
Overview

This standard covers the monitoring and maintaining of grassland and forage crops in order to support livestock grazing.

Forage production is an essential part of most livestock production systems. The process will involve the identification of common agricultural grasses and forage crops that are suitable for grazing.

If you are working with chemicals or machinery you should be trained and hold current certification, where required.

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

This standard is suitable for those responsible for monitoring and maintaining grassland and forage crops to support livestock grazing.

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 machinery, safely and correctly
4. monitor that the quantity and quality of the grassland and forage crops is appropriate to support livestock grazing
5. use suitable grazing patterns for the grassland and forage crops
6. monitor the grassland and forage crops for weeds, pests and diseases that could reduce output and affect livestock performance
7. monitor grazing patterns used for grassland and forage crops
8. take action to maintain the quality of grassland and forage crops while they are being grazed
9. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, your work
10. process waste safely and correctly, in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
11. carry out your 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
12. complete records as required by relevant legislation and the business

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 types of tools, equipment and machinery required and how to prepare, use, maintain and store these, safely and correctly
4. the different types of grasses and forage crops used to support livestock grazing and how to identify them
5. how to identify weeds, pests and diseases and suitable methods of control
6. how to monitor and identify when grassland requires improving
7. how to monitor the growth of different forage crops and when a forage crop is suitable to support livestock grazing
8. the actions to take to maintain and improve the quality of grassland and forage crops in order to support livestock grazing
9. the different methods of grazing grassland and forage crops
10. when livestock should be removed from the grassland and forage crops or offered supplementary feeding
11. when livestock stocking rates should be adjusted
12. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
13. how to handle, transport, store and dispose of waste, in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
14. your responsibilities for the welfare of livestock under relevant animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and business policies
15. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and business policies
16. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them

LANLP21

Monitor and maintain grassland and forage crops to support livestock grazing



Developed by Lantra

Version Number 2019

Date Approved January 2019

Indicative Review Date January 2024

Validity Current

Status Original

Originating Organisation Lantra

Original URN LANLP21

Relevant Occupations Farmer; General Farm Worker; Farm Manager

Suite Livestock Production

Keywords field; crops; weeds; pasture; grassland; livestock; forage
