



Skills England

Standard Draft Preview

Contents

1. Key information
2. Occupational summary
3. Typical job titles
4. Occupation duties
5. Knowledge
6. Skills
7. Behaviours
8. Qualifications
9. Consultation
10. Progression routes
11. Supporting uploads
12. Involved employers

Standard in development L3: Livestock unit technician Version 2.0

Title of occupation

Livestock unit technician

UOS reference number

ST0938

Core and options

No

Level of occupation

Level 3

Occupational maps data

Route: Agriculture, environmental and animal care

Pathway: Agriculture, Land Management and Production

Cluster: Agricultural operative or technician

Typical duration of apprenticeship

18 months

Minimum hours for compliance

370 hours

Target date for approval

25/06/2020

Resubmission

No

Would your proposed apprenticeship standard replace an existing framework?

No

Does professional recognition exist for the occupation?

No

Regulated occupation

Is this a statutory regulated occupation?

No

Occupational summary

This occupation is found in medium sized agricultural businesses, in primary production.

The broad purpose of the occupation is to operationally manage the livestock related tasks on the farm such as animal health and welfare from conception and birth through to the customer; and to support business productivity. The individual will make key decisions on a day-to-day basis to ensure the protection of their own and health and safety of others. This includes ensuring the standards of cross compliance, farm assurance, biosecurity and infrastructure security are met. The Livestock Unit Technician will usually only work with one species. The role will include the safe use and maintenance of farm vehicles, including the equipment used for transporting or producing feed. The individual will be required to understand, record and meet the business Key Performance Indicators that are set out by the employer.

In their daily work, an employee in this occupation interacts internally with team members including line manager, business owner (principal) /manager and other departments (if applicable) on the farm. They may have the opportunity to manage people internally and manage external relationships. The individual will work alongside allied industry, to make formative decisions to assist the productivity of the livestock including breeding, nutrition and health plan. In addition to this, they will provide factual data to third parties involved in the farm such as assurance auditors and vets.

An employee in this occupation will be responsible for making decisions about daily management of livestock such as changes in diet based on nutritional values in feed. They will manage livestock before, during and after parturition, providing accommodation that meets the animal's requirements for optimal health and performance. They also select and prepare livestock for sale or transfer. The individual will be responsible for completing daily records and reporting to senior management, assisting with overall strategic decisions to help drive productivity, livestock welfare and farm health and safety in line with industry standards. Depending on the business structure, they may supervise junior members of staff. Typical working hours will depend on farm type and labour structure (for example, dairy farms require early start due to milking). A Livestock Unit Technician will be expected to do long hours, only as permitted within UK employment law.

Typical job titles

Flock manager

Head shepherd

Head stockperson

Herd manager

Unit manager

Are there any statutory / regulatory or other typical entry requirements?

No

Occupation duties

DUTY	KSBS
Duty 1 Implement biosecurity and infrastructure security in accordance with farm health and safety standards	K1 K2 K17 S1 S4 B1 B5 B6 B7
Duty 2 Manage nutrition of livestock relevant to the stage of production	K2 K4 K9 S2 S9 B2 B5 B7 B8
Duty 3 Maintain, analyse and utilise production records to improve productivity and aid compliance, reporting to senior management with insight and results.	K3 K7 S2 S3 S7 S8 B2 B7 B8 B9
Duty 4 Manage the health and welfare of livestock pre, during and post parturition, updating health plan and recording data on livestock performance	K4 K8 K11 S1 S4 S15 B3 B5
Duty 5 Operate and maintain a range of farm equipment, using technology to increase performance and aid compliance. for example, scanning, eid tagging, robotic milking	K5 S5 B5
Duty 6 Safely operate farm vehicles and relevant attachments, maintaining vehicles and equipment to promote efficiency savings	K1 K6 K15 S6 B1 B5
Duty 7 Proactively manage the livestock and direct the actions of others, to achieve business key performance indicators (kpis)	K7 S7 B2 B3 B4 B5 B6 B7 B8 B9

Duty 8 Develop and implement a health plan to proactively manage livestock health and welfare, including identification of issues, evaluation of potential remedy actions and administration of treatment(s)	K8 K16 S8 S15 B1 B3 B4 B5 B7 B8 B9
Duty 9 Effectively manage the supply of feed. for example, bought in or home produced	K9 S9 B9
Duty 10 Carry out and supervise others with animal handling and movement across the site, to meet welfare and safety standards	K10 S10 B2 B3 B5 B6 B7
Duty 11 Equip and accommodate the animals' living environment for optimal health and performance	K11 K16 S11 B5
Duty 12 Implement industry relevant legislation and supply chain requirements	K12 K17 S12 B9
Duty 13 Proactively interact with staff and external influencers to improve productivity and achieve KPIs	K13 S13 B6 B7 B8 B9
Duty 14 Select and prepare livestock ready for sale or transfer in line with customer specification	K14 S14 B1 B2 B3

KSBs

Knowledge

K1: Health and Safety processes and practices relevant to livestock management. This includes development and implementation of health and safety plans and risk assessments;

health and safety for self and visitors, biosecurity and infrastructure requirements.

K2: The digestive process of commonly farmed livestock (cattle (beef and dairy), pigs, sheep and goats) and how this can be managed by nutritional support.

K3: The legal and operational aspects of livestock record keeping and the importance of maintaining and reporting on such systems (both written and digitally).

K4: Breeding and production cycles for commonly farmed livestock and how to correctly manage livestock pre, during and post parturition to meet animal welfare and operational requirements.

