

There is a marking grid for each assessment theme that must be assessed, within each Performance Outcome as part of this occupational specialism assessment.

Performance Outcome 2 - Establish conditions for animal breeding

Assessment theme – Health and welfare

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 1a

- full health assessment on one animal
- risk assessment

Task 1b

- health check report

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 1a

Full health assessment on one animal

- use of techniques to identify and monitor the health and wellbeing of livestock:
 - observation
 - smell
 - sound
 - weighing
 - temperature taking

- physical examination (including touch)
- correct identification of signs of good and poor health:
 - condition of coat, skin, clean condition of mouth, dentition, condition of eyes, ears, nose, condition of head, body and limbs including feet, hooves, condition of genitals, colour of mucous membranes, general mood, respiration, temperature, faeces (amounts, consistency and effects on production)
- human-animal interaction
- use of appropriate handling and restraining techniques
- apply physical dexterity with appropriate pressure when interacting with livestock
- consistent and welfare friendly handling and restraint

Risk assessment

- risk assessment completed, including the following:
 - consideration of current legislation and safe working practices (Health & Safety at Work Act and associated regulations)
 - identify hazards, such as: uneven ground, livestock, treatment equipment, restraint equipment, manual-handling
 - and assess risks, such as: slips, trips and falls, cuts and abrasions, self-injection, crushing, biting, kicking, zoonoses, trapping limbs
 - decide who might be harmed and how (candidate, assessor, other learners)
 - evaluate the risks and take action to prevent or minimise such as mark or remove hazards, safe use of treatment equipment, correct restraint and handling of livestock, use of PPE
 - record findings correctly on the form

Task 1b

Health check report

- record keeping of the signs of good and poor health for cattle:
 - condition of coat, skin, clean condition of mouth, dentition, condition of eyes, ears, nose, condition of head, body and limbs including feet, hooves, condition of genitals, colour of mucous membranes, general mood, respiration, temperature, faeces (amounts, consistency and effects on production)

Assessment theme: Health and welfare	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	4-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic understanding of the signs of good and poor health resulting in a health check that is basic and does not cover all relevant checks.	Good understanding of the signs of good and poor health resulting in a health check that is good and covers most relevant checks.	Excellent understanding of the signs of good and poor health resulting in a health check that is excellent and covers all relevant checks.	NA	
	Techniques to complete health assessment are not always appropriate.	Techniques to complete health assessment are generally appropriate.	Techniques to complete health assessment are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Techniques used to handle livestock are not always appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are generally appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Risk assessments is complete and covers a limited range of hazards (including all major hazards) and mitigation methods.	Risk assessments is complete and covers a good range of hazards (including all major hazards) and mitigation methods.	Risk assessments is complete and covers an excellent range of hazards (including all major hazards) and mitigation methods.	N/A	

Assessment theme – Breeding

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 1b

- written report of the suitability of one animal for breeding

Task 11

- written report - parturition data

Task 8

- calculations of breeding performance
- annotated (A3 size) plan of the units

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 1b

Written report of the suitability of livestock for breeding

- assess suitability of one animal for breeding:
 - age
 - condition
 - size
 - weight

Task 11

Written report - parturition data

- determine date of rams being introduced to the flock based on given lambing periods
- accurate calculation of gestation period

Task 8

Calculation of breeding performance

- calculation of the annual breeding performance for the 100 sows
- spread of service dates and conception rates
- how performance indicators are used to make livestock breeding decisions

Annotated (A3 size) plan of the units

- how performance indicators (via calculations) are used to plan unit set up for the 100 sows

Assessment theme: Breeding	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic understanding of the signs to assess suitability for livestock breeding.	Good understanding of the signs to assess suitability for livestock breeding.	Excellent understanding of the signs to assess suitability for livestock breeding.	NA	
	Parturition dates are not always calculated correctly.	Parturition dates are generally calculated correctly.	Parturition dates are calculated correctly.	NA	
	Basic understanding of breeding performance data resulting in calculations that are not always accurate.	Good understanding of breeding performance data resulting in calculations that are generally accurate.	Excellent understanding of breeding performance data resulting in calculations that are consistently accurate.	NA	
	Basic use of breeding performance calculations to plan and propose accommodation and handling.	Good use of breeding performance calculations to plan and propose accommodation and handling.	Excellent use of breeding performance calculations to plan and propose accommodation and handling.	NA	

Performance Outcome 3 - Rear livestock from birth to production standard

Assessment theme – Health and welfare

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 1a

- medicine treatment record

Assessor observations:

- administer oral treatment

Video evidence:

- administer oral treatment

Task 4a

Assessor observations:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding, and feed one animal using a bottle

Photographic evidence:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding

Video evidence:

- feed one animal using the bottle

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 1a

Medicine treatment records

- accurate recording of application of treatment to include:
 - name of treatment
 - reason for treatment
 - quantity used
 - withdrawal periods

Assessor observations:

Administer oral treatment

- safe and correct application of oral treatment to cattle
 - setting up of treatment equipment (connections, removal of air)
 - measuring treatment with precision (based on product label information)
 - administering an oral treatment (ensure animal is appropriately restrained, correct dose administered)

Video evidence:

- administer oral treatment – to include setting up of treatment equipment and administering of treatment.

Task 4a

Assessor observations:

Prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding, and feed one animal using a bottle

- calculate feed requirements (type and quantity of feed) as appropriate to the requirements of the sheep
- prepare and mix feed (weighing out milk powder and mixing, removal of lumps in feed, checking temperature)
- feed sheep using a bottle (keep bottle at correct angle to ensure sheep is not taking in excessive air)

Photographic evidence:

- prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding
 - measure ingredients
 - mix ingredients

Video evidence:

- feed one animal using the bottle.

