

T Level Technical Qualification in Agriculture Land Management and Production

Livestock Production Occupational Specialism (Level 3) (8717-413)

Practical Assignment SAMPLE Candidate Pack

December 2024 v1.0

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Version and date	Change detail	Section
V1.0 December 2024	First published version	

1. Assessment

This assessment is for the Livestock Production Occupational Specialism of the Technical Qualification. This pack consists of a practical assignment brief that you will need to use to complete your assessment tasks.

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>	14%
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>	32%
PO5 Maintain all areas of the livestock production environment	<p>Candidates will prepare and plan boundary installation and maintenance, including, creating a risk assessment, preparing a budget, estimating resource requirements.</p> <p>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.</p>	20%

2. Candidate guidance

General guidance

This is a formal assessment that you will be marked and graded on. You will be marked on the quality and accuracy of the work you produce. It is therefore important that you carry your work out to the highest standard you can.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is the failure to acknowledge sources properly and/or the submission of another person's work as if it were your own. Plagiarism is not allowed in this assignment.

This assignment is an assessment of your abilities, so the work submitted must be all your own and carried out under the conditions stated. You will be asked to sign a declaration that you have not had any help with the assignment. Your assessor is allowed to give you general advice i.e., clarification of the task instructions. However, general advice will not include:

- Any specific advice on how to improve work to meet the required standard
- Feedback on anything missing from your work
- Any intervention that improves the standard or presentation of work

If there is a need to provide more than general advice your assessor will need to record the advice, they have given and take it into account when marking the submitted work.

Where research is allowed, your assessor must be able to identify which work you have done yourself, and what you have found from other sources. It is therefore important to make sure you acknowledge sources used and clearly reference any information taken from them (e.g. providing as a minimum a list of web addresses / books / articles etc used).

Timings and planning

You are advised to study the details of the assessment before starting.

You should check with your assessor that you have all the relevant materials, equipment and information/data sources that you need before starting the assessment.

You should take care when planning to make sure you have divided the time available between parts of the assignment tasks appropriately. Timings for tasks are provided within this pack to support with planning and time allocation.

If you have a good reason for needing more time, you will need to explain the reasons to your assessor and agree a new time for the assessment to take place. Any changes will be at the discretion of the assessor and agreed by City & Guilds.

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.

Health and Safety

You must always work safely, in particular while you are carrying out practical tasks.

You must always follow any relevant Health and Safety regulations, Risk Assessments and codes of practice in line with centre requirements.

If your assessor sees you working in a way that is unsafe for yourself or others, they will highlight the issue and ask you to stop the task immediately.

Presentation of work

Presentation of work must be neat, legible and appropriate to the task and evidence required for submission.

You should make sure that each piece of evidence, including any forms, are clearly labelled with your name and the task reference.

All electronic files must be given a clear file name that allows your assessor to identify it as your work.

Written work may be digital or handwritten unless stated otherwise.

All sketches and drawings should be neat, tidy and annotated.

Calculations should be set out clearly, with all working shown, as well as any assumptions made. You should use appropriate units at all times, consistent with the requirements of the assignment.

Instructions for this assignment

Ensure you read all the provided assessment information issued by the assessor

You must work independently and not share your work with any other candidates in these supervised assessment sessions.

Your work will be kept secure during any supervised breaks that are taken.

Internet access is **not** allowed, unless otherwise stated in the task.

You will not be permitted any additional notes, such as printed resources and textbooks, unless otherwise stated in the conditions for assessment.

You must complete all the tasks and present all evidence that is detailed in each task.

This assessment booklet contains the assignment brief.

The tasks have been separated into individual documents which will be handed to you at the start of each task.

Any additional documents/templates needed for the task will be provided to you by the assessor.

Within each task you will find the following:

- **Resources:** Provides a list of equipment, documents or tools that you will have access to, to complete the task/sub task.

- **Conditions of assessment:** This will tell you the duration and rules you must follow when completing a task.
- **Controlled conditions:** This will tell you the rules you must follow when completing each task e.g. You must not share or discuss your work with other candidates.
- **What must be produced for marking:** This describes the evidence you must submit when the task is completed. Be aware that failure to submit any evidence requested can adversely affect your overall mark for the assessment.
- **Additional evidence for this task:** This describes other forms of evidence that will be collected by the assessor to support the marking of your performance. This will often include but is not limited to, photo and video evidence.

Performance outcome and assessment themes

A set number of marks are allocated against each 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.