K5: The different types of technology and systems used in livestock production, their benefits and how to prepare, maintain (for example, cleaning, repairing minor faults) and use them. For example, Robotic milking, EID tagging, GPS tracking

K6: The legislation applicable to working with farm equipment. This must include provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER) legislation

K7: How to prepare and implement health and welfare plans and schedules, identifying priorities, resources required and critical activities to achieve desired KPI's, including identification of Zoonotic, non-zoonotic and notifiable diseases (for example BSE) and their impact on human health

K8: How to establish current health status of stock, to prepare livestock health & welfare plan.

K9: The different types of grasses, forage crops and bought in feed used to support livestock nutrition and how to assess and manage them for optimum performance.

K10: The importance and methods of ensuring that the movement of livestock is planned and communicated clearly to all relevant parties.

K11: Welfare requirements of livestock in accommodation at different stages of production cycle and how they can be achieved, including management of manure

K12: The market factors such as price, supply chain requirements, new legislation and relevant industry welfare codes, and the impact these have on the business

K13: Range of stakeholders relevant to farm business and their potential impact on business success

K14: The importance and practice of safely and effectively selecting and preparing livestock for sale or transfer

K15: Operating instructions and legal requirements for operating commonly used farm vehicles with a range of attachments. For example, tractor, ATV, quad bike.

K16: The 5 welfare needs of animals: a. its need for a suitable environment b. its need for a suitable diet (and water) c. Its need to exhibit normal behaviour patterns d. any need to be housed with, or apart from, other animals in appropriate social groupings e. its need to be

protected from fear, pain, suffering, injury and disease (including the different methods of euthanasia depending on livestock species)

K17: Impact of farm working practices on social, economic and environmental sustainability, including a basic understanding of how to contribute to government-led sustainability targets.

Skills

S1: Plan, implement, monitor and review health and safety of self, others and livestock; including risk assessments and biosecurity policy.

S2: Manage, monitor and evaluate the financial viability of delivered diets, using relevant resources

S3: Maintain, analyse and utilize production records (both written and digital) to improve productivity and aid compliance

S4: Implement breeding plan, monitor and manage the physical condition and check that selected stock are in the correct condition for breeding.

S5: Use the most appropriate technology or digital system (for example, robotic milking, EID tagging, GPS tracking) to ensure that livestock performance is optimised, and its health and welfare is maintained.

S6: Prepare, maintain and operate farm vehicles, and attachments, in different environmental and ground conditions

S7: Carry out day-to-day management of unit conforming to current welfare legislation and current industry welfare codes, including planning for personnel and undertake key activities, to meet KPI's

S8: Implement, monitor, manage and review livestock health & welfare plan.

S9: Ensure that grass and forage crops are of the appropriate quality and quantity in accordance with farm KPIs

S10: Plan, implement, monitor and review movement of livestock at different stages of production cycle, including preparation of movement documents and allocating resource

S11: Plan and implement cleaning procedures across the livestock unit, including management of manure and manage livestock in accommodation

S12: Implement changes to working practice, based on market factors such as price, supply chain requirements and new legislation

S13: Establish and maintain relationships with stakeholders to support business operation and development

S14: Select and prepare livestock for sale or transfer in accordance with health and safety requirements.

S15: Identify need for euthanasia, contact relevant professionals and complete necessary paperwork

Behaviours

B1: Acts responsibly to provide a high standard of welfare and biosecurity to livestock, self and others under their care

B2: Have a team-based work ethic

B3: Is customer focused

B4: Proactively undertakes continuous professional development

B5: Able to adapt to change in conditions, technologies, situations and working environments.

B6: A clear and effective communicator

B7: Able to give/receive information accurately, timely and in a positive manner

B8: Ability to use own initiative and know when to seek help

B9: Work proactively with internal and external people to achieve positive outcomes

Qualifications

English and maths

English and maths qualifications must be completed in line with the apprenticeship funding rules.

Does the apprenticeship need to include any mandated qualifications in addition to the above-mentioned English and maths qualifications?

Yes

Other mandatory qualifications

One from: a Level 2 Certificate of Competence in the Safe Use of All-terrain Vehicles (ATVs) or a Level 2 Certificate of Competence in Fork Lift Truck Operations or Lantra Awards All Terrain Vehicle - Sit-Astride or Lantra Awards All Terrain Vehicle - Sit-in Conventional Steer or Lantra Awards Rough Terrain Telescopic Lift Trucks.

Level: 2

Level 2 in Safe Use of Veterinary Medicines

Level: 2

Level 3 award or training and assessment in emergency first aid at work minimum 1 day course (face-to-face), carried out by either an awarding organisation, a UKAS accredited trade

body or voluntary aid society recognised by government as specified in HSE document GEIS 3.

Level: 3

Consultation

SE public survey. Amendments include replacing pesticides mandated qualification with ATV/ UTV or telehandler. Removed the word policy from S12.

Progression routes

Supporting uploads

Mandatory qualification uploads

- ST0938_standard_off-the-job-type-2-evidence_PUWAR re ATV, UTV and forklift.docx
- ST0938_standard_regulatory-requirements-evidence_PUWAR re ATV, UTV and forklift.docx
- ST0938_standard_off-the-job-type-2-evidence_LSt Qualification Form Peer Review.docx

Mandated degree evidence uploads

Professional body confirmation uploads

Subject sector area

3.1 Agriculture