Assessment theme: 1. Health and welfare	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-2	3-4	5-6	NA	6
	Records have basic detail and cover minimal relevant content.	Records have good detail and covers most relevant content.	Records have excellent detail and covers all relevant content.	NA	
	Processes and techniques are not always appropriate.	Processes and techniques are generally appropriate.	Processes and techniques are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Basic skills in preparation of feed and feeding of animal.	Good skills in preparation of feed and feeding of animal.	Excellent skills in preparation of feed and feeding of animal.	NA	

Assessment theme – Handling

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 1a

Assessor observations:

- work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area
- take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment
- check equipment and weigh an animal
- identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings

Photographic evidence:

- check equipment and weigh an animal
- identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings

Video evidence:

- work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area
- take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 1a

Assessor observations:

Check equipment and weigh an animal

- check weigh scales for accuracy (base settings) and weigh an animal
- correct interpretation of weight
- use welfare friendly techniques to handle and weigh an animal safely

Work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area

- collaboration and communication with others to effectively move livestock into the handling area
- positioning of personnel to ensure safety of handler and efficient movement of livestock
- use appropriate welfare friendly techniques to handle and move livestock (preparation of gates, equipment prior to moving the animals)

Take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment

- clear and appropriate instructions given to the other person
- use appropriate welfare friendly techniques to handle and restrain cattle safely
- positioning of personnel to ensure safety of handler and efficient movement of livestock
- apply physical dexterity with appropriate application of force and pressure when interacting with cattle
- correct use of equipment to restrain cattle could include:
 - halter, race, crush, yoke, calf by hand, handling pens

Identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings

- accurate identification of animal (ear tag, freeze brand, collar)
- apply a temporary marking to an animal (tape, wax/ spray marker)

Photographic evidence:

- check equipment and weigh an animal
 - the equipment being checked for accuracy
 - the scales showing a zero reading
 - the animal being weighed (with scales showing reading)
- identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings
 - use of the digital tag reader
 - the applied markings

Video evidence:

- work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area

- take the lead when working with a colleague to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment

Assessment theme: Handling	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-3	4-6	7-9	NA	9
	Techniques used to handle livestock are not always appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are generally appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Basic understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Good understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Excellent understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	NA	
	Demonstrates a basic ability to work with others to safely move livestock.	Demonstrates a good ability to work with others to safely move livestock.	Demonstrates an excellent ability to work with others to safely move livestock.		

Assessment theme – Rearing

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 1b

- written report of the suitability of one animal for breeding

Task 2a

Assessor observations:

- attach a halter to a calf
- fit a calf jacket

Photographic evidence:

- fit a calf jacket
- attach a halter to a calf

Task 2b

Assessor observations:

- catch one sheep from a group
- manually tip and turn a sheep using the correct techniques to check feet to identify if treatment is needed
- age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition

Video evidence:

- catch a sheep from a group
- manually tip and turn a sheep

Supplementary questioning

Task 11

- written report – performance indicators

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 1b

Written report of the suitability of livestock for breeding

- assess suitability of one animal for breeding:
 - age
 - condition
 - size
 - weight

Task 2a

Assessor observations:

Fit a calf jacket

- correct fitting of a calf jacket (correct fastening, correct length of straps)
- correct handling of the animal with due consideration for health and welfare

Attach a halter to a calf

- correct attaching of halter (correct direction/ orientation, tightened appropriately)
- correct handling of the animal with due consideration for health and welfare

Photographic evidence:

- fit a calf jacket
 - The calf with the jacket fitted
- attach a halter to a calf
 - The calf with the halter fitted

Task 2b

Assessor observations:

Catch one sheep from a group

- identify and restrain the selected sheep with minimum stress to the group of sheep

Manually tip and turn a sheep using the correct techniques to check feet to identify if treatment is needed

- use tip and turn technique correctly, appropriate restraint whilst sheep is turned
- observation and handling (checking for heat, parting of hooves, smell, damage, inflammation) of all feet to identify if treatment is needed

Video evidence

- catch a sheep from a group
- manually tip and turn a sheep

Age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition.

- correct identification of presence of broad teeth (incisors)
- correct age of sheep is given based on the number of broad teeth (incisors)

Supplementary questioning:**Manually tip and turn a sheep**

- What are the signs that indicate that the feet require treatment?
Swelling, smell, flesh/blood evident, physical injury, heat, unable to bare weight on affected foot, foreign object present.

Age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition

- How many broad teeth (incisors) are present?
- Based on the number of broad teeth (incisors) present, approximately how old is the sheep?
 - 2 incisors = 12-18 months
 - 4 incisors = 18-26 months
 - 6 incisors = 24-36 months
 - 8 incisors = 32-48 months +

Task 11**Written report – performance indicators**

- analysis and comparisons of the flock physical and financial performance with industry benchmark data

Assessment theme: Rearing	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic understanding of performance data resulting in a brief analysis and comparisons.	Good understanding of performance data resulting in a good analysis and comparisons.	Excellent understanding of performance data resulting in a detailed analysis and comparisons.	NA	
	Basic skills/ techniques used when working with livestock.	Good skills/ techniques used when working with livestock.	Excellent skills/ techniques used when working with livestock.	NA	
	Basic understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Good understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Excellent understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the characteristics of livestock that indicate they are ready for stages of production.	Good understanding of the characteristics of livestock that indicate they are ready for stages of production.	Excellent understanding of the characteristics of livestock that indicate they are ready for stages of production.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the knowledge that relates to the practical tasks.	Good understanding of the knowledge that relates to the practical tasks.	Excellent understanding of the knowledge that relates to the practical tasks.	NA	

Assessment theme – Crop

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 5a

Assessor observations:

- take and test a soil sample

Photographic evidence:

- take a representative soil sample
- test the soil sample for pH

Task 5b

- proforma with images
- written report – potential impact of invasive plants on livestock

Task 5c

- written plan for establishing a new grass ley
- written plan for establishing a cereal crop

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 5a

Assessor observations:

Take and test a soil sample

- take a representative soil sample using the appropriate techniques (Depth, W pattern, areas to avoid, suitable timing, suitable amount)
- use of an appropriate tool e.g. spear to take soil sample
- test a soil sample and accurately identify the pH
- use pH testing kit and colour chart to test soil sample