You 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	21
	Breeding	9	
Rear livestock from birth to production standard	Health and welfare	6	51
	Handling	12	
	Rearing	9	
	Crop	12	
	Environment and accommodation	12	
Optimise livestock production	Health and welfare	6	48
	Transportation	9	
	Machinery and equipment	12	
	Production	21	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performance data • Routine production 	9	
	12		
Maintain all areas surrounding 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 stockperson at Guilds Farm, a mixed enterprise farm in your local area, which includes the following enterprises:

- 100 dairy cow herd
- 300 sow outdoor pig unit
- 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 to introduce a 32,000 bird free range egg laying unit with the following performance data, which is to be achieved after one 64-week production cycle:

Expected poultry performance data

	Guilds Farm
Eggs per 64-week cycle per bird	315
Dozens per cycle per bird	26.25
Egg price pence per dozen	148.0p
Mortality	6.28%
Feed use – g/day per bird	130g
Feed use – kg/64-week cycle per bird	54.6kg
Feed costs £ per tonne	£340

As part of your role as a trainee stockperson, 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.

You are also required to ensure that routine maintenance of outdoor facilities is carried out on the farm including tasks to safely carry out the operation of machinery and equipment and routine maintenance.

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

This assignment contains **eleven** tasks and has a total time of **35 hours**.

Your assessor will release the tasks to you at the start of each supervised session; they will also provide you with your permitted evidence for that task. You will not be permitted any additional notes, such as printed resources and textbooks, or access to internet, unless otherwise stated in the conditions of assessment.

Please read ALL information carefully before the assessment.

Task 1 - Husbandry tasks

All sub tasks and activities within Task 1 will be completed on **one** of the following species, allocated by the assessor: **cattle, sheep or pigs**.

a) You must carry out the following routine husbandry tasks:

- i) Complete a risk assessment for the routine husbandry tasks in part ii), the risk assessment template (Figure 3) will be provided by the assessor.
- ii) Carry out the following routine husbandry tasks:
 - work with **two** others to safely move **6-10** livestock from a yard/ pen/ field into a handling area
 - collaborate and communicate with others to effectively move the animals into the handling area
 - take the lead when working with **one** other to safely handle and restrain **one** animal using appropriate equipment
 - you must give clear and appropriate instructions to the other person to ensure handling and safe restraint of one animal.
 - identify **one** animal
 - check equipment and weigh **one** animal.
- iii) Carry out a full visual and physical health assessment (including temperature taking) of **one** animal. Determine the suitability of the livestock for breeding including:
 - age (provided by assessor)
 - condition
 - weight
 - size

You 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 notes are to be submitted at the end of the session, and they will be returned to you at the start of the next session.

The templates for the risk assessment (Figure 3) will be provided to you by your assessor.

Resources:

- 6-10 cattle, sheep or pigs
- appropriate PPE
- paper, pen, pencil and clipboard
- handling and restraint equipment
- thermometer
- weighing scales
- stopwatch or watch
- risk assessment template (Figure 3)

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor
- video evidence by the assessor

b) You must use the information collected during the visual and physical full health assessment in **Task 1 a)** to complete:

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

The template for the health check report (Figure 5) will be provided to you by your assessor.

Resources:

- notes from Task 1a) iii)
- health check report template (Figure 5)
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

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 - Livestock production

All sub tasks and activities within Task 2 will be completed on **one** of the following species, allocated by the assessor: **cattle, sheep or pigs**.

- a) You must carry out the following production tasks, using industry guidance provided to you by your assessor:
- i) determine individual body condition score (BCS) for three animals.
 - ii) assess individual livestock for lameness for **three** animals.
 - answer questions from the assessor during the task

Resources:

- three cattle, sheep or pigs
- appropriate PPE
- industry guidance for BCS
- industry guidance for lameness identification /scoring

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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 video/audio recording

- b) You must carry out the following with **six** animals of the allocated species:
- i) visually assess condition of transport for livestock
 - ii) visually assess livestock for fitness for travel
 - iii) load and unload livestock onto and off transport
 - answer questions from the assessor during the task

Resources:

- six cattle, sheep or pigs
- aids as appropriate e.g. pig board, straw or shavings
- handling system as appropriate e.g. hurdles and gates
- transport - livestock trailer attached to a suitable vehicle
- twine or rope or cord

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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 video/audio recording

Task 3 - Rearing and production

All sub tasks and activities within Task 3 will be completed on **one** of the following species, allocated by the assessor: **cattle or sheep**.

You must carry out the following routine rearing and production tasks using industry guidance:

- i) handle **6-10** cattle or sheep into and through a race
- ii) clip **two** cattle or crutch or dag **two** sheep
- iii) foot bath **6-10** cattle or sheep
- iv) identify **two** animals using a digital tag reader
- v) set up and check calibration of the drenching equipment and administer an oral drench to **two** animals
- vi) complete a medicine treatment record (Figure 4)
- vii) apply temporary markings to the treated animals

The template for the medicine treatment record (Figure 4) report will be provided to you by the assessor.

