

Overview

This standard is about caring for horses after exercise. This will include a range of horses, including a hot, sweaty horse immediately after exercise and a wet horse on a cold day on return from exercise.

The work described in this standard would be carried out following agreement with a supervisor about the responsibilities and methods of work.

You will need to be fully aware of the importance of health, safety and animal welfare in connection with this activity.

You will need to be able to recognise hazards in the workplace

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. select and wear appropriate clothing and personal protective equipment for the activity, according to instructions
2. select and prepare suitable equipment and clothing to care for horses after exercise
3. approach the horse in accordance with instructions and in a manner that minimises stress to the horse and risk to yourself and others
4. provide care, which is appropriate to the condition of the horse after exercise
5. check the legs and feet of the horse after exercise
6. report any problems relating to the health and condition of the horse to the appropriate person, this could include verbal or written
7. provide food and water for the horse, according to instructions
8. return the horse to stabling or the field ensuring comfort and safety
9. clean and groom the horse, according to instructions
10. seek clarification when instructions are not clear
11. maintain the safety of yourself and others, and the welfare of the horse, during the activity

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the selection, use and care of personal protective equipment
2. how to approach horses in an appropriate manner to minimise stress and risk to yourself and others
3. the signs of tiredness and stress in the horse following exercise, including signs that the horse is not recovering and recognise the onset signs of dehydration
4. the feed and water requirements of the horse following exercise
5. the needs of the horse depending on the duration and intensity of the exercise and the time of year
6. the grooming and cleaning requirements of horses following work
7. how to select and use appropriate equipment and clothing to care for horses after exercise
8. the risks to horses, yourself and others and how these can be minimised
9. your responsibilities under relevant animal health and welfare and health and safety legislation and codes of practice

Scope/range

You must provide performance evidence for caring for two different horses after work on two occasions.

You must provide performance evidence for caring for one of the following:

- a hot sweaty horse immediately after exercise
- a wet horse on a cold day on return from exercise

Glossary

Equipment:

- washing materials
- head collar
- grooming kit

Clothing:

- sweat sheet
- thermal rug

Care for horses after exercise

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