Photographic evidence:

- take a representative soil sample
 - collecting the sample
- test the soil sample for pH
 - carrying out the test
 - completed test result

Task 5b**Proforma with images**

- correct identification of:
 - two grasses (perennial ryegrass, timothy)
 - two legumes (red clover, white clover)
 - two forage crops (turnip/ stubble turnip, beet/ fodder beet)
 - three weeds (creeping thistle/ thistle, broad leaved dock/ dock, nettle)

Written report – potential impact of invasive plants on livestock

- the impact of invasive plants on livestock
 - reduced grazing area due to the competitive nature of invasive plant
 - physical harm to livestock (toxicity, injury)
 - non-compliance with legislation – requirement to control invasive plants
 - costs associated with control methods (physical/ chemical, grazing intervals)

Task 5c**Written plan for establishing a new grass ley**

- the suitability of the grass seed selection for sheep grazing and conservation
- the proposed length of ley
- the sheep grazing and conservation techniques
- establishment method based on previous cropping, soil type, soil conditions at time of sowing
- required weed control
- timings of conservation based on choice on conservation (silage, haylage, hay)

Written plan for establishing a cereal crop

- the suitability of the cereal crop
- the reasons for the wheat crop (crop rotation, grain to sell/ home-use, straw to home-use)
- establishment method based on previous cropping, soil type and soil conditions at time of sowing
- required weed control

Assessment theme: Crop	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic understanding of the different types of plants demonstrated through the identification of the specified plants being not always correct.	Good understanding of the different types of plants demonstrated through the identification of the specified plants being generally correct.	Excellent understanding of the different types of plants demonstrated through the identification of the specified plants being mostly correct.	NA	
	Basic understanding of establishment methods resulting in a plan that is brief and has some inaccuracies.	Good understanding of establishment requirements resulting in a plan that is good and mostly accurate.	Excellent understanding of establishment requirements resulting in a plan that is detailed and accurate.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the impact of invasive plants.	Good understanding of the impact of invasive plants.	Excellent understanding of the impact of invasive plants.	NA	
	Basic knowledge and skills of the	Good knowledge and skills of the	Excellent knowledge and skills	NA	

	techniques to test soil samples for key requirements.	techniques to test soil samples for key requirements.	of the techniques to test soil samples for key requirements.		
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Assessment theme – Environment and accommodation

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 4b

Assessor observations:

- prepare indoor accommodation
- measure accommodation to determine stocking densities
- measure available feed and water access

Photographic evidence:

- prepare indoor accommodation for livestock

Task 4c

- written report on the suitability of the accommodation, including all measurements, calculations and stocking densities

Task 8

- an annotated (A3 size) plan of the units
- written report

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 4b

Assessor observations: (sheep)

Prepare indoor accommodation

- preparation of indoor accommodation based on (size/ weight/ stage of production to be specified by the assessor)

- ensure environment is safe and free from hazards
- ensure accommodation is clean
- use of hygienic techniques and biosecurity (disinfecting pens, foot dips)
- use of hand tools (brush, shovel, fork) to prepare accommodation
- selection of bedding material
- checking water flow and supply
- adjusting environmental conditions (ventilation, lighting) if required
- security of enclosure (gate fastenings)

Measure accommodation to determine stocking densities

- appropriate use of measuring equipment (laser, tape or wheel) to accurately measure the floor area of pen/s

Measure available feed and water access

- appropriate use of measuring equipment (laser, tape or wheel) to accurately measure the feed and water access (trough space, water access)

Photographic evidence:

- prepare indoor accommodation for livestock
 - using hygienic techniques (e.g. clean pen)
 - applying biosecurity measures

Task 4c

Written report on the suitability of the accommodation, including all measurements, calculations and stocking densities

- accurate calculation of stocking densities for livestock based on (size/ weight/ stage of production to be specified by the assessor) and in accordance with stocking density requirements e.g. farm assurance requirements
- accurate calculation of feed and water access based on (size/ weight/ stage of production to be specified by the assessor) and in accordance with feed and water access requirements e.g. farm assurance requirements
- the suitability of the proposed accommodation with justifications to include:
 - the principles and requirements of environment design and accommodation which meet the needs of different types of livestock, and livestock at different stages of production
 - the potential hazards of different livestock accommodation and how these are minimised or eliminated
 - how the need to handle and move livestock is considered and managed in accommodation designs
 - ensure the design meets the five freedoms of animal welfare
 - Implications of poor security (theft, animal escaping, injury to others)

Task 8

An annotated (A3 size) plan of the units

- a layout plan for the 100 sow indoor pig production unit to include:
 - dry sow accommodation
 - boar accommodation
 - insemination/ service facilities
 - farrowing accommodation
 - handling facilities
 - feed/ water facilities
 - space allowances

Written report

- a written report to include justifications for the plan, to include:
 - principles and requirements of livestock accommodation design to meet environmental requirements
 - how accommodation design can optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock
 - how the design meets the five freedoms of animal welfare

Assessment theme: Environment and accommodation	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Measurements and calculations are not always correct.	Measurements and calculations are generally accurate.	Measurements and calculations are mostly accurate.	NA	
	Use of tools, equipment and materials are basic and not always appropriate to the task.	Use of tools, equipment and materials are good and mostly appropriate to the task.	Use of tools, equipment and materials are excellent and always appropriate to the task.	NA	
	Demonstrates basic preparation of accommodation resulting in accommodation that meets some of the requirements.	Demonstrates good preparation of accommodation resulting in accommodation that meets most of the requirements.	Demonstrates excellent preparation of accommodation resulting in accommodation that meets all of the requirements.		
	Basic understanding of the principles and requirements of environment design, accommodation and it's suitability for the specified livestock.	Good understanding of the principles and requirements of environment design, accommodation and it's suitability for the specified livestock.	Excellent understanding of the principles and requirements of environment design, accommodation and it's suitability for the specified livestock.	NA	
	Basic understanding of how accommodation can	Good understanding of how accommodation can	Excellent understanding of how accommodation	NA	

	optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock.	optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock.	can optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock.		
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Performance Outcome 4 - Optimise livestock production