Resources:

- 6-10 cattle or sheep
- appropriate PPE
- pen with gates
- race
- crush or dagging crate
- digital tag reader
- oral treatment (simulation of medicine permitted) and administration equipment
- measuring cylinder
- medicine treatment record template (Figure 4)
- paper, pen, pencil and clipboard
- a livestock marker (spray or wax)
- battery operated clipping equipment or
- battery operated crutching or dagging equipment
- foot bath, product, water

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

What must be produced for marking:

- medicine treatment record

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photo evidence by the assessor
- video evidence by the assessor

Task 4 - Feeding and accommodation

All sub tasks and activities within Task 4 will be completed using **one** of the following species, allocated by the assessor: **cattle, sheep or pigs**.

- a) You must carry out the following with **6-10** animals of the allocated species:
- prepare concentrate feed and trough feed livestock
 - calculation of feed requirements
 - preparation and weighing of feed
 - preparation of trough(s)

Resources:

- 6-10 cattle, sheep or pigs
- appropriate PPE
- the feed
- feed guidance protocol information
- weighing scales
- appropriate number of troughs
- buckets
- hand brush and/or scraper
- feed scoop or shovel
- barrow or hopper or bag

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor

- b) You must carry out the following for the species allocated by the assessor (**cattle, sheep or pigs**):
- prepare indoor accommodation for livestock (size/ weight/ stage of production to be specified by the assessor):
 - using hygienic techniques
 - applying biosecurity measures
 - calculate the area of the whole accommodation to determine optimum stocking density
 - calculate the number of animals able to feed from the trough space available.
 - assess the water availability for the optimum stocking density.

You must keep a note of all measurements and calculations, these will be used to inform Task 4 c). These must be handed into the assessor at the end of the session, and they will be returned to you at the start of the next session.

Resources:

- access to livestock building
- appropriate PPE
- foot dip or disinfectant, antibacterial powder
- straw
- wheelbarrow
- fork
- brush
- shovel
- buckets
- access to water
- sprayer
- tape measure or measuring wheel or range finder
- industry codes of welfare recommendations
- calculator
- paper, pen, pencil and clipboard

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor

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

Resources:

- calculator
- paper, pen, pencil
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)
- the relevant industry codes of welfare recommendations according to species
- the stocking density requirements documentation e.g. clean pdf copy of Farm assurance standards

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

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) You must:

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

Resources:

- field for sampling
- appropriate PPE
- soil sampling equipment (e.g. spear)
- pH testing equipment

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor

b) You 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 will be provided to you by your assessor.

Resources:

- plant identification proforma (Figure 6)
- paper, pen, pencil
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

What must be produced for marking:

- proforma with images
- written report (typically 250 words)

Additional evidence for this task:

N/A

c) You 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.

Resources

- paper, pen, pencil
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

You must carry out the following:

- i) complete pre-use checklist on a tractor with either a front end loader or a materials handler, then hand into assessor prior to moving to the next sub task
- ii) use a tractor with either a front end loader or a materials handler to load and unload four large bales of forage or straw on and off a trailer
- iii) hitch a trailer to a tractor and reverse the tractor and trailer into a confined area.
- iv) operate appropriate mechanical equipment (following manufacturers' guidelines) to feed livestock (cattle, sheep or pigs, which will be allocated by the assessor)

The templates for the pre-use checklists (Figure 7) will be provided to you by your assessor.

Resources

- pre-use checklist template (Figure 7)
- paper, pen, pencil, clipboard
- grab or bale spike
- bales of forage or straw
- cattle, sheep or pigs
- trailer
- tractor with front end loader or materials handler
- mechanical equipment feeder
- feed (appropriate to the livestock)

Conditions of assessment:

- the time allocated for this task is **3 hours**
- the completed pre-use checklist must be handed to the assessor prior to moving to the next sub task
- you must carry out the task on your own, under **controlled conditions**

Controlled conditions:

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

What must be produced for marking:

- pre-use checklist

Additional evidence for this task:

- assessor observations
- photo evidence by the assessor
- video evidence by the assessor

Task 7 - Estate maintenance

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

- a) You 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. To be installed on a level site with a 90 degree turn after 50 metres. Labour does not need to be costed.
 - 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 will be provided to you by your assessor. You must select the appropriate materials from the list and are not expected to use all of them.

