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## Overview

This standard covers monitoring and maintaining the care of livestock during parturition (the birth process) and the care of both the mother and her young after parturition.

You are required to monitor and maintain the health and welfare of livestock during parturition; this will include monitoring their health, welfare and condition and reporting identified concerns to the appropriate person.

You must also monitor the condition of both mother and young after birth, carry out weaning as appropriate, and report any problems to the appropriate person.

The reproduction of livestock is an essential part of many livestock enterprises.

When working with livestock 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 who monitor and maintain the care of livestock during and after parturition.

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## 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 equipment and materials, safely and correctly
4. maintain hygiene and bio-security, in accordance with business practices
5. identify livestock that are showing signs of early or imminent parturition
6. monitor the livestock during parturition and maintain the appropriate level of care
7. maintain the correct environment during parturition
8. observe the mother and young during parturition and seek assistance if signs of stress are observed or there is a variation from the normal birth process
9. establish that parturition is complete
10. maintain suitable conditions after parturition for both mother and young
11. **monitor mother and young after parturition**, taking the required action when there is a variation from the norm
12. carry out weaning, where appropriate, in accordance with instructions
13. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, your work
14. process waste safely and correctly, in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
15. 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
16. 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 equipment and materials required and how to prepare, use, maintain and store these safely and correctly
4. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security during parturition, and the methods for achieving this
5. how to maintain an environment that is conducive to the health and welfare of livestock during and after parturition
6. the signs and behaviour of the livestock you are monitoring when parturition is imminent
7. how to determine the need for assistance with parturition, according to the birth stage, progress and health and welfare of the livestock
8. the assistance that may be required during parturition, including the correct use of birthing aids
9. how to identify when natural parturition is unlikely to occur and the correct action to take
10. the reasons for monitoring the condition of the mother and young during and after parturition
11. the types of problems and the signs and symptoms that may occur during and after parturition and the action that should be taken
12. the methods of caring for the mother and her young after parturition
13. the **health and welfare activities** that should be used for the mother and young after parturition
14. the factors that affect the health and condition of the mother and young
15. the **potential problems encountered by young livestock** and how to deal with these problems
16. normal anatomy of the livestock you are monitoring, how to identify abnormality in young and the action to take
17. the methods of weaning, where appropriate, that promote welfare amongst stock
18. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done

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19. how to handle, transport and dispose of waste in accordance with relevant legal requirements and business practices
  20. your responsibilities for the welfare of livestock under relevant animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and business policies
  21. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and business policies
  22. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them

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## Glossary

### Health and welfare activities:

- colostrum
- navel dipping
- teat dipping
- non-surgical procedures
- identification
- cleansing

**Instructions:** verbal or written

### Monitor mother after parturition:

- milk let down
- milk consumption
- passing the placenta
- passing meconium
- abnormalities
- disease
- disorders
- offspring rejection

### Monitor young after parturition:

- behaviour
- cleansing
- presence of colostrum
- no significant blood loss
- no damage
- able to rise
- stand and move
- able to feed and drink

### Potential problems encountered by young livestock:

- competition
- loss of milk supply
- need to foster

LANLP5

Monitor and maintain the care of livestock during and after parturition



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**Originating Organisation** Lantra

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**Relevant Occupations** Farmer; General Farm Worker; Pig Farm Worker

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**Suite** Livestock Production

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