Assessment theme – Health and welfare

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 9

- health, welfare and performance template

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 9

Health, welfare and performance template

- Animal welfare frameworks - Requirements of the code of welfare including five freedoms and stocking densities
- Health checks - All parts of the bird's anatomy
- Signs of good and poor health - Feathers or scales, beak, claws, comb, condition of eyes, ears, condition of head, body and limbs including feet, colour of mucous membranes, general mood, behaviour, flock interaction, gait, movement, feeding and drinking behaviour, respiration, faeces (amounts, consistency and effects on production)
- Handling methods with justifications for the birds - crate, by hand, nets

Assessment theme: 1. Health and welfare	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-2	3-4	5-6	NA	6
	Basic understanding of the signs of good	Good understanding of the signs of good	Excellent understanding of the	NA	

	and poor health resulting in a health check that is basic and does not cover all relevant checks.	and poor health resulting in a health check that is good and covers most relevant checks.	signs of good and poor health resulting in a health check that is excellent and covers all relevant checks.		
	Basic understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Good understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	Excellent understanding of health and welfare of animals demonstrated through handling techniques.	NA	

Assessment theme – Transportation

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 3b

Assessor observation:

- visually assess condition of transport for livestock
- visually assess livestock for fitness for travel
- load and unload livestock onto and off transport

Video evidence:

- load and unload livestock onto and off transport.

Supplementary questioning

Task 9

- health, welfare and performance template

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 3b

Assessor observation:

Visually assess condition of transport for livestock

- carry out a visual assessment of the transport to include:
 - well-designed, constructed and maintained vehicles and loading facilities
 - roadworthy condition and have no sharp protrusions or be defective in any other way to cause injury and suffering
 - sufficient ventilation for all of the animals
 - floor, roof and sides that are weatherproof and prevent escape
 - access to inspect the animals and fixed or portable lighting
 - sufficient floor area and height appropriate to their size and the intended journey (visual estimate)
 - partitions strong enough to withstand the weight of animals (if applicable)
 - non-slip ramp or lift platform
- key legislative and ethical requirements when transporting livestock (additional rules apply for journeys over 65km (approx. 40 miles))

Visually assess livestock for fitness for travel

- carry out a visual assessment of the sheep to include:
 - fitness for the intended journey
 - animals must be able to move or walk unassisted
 - animals must not have any severe open wounds or prolapses

Load and unload livestock onto and off transport

- set up loading race and trailer to receive the sheep
- the appropriate techniques (position of handler, use of aids e.g. bag or rattle) for loading and unloading sheep onto and off transport

Video evidence:

- load and unload livestock onto and off transport.

Supplementary questioning:

Visually assess condition of transport for livestock

- what are you checking/what have you checked, and why, regarding the suitability of the transport vehicle and loading facilities?
 - well-designed, constructed and maintained vehicles and loading facilities
 - roadworthy condition and have no sharp protrusions or be defective in any other way to cause injury and suffering
 - sufficient ventilation for all of the animals
 - floor, roof and sides that are weatherproof and prevent escape
 - access to inspect the animals and fixed or portable lighting
 - sufficient floor area and height appropriate to their size and the intended journey
 - partitions strong enough to withstand the weight of animals
 - non-slip ramp or lift platform

Visually assess livestock for fitness for travel

- What are you checking/what have you checked, and why, regarding the fitness of the livestock for travel?
 - fitness for the intended journey
 - animals must be able to move or walk unassisted
 - animals must not have any severe open wounds or prolapses
- What actions would you take if you discover one of the animals is unfit for travel?
 - the animal would not be transported if considered to be unfit for travel.

Task 9

Health, welfare and performance template

- transportation requirements of the birds:
 - meeting requirements of legislation
 - documentation for intended journey
 - space allowances
 - transport environment (temperature, humidity, ventilation)

Assessment theme: Transportation	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-3	4-6	7-9	NA	9
	Techniques used to handle livestock are sometimes not appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are generally appropriate.	Techniques used to handle livestock are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Basic understanding of transportation requirements.	Good understanding of transportation requirements.	Excellent understanding of transportation requirements.	N/A	
	Basic knowledge and skills demonstrated through the visual assessments with some checks completed.	Good knowledge and skills demonstrated through the visual assessments with most checks completed.	Excellent knowledge and skills demonstrated through the visual assessments with all checks completed.	NA	

Assessment theme – Machinery and equipment

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 6

- pre-use checklist

Assessor observations:

- use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on and off a trailer

- hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse a tractor and a trailer in a confined area
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock

Photographic evidence:

- trailer hitched to tractor.

Video evidence:

- reversing the tractor into a confined area.
- use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on to a trailer.
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock.

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given.

Indicative content

Task 6

Pre-use checklist

- complete pre-use/ pre-start checks on machinery and equipment in accordance with manufacturers requirements
- appropriate checks recorded for the agricultural tractor and loader

Assessor observations:

Use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on and off a trailer

- optimum use of available area
- safe use of mechanical equipment
- smooth operation of controls
- loads placed in specified positions
- tractor left in a safe position after use
- all round observations throughout

Hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse the tractor and a trailer into a confined area

- tractor aligned with trailer
- correct and safe use of hitching mechanism and ancillary connections
- accurate manoeuvring when reversing into a confined area
- smooth operation of controls

- tractor and any equipment left in a safe position after use (safe stop procedure observed)
- all round observations throughout

Operate a diet feeder to feed livestock

- correct use and smooth operation of controls
- accurate driving and even distribution of feed
- tractor and diet feeder left in a safe position after use (safe stop procedure observed)
- all round observations throughout

Photographic evidence:

- trailer hitched to tractor

Video evidence:

- reversing the tractor into a confined area
- use mechanical equipment to load and unload one large bale of forage or straw on to a trailer
- operate a diet feeder to feed livestock