Resources

- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)
- paper, pen, pencil
- Figure 1 from the assignment brief
- calculator

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

You can assist each other with the post driving and rolling out of the wire and netting elements of the task. You must direct your assistant.

The template for the risk assessment (Figure 3) will be provided to you by your assessor.

Resources:

- risk assessment template (Figure 3)
- paper, pen, pencil, rubber, clipboard
- 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
- equipment to dispose of waste materials
- appropriate PPE

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

- c) You must 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.
 - check the tools and equipment prior to use.

Resources:

- ditch and associated drain which requires remedial work
- tools, materials, and equipment as appropriate to the task and site
- appropriate PPE

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor

d) You must:

- plant a length of hedge with 20 plants which are guarded. Spacing to be appropriate to the species and local setting and planting requirements (as advised by the assessor).
- check the tools and equipment prior to use.

Resources:

- prepared area for installing 20 hedging plants (cleared area, ready for planting)
- tools, materials, and equipment for planting a hedge
- 20 plants per candidate – species appropriate to the location (selected by assessor)
- guards appropriate to the plants
- appropriate PPE

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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
- photo evidence by the assessor

Task 8 - Environment and accommodation

You are required to plan for the introduction of a 32 000 bird free range egg laying unit at Guilds Farm.

i) You must propose accommodation designs for this bird unit. The proposal must comply with the DEFRA code of practice for the welfare of laying hens and pullets along with meeting farm assurance standards. You must produce:

- an annotated plan (A3 size) of the layout of the proposed unit to include:
 - outdoor roaming area
 - indoor roosting/perching space
 - provision of nesting spaces
 - provision of feed/ water
 - outdoor area and indoor 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.

ii) You must produce a table of information using the expected poultry production data given in the assignment brief and you must compare it with the data in the Nix Farm Management Pocketbook.

iii) you must produce:

- a written report to include justifications/analysis for the plan, this must include:
 - principles and requirements of the proposed livestock accommodation design to meet environmental requirements
 - how the proposed accommodation design can optimise the natural behaviour and health and welfare of livestock.
 - how the proposed design minimises animal fear and distress
 - how optimisation of health and welfare for both livestock and humans would be incorporated in the proposed design.
 - comparisons to the table of information you have produced in ii) and improvements that could be made.

Resources:

- paper (including A3 paper), pen, pencil, rubber, ruler
- clean pdf copy of - Nix Farm Management Pocketbook - Chapter 4 - Non grazing Livestock
- clean pdf copy of - DEFRA code of practice for the welfare of laying hens and pullets
- clean pdf copy of - Farm assurance standards
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)
- calculator

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times

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

What must be produced for marking:

- an annotated (A3 size) plan of the proposed unit
- a table of information and comparisons of egg production/laying performance
- 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, you must:

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

The health, welfare and performance template (Figure 8) will be provided by your assessor.

Resources:

- health, welfare and performance template (Figure 8)
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

What must be produced for marking:

- health, welfare and performance template (Figure 8)
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)

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 which includes both the arable and/or grassland areas given in the assignment brief. The alternative uses must be a land use/management scheme. The primary aim is to add environmental benefits to the farm business.

You 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.

You will be provided with a clean pdf copy of the Environmental Land Management update: how government will pay for land-based environment and climate goods and services as published by DEFRA your assessor.

Resources:

- paper, pen, pencil
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)
- clean pdf copy - Environmental Land Management update: how government will pay for land-based environment and climate goods and services
- calculator

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

- you must only work on your tasks in the allocated times
- assessment evidence must be handed in at the end of each session for secure storage
- you must not share or discuss your work with other candidates
- you 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 in Figure 2 for the species allocated by the assessor (cattle, sheep or pigs), you must:

- produce a written report analysing and comparing the livestock physical and financial performance with industry benchmark data. The report must also include the relevant dates for breeding as appropriate to the allocated species:

Cattle

- creation of a production cycle calendar for one cow in the herd
- calculation of parturition dates based on gestation length

Sheep

- determine key dates for flushing, mating, scanning based on given lambing periods
- calculation of parturition dates based on gestation length

Pigs

- creation of a production cycle calendar for one sow in the herd
- calculation of parturition dates based on gestation length

Figure 2 will be provided to you by your assessor.

You will be provided with a clean pdf copy of the Nix Farm Management Pocketbook (current edition) - Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 by your assessor.

Resources

- Figure 2
- paper, pen, pencil
- appropriate IT equipment (internet access is **not** permitted)
- clean pdf copy of the Nix Farm Management Pocketbook (current edition) - Chapter 3 and Chapter 4
- calculator

Conditions of assessment:

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

Controlled conditions:

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

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