

Establish and confirm pregnancy in livestock

---

**Overview**

This standard covers the establishment and confirmation of pregnancy, by natural or assisted methods, in livestock. Reproduction of livestock is an essential part of many livestock enterprises.

When working with livestock or machinery you need to be appropriately trained and hold a relevant certificate, where required.

When carrying out your work you must consider the impact it will have on the environment.

This standard is suitable for those with responsibility for establishing and confirming pregnancy in livestock.

## Establish and confirm pregnancy in livestock

---

### Performance criteria

*You must be able to:*

1. assess the risks associated with the activity to be carried out
2. wear suitable clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE)
3. select, prepare, use, maintain and store the required tools, equipment and materials, safely and correctly
4. maintain hygiene and bio-security in accordance with business practices
5. monitor the physical condition of the livestock and check that selected stock are fit and at the correct condition for breeding in accordance with the breeding plans
6. prepare livestock for breeding in accordance with the breeding plans
7. monitor livestock for signs of oestrous prior to breeding
8. gather animals for breeding in the designated area, as required
9. use required methods to **establish fertilisation/pregnancy** in accordance with the breeding plans
10. monitor livestock for signs of oestrous after service
11. assist with checking and confirming pregnancy, in accordance with the breeding plans, and take the required action
12. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, your work
13. process waste safely and correctly, in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
14. carry out all work in accordance with relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, animal health and welfare legislation, risk assessment requirements, codes of practice and business policies
15. confirm that records are maintained and stored as required by relevant legislation and the business

## Establish and confirm pregnancy in livestock

---

### Knowledge and understanding

*You need to know and understand:*

1. how to identify hazards and assess risks
2. the type of clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE) suitable for the activity
3. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
4. the types of tools, equipment and materials required for establishing and confirming pregnancy in livestock, and how to prepare, use, maintain and store these safely and correctly, including the use of technology
5. how nutritional and health conditions could affect conception and pregnancy, including the importance of achieving and maintaining the correct condition score for the animal at each stage
6. the different methods of establishing fertilisation and/or pregnancy in different species of livestock
7. the anatomy of the livestock's male and female reproductive systems for the livestock you are working with
8. how to identify livestock that are suitable for breeding and their methods of preparation
9. the factors that influence conception rates
10. the livestock's breeding cycles and signs of oestrous
11. how environmental conditions can affect the breeding cycle of livestock
12. the different methods of checking and confirming pregnancy and the actions to take if the livestock are confirmed to be pregnant or not pregnant
13. the signs that indicate an unplanned pregnancy and the required action to take
14. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
15. how to handle, transport, store and dispose of waste, in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
16. your responsibilities for the welfare of livestock under relevant animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and business policies
17. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and business policies

18. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them

**Glossary**

**Establish fertilisation/pregnancy:**

artificial insemination, natural, embryo transfer

## Establish and confirm pregnancy in livestock

---

<b>Developed by</b>	Lantra
<b>Version Number</b>	2019
<b>Date Approved</b>	January 2019
<b>Indicative Review Date</b>	January 2024
<b>Validity</b>	Current
<b>Status</b>	Original
<b>Originating Organisation</b>	Lantra
<b>Original URN</b>	LANLP3
<b>Relevant Occupations</b>	Farmer; Pig Farm Worker; General Farm Worker; Agricultural Technical Advisor
<b>Suite</b>	Livestock Production
<b>Keywords</b>	animal; breeding; fertilisation; natural; artificial insemination; reproduction cycle; embryo transfer

---