Assessment theme: Machinery and equipment	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	4-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic skills are demonstrated when operating machinery.	Good skills are demonstrated when operating machinery.	Excellent skills are demonstrated when operating machinery.	NA	
	Basic techniques used for operating machinery and equipment are not appropriate to the task.	Good techniques used for operating machinery and equipment, are generally appropriate to the task.	Excellent techniques for operating machinery and equipment, are consistently appropriate to the task.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the pre use checks	Good understanding of the pre use checks	Excellent understanding of the	NA	

	required for the operation of machinery and equipment, resulting in a partially completed checklist.	required for the operation of machinery and equipment, resulting in a completed checklist.	pre use checks required for the operation of machinery and equipment, resulting in a detailed checklist.		
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Assessment theme – Production

Sub theme - Performance data

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 9

- health, welfare and performance template

Task 11

- written report - performance indicators

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 9

Health, welfare and performance template

- key performance indicators of the production operation and factors affecting the birds achieving these:
- KPI - feed intake, growth rates, egg production (number, size and quality), mortality rate
- factors - Nutrition, health status, age, breed, environmental conditions

Task 11

Written report performance indicators <ul style="list-style-type: none"> analysis and comparisons of the flock physical and financial performance with industry benchmark data 					
Assessment theme: Performance data	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-2	3-4	5-6	NA	6
	Basic understanding of production performance data resulting in reports that are brief.	Basic understanding of production performance data resulting in reports that are good.	Basic understanding of production performance data resulting in reports that are detailed.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the factors and systems used to manage livestock.	Good understanding of the factors and systems used to manage livestock.	Excellent understanding of the factors and systems used to manage livestock.	NA	

Sub theme – Routine production

Guidance for markers The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome: Task 3a Assessor observations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> determine individual body condition score for three animals. Video evidence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> body condition score for three animals. locomotion for three animals. Supplementary questioning

Task 3c

Assessor observations:

- set up milking equipment
- strip and inspect foremilk
- milk livestock
- clean down milking equipment

Video evidence:

- milk livestock

Task 3d

Assessor observations:

- handle sheep into and through a race
- crutch or dag two sheep
- foot bath a group of sheep

Video evidence:

- handle a small group (6-10) of sheep into and through a race.
- crutch or dag **one** sheep.
- foot bath a small group (6-10) of sheep.

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 3a

Assessor observations:

Determine individual body condition score for three animals

- determine individual body condition score for a group of three sheep
- safe and appropriate handling of sheep
- handling the animal on the loin only (plus dock for fat purposes) to determine body score
- use of industry guidance to determine body condition score

Video evidence:

- carrying out body condition score for three animals.
- locomotion for three animals.

Supplementary questioning:

- What is the body condition score for each of the three animals?
- What is the locomotion score for each of the three animals?
- What visual signs and industry guidance have enabled you to determine the locomotion score for the three animals?
(Weight bearing and rhythm of all four feet, posture, length of stride, head movement, knee walking, hanging behind, leg being held up)

Task 3c

Assessor observations:

Set up milking equipment

- use appropriate methods to set up and prepare milking equipment (pipework, filters, valves, taps)
- check vacuum and pulsation
- check sprays/ dips are functioning
- check gates, barriers

Strip and inspect foremilk

- observation of the foremilk

Milk livestock

- use of appropriate methods to milk a minimum of 30 cattle with consideration to welfare and hygiene requirements
- attach clusters and ensure cow is milked correctly
- teat dipping/ spraying (pre and/ or post)

Clean down milking equipment

- use of appropriate methods to clean down milking equipment
- ensuring valves, taps and pipework are in the correct positions for washing cycle
- system left to drain post washing

Video evidence:

- milk livestock (three cows)
 - cleaning teats
 - strip and inspect foremilk
 - attach clusters and ensure cow is milked correctly
 - teat dipping/ spraying

Task 3d

Assessor observations:

Handle sheep into and through race

- use of appropriate, welfare friendly handling techniques to move 6-10 sheep through the race

Foot bath a group of sheep

- ensure appropriate movement and speed/ or duration of the sheep through/ or in the footbath dependant on product requirements

Crutch or dag two sheep

- appropriate handling techniques
- appropriate use of equipment (battery or mains)
- crutching or dagging completed
- crutching or dagging carried out safely without injury to sheep or candidate

Video evidence:

- handle a small group (6-10) of sheep into and through a race.
- crutch or dag **one** sheep.
- foot bath a small group (6-10) of sheep.
 - either entering and standing in the bath if stand in footbath product is used.

Or

 - walking through the footbath if a walk-through product is used.

Assessment theme: Routine production	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Basic skills demonstrated when working with livestock.	Good skills demonstrated when working with livestock.	Excellent skills demonstrated when working with livestock.	NA	
	Techniques used are not always appropriate.	Techniques used are mostly appropriate.	Techniques used are consistently appropriate.	NA	
	Routine tasks for livestock production are carried out with a basic understanding of the methods of safe working practices.	Routine tasks for livestock production are carried out with a good understanding of the methods of safe working practices.	Routine tasks for livestock production are carried out with an excellent understanding of the methods of safe working practices.	NA	

Performance Outcome 5 - Maintain all areas of the livestock production environment

Assessment theme – Health and safety

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 7a

- a written report on the maintenance plan

Task 7b

- risk assessment

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 7a

A written report on the maintenance plan

- examples of malpractices (unethical, inefficient, illegal) when undertaking non- livestock production activities and the potential implications to the business and the production environment

Task 7b

Risk assessment

- risk assessment completed, including the following:
 - consideration of current legislation and safe working practices (Health & Safety at Work Act and associated regulations)
 - identify hazards, such as: uneven ground, manual-handling, machinery and equipment, materials
 - and assess risks, such as: slips, trips and falls, cuts and abrasions, physical impact, strains and sprains
 - decide who might be harmed and how (candidate, assessor, other learners)
 - evaluate the risks and take action to prevent or minimise such as mark or remove hazards, safe operation of machinery equipment, use of another person, use of PPE
 - record findings correctly on the form

