

Overview

This standard covers the preparation, monitoring and maintenance of mechanically controlled livestock environmental systems such as those used in the pig and poultry industries.

Mechanically controlled environmental systems manage things such as air flow, ventilation, temperature, light and humidity. Those working in this area will be responsible for maintaining the environment, in accordance with production requirements, and will therefore have significant responsibility.

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 responsible for the preparation, monitoring and maintenance of mechanically controlled livestock environmental systems.

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. check and confirm that the **mechanically controlled livestock environmental system** is suitable for the quantity and type of livestock
4. check and confirm that the environmental system is in good working order and any alarms, alerts or fail-safe devices are functioning
5. prepare the environmental system and confirm that it is properly set up, in accordance with production requirements
6. monitor the working of the environmental system and confirm that it is maintaining the correct conditions for the livestock
7. make adjustments to the environmental system, where required
8. monitor the condition of the livestock and take appropriate action if their behaviour or condition is abnormal or causes concern
9. take appropriate action in the event of equipment malfunction in the **mechanically controlled livestock environmental system**
10. maintain the environmental system, where required, in accordance with manufacturer's instructions
11. maintain communication with colleagues and others involved in, or affected by, your work
12. maintain hygiene and bio-security in accordance with business practices
13. 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
14. 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 environmental conditions required by livestock at different stages of production and the influence environmental conditions have on livestock production
4. the different types of **mechanically controlled livestock environmental systems**
5. the alarms, alerts and fail-safe devices used with mechanically controlled environmental systems
6. how environmental systems should be prepared and set up to provide the correct environmental conditions for specific livestock production requirements
7. the purpose of monitoring and recording environmental conditions and the ways in which this can be carried out
8. the impact of environmental conditions on livestock welfare and behaviour
9. the reasons why there may be deviations in environmental conditions and how these should be dealt with
10. the types of **problems** that may occur with environmental systems and the limits of your responsibility in relation to resolving identified problems
11. the sources of advice and support when using environmental systems
12. the limits of your responsibility in relation to the maintenance of equipment within the environmental system
13. the importance of maintaining communication with those involved in, or affected by, your work and how this should be done
14. the importance of maintaining hygiene and bio-security and the methods for achieving this
15. your responsibilities for the welfare of livestock under relevant animal health and welfare legislation, codes of practice and business practices
16. your responsibilities under relevant environmental and health and safety legislation, codes of practice and business policies
17. the records that need to be kept and the importance of completing them

Glossary

Mechanically controlled environmental systems control:

- air flow
- ventilation
- temperature
- light
- humidity

Problems:

- deviations from optimum environmental conditions
- equipment malfunction

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Prepare, monitor and maintain mechanically controlled livestock environmental systems



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