Assessment theme: Health and safety	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-2	3-4	5-6	NA	6
	Examples of malpractices are basic and not always appropriate to the task.	Examples of malpractices are good and appropriate to the task.	Examples of malpractices are excellent and appropriate to the task.	NA	
	<p>Risk assessments is complete and covers a limited range of hazards including all major hazards.</p> <p>A limited range of mitigation methods are specified. Risk rating has been attempted but not for all identified hazards, and/or is unrealistic.</p>	<p>Risk assessment is complete and covers a good range of hazards including all major hazards.</p> <p>A good range of mitigation methods are specified. Risk rating has been completed for all identified hazards and is generally realistic.</p>	<p>Risk assessment is complete and cover a comprehensive range of hazards including all major hazards.</p> <p>A comprehensive range of mitigation methods have been identified. Risk rating has been completed for all identified hazards and is consistently realistic.</p>	NA	

Assessment theme – Plan boundary maintenance

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 7a

- a written report on the maintenance plan

Task 10

- a written report on alternative uses of areas surrounding the production environment

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 7a

A written report on the maintenance plan

- planning the maintenance of a permanent stock proof boundary:
- justifications for plan e.g. spacing of barbed wire and netting to prevent sheep getting head through the fence, position of staples on posts to prevent splitting of the post
- labelled diagram showing a site plan of the permanent stock proof boundary:
 - posts – size, type, spacing
 - consumables e.g. staples (including quantity required)
 - wire/netting – gauge, structure, length, spacing
- environmental considerations, legislation (including potential malpractice) and codes of practice e.g. treated posts, blocking rights of way
- costs - calculations must show all workings

Task 10

A written report on alternative uses of areas surrounding the production environment

- alternative uses of all areas of the livestock production environment with justifications

- land use schemes such as environmental stewardship, regional incentives
- the environmental benefits to the farm business such as increasing biodiversity, increasing income, benefits to public
- the implications of the alternative use such as reduction in production area, implementation and maintenance costs

Assessment theme: Plan boundary maintenance	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-7	9-12	NA	12
	Plans are basic and demonstrate limited knowledge and understanding of the requirements of boundary maintenance.	Plans are good and demonstrate some knowledge and understanding of the requirements of boundary maintenance.	Plans are excellent and demonstrate excellent knowledge and understanding of the requirements of boundary maintenance.	NA	
	There are some inaccuracies in calculations of cost and costs are not always appropriate to the task.	Costs have been mostly calculated correctly and are mostly appropriate to the task.	Costs have been calculated correctly and are appropriate to the task.	NA	
	Basic understanding of the areas surrounding livestock production.	Good understanding of the areas surrounding livestock production.	Excellent understanding of the areas surrounding livestock production.	NA	

Assessment theme – Carry out boundary maintenance

Guidance for markers

The following tasks must be used to assess performance against this assessment theme, within the context of the performance outcome:

Task 7b

Assessor observations:

- safely undertake the installation of a 6-metre section of stock proof fence with stock netting and two strands of barbed wire above the stock netting
- dispose of waste materials appropriately

Photographic evidence:

- the finished fence

Task 7c

- check a ditch and drain outfalls
- carry out remedial work

Photographic evidence:

- photos of 'before' and 'after' the candidate has undertaken the task: whole area

Task 7d

- plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded

Photographic evidence:

- the finished hedge

Note: where there is insufficient evidence to award a mark, a zero mark may be given

Indicative content

Task 7b

Safely undertake the installation of a 6-metre section of stock proof fence with stock netting and two strands of barbed wire above the stock netting.

- install a minimum of 6-metre of stock proof fence:
- correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery
- correct pre-use checks on tools and machinery
- posts spaced appropriately to length and undulation of the land, vertical, in-line and to correct depth for the netting and barbed wires
- stock netting sufficiently and suitably attached
- barbed wire correctly strained correctly
- demonstrate use of appropriate tools and equipment.

Photographic evidence:

- the finished fence
 - photo of the finished boundary: full section, sample of post (vertical), sample of wire attachment (including staple), strainer (how wound wire)

Task 7b

Dispose of waste materials appropriately

- waste materials from the fence installation are separated and segregated and disposed of in appropriate sacks or containers.

Task 7c

Check a ditch and drain outfalls

- check a ditch and drain outfalls

Carry out remedial work

- carry out remedial work to ensure free flow of water
- correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery
- correct pre-use checks on tools and machinery
- use of hand, power or mechanical tools demonstrated

Photographic evidence:

- Photos of 'before' and 'after' the candidate has undertaken the task: whole area

Task 7d

Plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded

- plant 20 hedging plants:
 - correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery
 - safe and efficient use of tools e.g. planting spade, mallet
 - plants at correct spacing, depth, heeled in, no damage, guarded
 - appropriate use of hand, power or mechanical tools demonstrated

Photographic evidence:

- the finished hedge: full hedge (in line), individual guarded plant (depth)

Assessment theme: Carry out boundary maintenance	Band 1 descriptor	Band 2 descriptor	Band 3 descriptor	Total marks per sub-theme	Total marks for assessment theme
Marks per band	1-4	5-8	9-12	NA	12
	Selection of tools, equipment and processes are not always appropriate to the task	Selection of tools, equipment and processes are generally appropriate to the task.	Selection of tools, equipment and processes are consistently appropriate to the task.	NA	
	Use of tools, equipment and processes are basic , resulting in a finish that is of poor quality.	Use of tools, equipment and processes are good resulting in a finish that is of adequate quality.	Use of tools, equipment and processes are excellent , resulting in a finish that is of high-quality.	NA	

	Waste disposal methods are not always correct.	Waste disposal methods are mostly correct.	Waste disposal methods are always correct.	N/A	
	Basic techniques used to carry out maintenance activities resulting in a finish that meets some of the requirements.	Good techniques used to carry out maintenance activities resulting in a finish that meets most of the requirements.	Excellent techniques used to carry out maintenance activities resulting in a finish that meets all of the requirements.	NA	

8. Links to Maths, English and Digital Skills

The table below indicates where each of the General Maths, English and Digital Competencies have been integrated into the assignment tasks.

Task	Skills
1	EC1, EC2, EC3, EC4
2	MC1, EC3, EC4
3	N/A
4	EC1, EC2, EC3, EC4, MC1, MC2, MC4
5	EC1, EC3, EC4
6	EC1, EC3, EC4
7	EC1, EC3, EC4, MC1, MC2, MC8, MC9
8	EC1, EC3, EC4, MC2
9	EC1, EC3, EC4
10	EC1, EC3, EC4
11	EC1, EC3, EC4, MC2

9. Declaration of authenticity

Assessment ID	Qualification number
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Centre number

Additional Support

Has the candidate received any additional support in the production of this work?

No ☐ **Yes** ☐ (Please tick appropriate)

If yes, give details below (and on a separate sheet if necessary).

--

Candidate:

I confirm that all work submitted is my own, and that I have acknowledged all sources I have used.

Candidate signature	Date

Assessor:

I confirm that all work was conducted under conditions designed to assure the authenticity of the candidate's work, and am satisfied that, to the best of my knowledge, the work produced is solely that of the candidate.

Assessor signature	Date

Note: Where the candidate and/or assessor is unable to or does not confirm authenticity through signing this declaration form, the work will be returned to the centre, and this will delay the moderation process. If any question of authenticity arises, the assessor may be contacted for justification of authentication.

10. Candidate Record Form (CRF)

T level Technical Qualification – Livestock production

Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Centre number

Marker Notes – Always refer to the relevant marking grid for guidance on allocating marks and make notes which describe the quality of the evidence and justification of marks.

Please record any guidance, intervention (including Health and Safety) or feedback that is given to a candidate.

Expand boxes as required.

PO2 Establish conditions for animal breeding

Health and welfare												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

Handling						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Breeding												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

PO3 Rear livestock from birth to production standard

Health and welfare						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Handling						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Rearing									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mark	Notes and justification								

Crop												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

Environment and accommodation												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

PO4 Optimise livestock production

Health and welfare						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Transportation									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Mark	Notes and justification								

Machinery and equipment												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

Production						
Performance data						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Routine production												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

PO5 Maintain all areas of the livestock production environment

Health and safety						
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Mark	Notes and justification					

Plan for boundary maintenance												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

Carry out boundary maintenance												
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Mark	Notes and justification											

Internal assessor signature	Date	Total

11. Templates and pro formas

Figure 3. Medicine treatment record (for use with task 1a)

This template may be modified by adding items/rows only.

Candidate's name		Enrolment number	
Task / Activity		Location	
Assessor's name		Date	

Name of Veterinary Medicine & Batch No	Date Treatment Started	Date Treatment Finished	Identity of Animal / Group Treated:	Person(s) Administering Medicine	Reason For Treatment & Comments	Total Quantity Used	Withdrawal Period (State Hours / Days)		Date Withdrawal Period Ends
							Meat	Milk	

Figure 4: Risk Assessment (for use with task 1a and task 7b)

This template may be modified by adding items/rows only.

Candidate's name	_____	Enrolment number	_____
Task / Activity	_____	Location	_____
Assessor's name	_____	Date	_____

Item no.	What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed and how?	What precautions are already in place?	Risk rating (High / Medium / Low)	What further action is necessary?	Action by who and when?	Final risk rating (High / Medium / Low / Trivial)

Date:	Risk assessment carried out by:
--------------	--

Figure 5: Health Check Report (for use with task 1b)

This template may be modified by adding items/rows only.

Candidate's name		Enrolment number	
Task / Activity		Location	
Assessor's name		Date	


Animal ID:		
Health Check:	Check Completed (Tick):	Comments:

Figure 6: Plant identification (for use with task 5b)

Candidate's name		Enrolment number	
Task / Activity		Location	
Assessor's name		Date	


Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Grass 1		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Grass 2		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Legum e 1		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Legum e 2		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Forage 1		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Forage 2		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Weed 1		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Weed 2		

Ref:	Image:	Common Name:
Weed 3		

Figure 7: Pre-Use Checklist (for use with task 6)

This template may be modified by adding items/rows only.

Candidate's name		Enrolment number	
Task / Activity		Location	
Assessor's name		Date	

Agricultural Tractor

Pre-Use Check:	Check Completed (Tick):

Tractor Mounted Front-End Loader

Pre-Use Check:	Check Completed (Tick):

Remember to check in the operator's manual as to how often to carry out checks, and if anything is wrong with the tractor or front-end loader, report it to your supervisor.

Figure 8: Health, welfare and performance (for use with task 9)

This template may be modified by adding items/rows only.

Candidate's name		Enrolment number	
Task / Activity		Location	
Assessor's name		Date	

The animal welfare frameworks and legislation that must be considered and how they relate to the enterprise		
The handling methods and techniques when catching and loading/ unloading with justifications		
Transportation requirements (legislation, documentation, fitness to travel)		
The techniques used to identify and monitor the health and wellbeing of the birds with justifications (benefits/ limitations) for each technique		
The health checks for the bird and signs of poor health	Body part	Signs of poor health

Key performance indicators of the production operation and factors affecting livestock achieving these	KPI's	Factors

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
Work with two others to safely move animals (6-10) from a yard/pen/ field into a handling area	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> collaboration and communication with others to effectively move livestock into the handling area use of appropriate techniques to handle and move livestock 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
Take the lead when working with one other to safely restrain one animal using appropriate equipment	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • clear and appropriate instructions given to the other person • use appropriate techniques to handle and restrain cattle safely • apply physical dexterity with appropriate application of force and pressure when interacting with cattle • use of equipment to restrain cattle could include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ halter, race, crush, yoke, calf by hand, handling pens 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
A full health assessment on one animal	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of techniques to identify and monitor the health and wellbeing of livestock • appropriate handling techniques 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
Check equipment and weigh an animal	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • check equipment for accuracy and weigh cattle using scales • use appropriate techniques to handle and weigh cattle safely 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
Identify one animal using a digital tag reader and apply markings	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accurate identification of animal (ear tag, freeze brand, collar) • techniques and application of a temporary marking to an animal (tape, wax/spray marker) 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 1a

Task	Qualification number
Administer oral treatment to an animal	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe application of oral treatment to cattle • setting up of treatment equipment • measure treatment with precision • administer an oral treatment 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 2a

Task	Qualification number
Correctly fit a calf jacker and attach a halter	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct fitting of a calf jacket (correct fastening, correct length of straps) • correct attaching of halter (correct direction/ orientation, tightened appropriately) 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 2b

Task	Qualification number
Catch one sheep from a group	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> appropriate methods used to restrain and catch the sheep with minimum stress to sheep 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 2b

Task	Qualification number
Manually tip and turn a sheep using the correct techniques and check feet to identify if treatment is needed	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use tip and turn technique correctly, appropriate restraint whilst sheep is turned • observation and handling (checking for heat, parting of hooves, smell, damage, inflammation) of all feet to identify if treatment is needed 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 2b

Task	Qualification number
Age a sheep from its teeth and assess teeth condition	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correct techniques and identification of presence of broad teeth (incisors) 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3a

Task	Qualification number
Determine individual body condition score of a group of three animals	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> safe handling of sheep in the appropriate areas to determine BCS 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3b

Task	Qualification number
Visually assess condition of transport for livestock	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correct checks carried out as part of the visual assessment including roadworthy condition, well-constructed and maintained transport. 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3b

Task	Qualification number
Visually assess livestock for fitness for travel	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correct checks carried out as part of the visual assessment to determine fitness for travel. 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3b

Task	Qualification number
Load and unload livestock onto and off transport	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the appropriate techniques for loading and unloading sheep onto and off transport 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3c

Task	Qualification number
The procedure for milking cattle <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up milking equipment • Strip and inspect foremilk • Milk livestock • Clean down milking equipment 	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set up milking equipment • strip and inspect foremilk and milk livestock <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ cleaning teats ○ strip and inspect foremilk ○ attach clusters and ensure cow is milked correctly ○ teat dipping/spraying • clean down milking equipment 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3d

Task	Qualification number
Handle a small group (6-10) of sheep into and through a race	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use of appropriate, welfare friendly handling techniques to move the sheep through the race 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3d

Task	Qualification number
Crutch or dag two sheep	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • appropriate handling techniques • appropriate use of equipment • crutching or dagging carried out safely without injury to sheep or candidate • crutching or dagging carried out to requirements 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 3d

Task	Qualification number
Foot bath a small group (6-10) of sheep	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> appropriate movement and speed/ or duration of the sheep through/ or in the footbath 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 4a

Task	Qualification number
Prepare and mix feed for bottle feeding, and feed one animal using a bottle	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • calculation of feed requirements (type and quantity of feed) as appropriate to the requirements of the sheep • preparation and mixing of feed (weighing out milk powder and mixing, removal of lumps in feed, checking temperature) • feeding sheep using a bottle (keep bottle at correct angle to ensure sheep is not taking in excessive air) 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 4b

Task	Qualification number
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare and accommodation • Measure accommodation to determine stocking densities • Measure available feed and water access 	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring environment is safe and free from hazards • use of hygienic techniques and biosecurity (disinfecting pens, foot dips) • use of hand tools (brush, shovel, fork) to prepare accommodation • appropriate use of measuring equipment to determine floor area and feed and water access 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 5a

Task	Qualification number
Take and test a soil sample for pH	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> appropriate techniques used to take a representative soil sample (Depth, W pattern, areas to avoid, suitable timing) testing a soil sample to identify the pH 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 6

Task	Qualification number
Use mechanical equipment to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on and off a trailer	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • optimum use of available area • safe use of mechanical equipment • smooth operation of controls • loads placed in specified positions • tractor left in a safe position after use • all round observations throughout 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 6

Task	Qualification number
Hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse the tractor and a trailer into a confined area	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tractor aligned with trailer • correct and safe use of hitching mechanism • accurate maneuvering when reversing into a confined area • smooth operation of controls • tractor left in a safe position after use • all round observations throughout 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 6

Task	Qualification number
Operate a diet feeder to feed livestock	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct use and smooth operation of controls • accurate driving and even distribution of feed • tractor left in a safe position after use • all round observations throughout 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 7b

Task	Qualification number
Safely undertake the installation of a 6 metre section of stock proof fence with stock netting and two strands of barbed wire above the stock netting	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery • demonstrating safe and efficient use of hand, power and/or mechanical tools appropriate to the task • post placement: depth, vertical, spacing, in line with marker • netting: tensioned, attachment (number and depth of staples) • barbed wire: tensioned, attachment (number, position, and depth of staples) 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 7b

Task	Qualification number
Dispose of waste materials appropriately	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for waste disposal followed • Waste separated and segregated and put into correct containers/ sacks. 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 7c

Task	Qualification number
Check a ditch and drain outfalls to ensure free flow of water	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessor observation 	Notes – <i>detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery correct pre-use checks on tools, equipment and machinery safe and efficient use of tools, equipment and machinery as appropriate to the task 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 7c

Task	Qualification number
Safely carry out remedial work using tools and equipment as appropriate	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct selection of tools, equipment and machinery • correct pre-use checks on tools, equipment and machinery • safe and efficient use of tools, equipment and machinery as appropriate to the task 	

Assessor signature	Date

Assessor Observation Form Task 7d

Task	Qualification number
Plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded	
Candidate name	Candidate number
Centre name	Assessment themes

Complete the table below referring to the relevant marking grid, found in the assessment pack. Do not allocate marks at this stage.

Assessor observation	Notes – detailed, accurate and differentiating notes which identify areas of strength and weakness are necessary to distinguish between different qualities of performance and to facilitate accurate allocation of marks once all evidence has been submitted.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • correct selection of tools • demonstrating safe and efficient use of tools: spade • planting: spacing, depth, heeled in, no damage • guarding 	

Assessor signature	Date

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