

1XXXXX**Support pig health and biosecurity**

Kaupae Level	3
Whiwhinga Credit	10
Whāinga Purpose	<p>People credited with this skill standard are able to recognise common signs of ill health and disease in pigs, describe basic health issues and biosecurity risks, carry out routine treatments and preventative procedures under supervision. This includes observing pig behaviour, supporting biosecurity practices, and maintaining accurate treatment records. People will demonstrate safe and humane techniques during vaccination or parasite control, consistent with farm procedures.</p> <p>This skill standard has been developed to align with the New Zealand Certificate in Pork Production (Stockperson) with an optional strand in Farrowing Care (Level 3) [Ref: 2525]</p>

Hua o te ako me Paearu aromatawai | Learning outcomes and assessment criteria

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
1. Recognise pig behaviours and signs of ill health and disease.	a. Describe normal behaviours for various classes of pigs.
	b. Identify and describe abnormal signs of ill health and disease.
2. Describe basic health issues and disease prevention	a. Describe at least three common pig disorders in terms of cause, signs, and simple prevention.
	b. Outline a preventative health plan, including general timing for vaccinations and/or parasite treatments appropriate to life stage.
	c. Explain the role of age segregation in preventing disease spread.
3. Support biosecurity practices	a. Identify and explain common biosecurity practices in relation to pig health.
	b. Explain reasons for following farm biosecurity plan.
	c. Demonstrate and/or explain biosecurity practices in connection with transport

Hua o te ako Learning outcomes	Paearu aromatawai Assessment criteria
4. Carry out preventative procedures and medicate pigs under supervision	a. Demonstrate preventative procedures safely under supervision, with correct technique and equipment use.
	b. Administer medications using correct dose, appropriate pig handling, and recording.
	c. Assess pig's response to treatment and make timely euthanasia decisions.
5. Maintain health records and report issues	a. Complete treatment records in accordance with on farm procedures
	b. Move and monitor pigs requiring extra care to a recovery/hospital pen.

Pārongo aromatawai me te taumata paearu | Assessment information and grade criteria

Assessment specifications:

Assessment samples must provide naturally occurring evidence from real, simulated, or scenario-based activities in a farm context.

All evidence presented in this skill standard must be in accordance veterinary guidelines and worksite procedures.

All activities and evidence must meet the requirements of worksite procedures, accepted industry practice, legislation and any subsequent amendments.

All activities relevant to this standard should reflect ngā kaupapa (the principles) o te Tiriti o Waitangi.

All activities must, as relevant to candidates and/or this standard, reflect the peoples of the Pacific and other cultures, and their world views.

Range

Observation report or case study identifying normal and abnormal behaviours.

Written/oral description of three common pig disorders and prevention.

Description or demonstration of farm biosecurity measures during procedures.

Supervised demonstration of two preventative procedures (e.g. intramuscular injection, oral drench).

Completed health record sheets, including any reported issues.

Definitions

Worksite procedures refer to the policies and procedures set out in a verbal or written form by the employer or organisation.

Accepted industry practice refers to approved codes of practice and standardised procedures accepted by the wider industries as examples of best practice.

Ngā momo whiwhinga | Grades available

Achieved

Ihirangi waitohu | Indicative content

Behaviour and Health Signs

- Normal behaviour at different life stages: weaning, growing, lactating (e.g. feeding, rooting, socialising).
- Observation of physical and behavioural signs: coughing, limping, poor appetite, isolation (e.g. rough coat, coughing, lameness, isolation).
- Common stress indicators: vocalisation, aggression, chewing behaviour (e.g. tail biting, ear biting).

Common Health Conditions

- Respiratory illness (e.g. coughing, nasal discharge), (e.g. respiratory illness, enteric disease, lameness).
- Enteric disease (e.g. scours, dehydration)
- Lameness (e.g. swollen joints, reluctance to move)
- Parasites (e.g. worm burden, signs of infestation)

Biosecurity Support

- PPE use: clean boots, gloves, coveralls (e.g. clean PPE, restricted access, footbaths).
- Equipment hygiene: cleaning tools, avoiding cross-contamination (e.g. cleaning equipment, safe waste handling).
- Visitor and movement controls
- Role of routine hygiene in health management (e.g. why PPE is changed between pens).
- Transport is loading unloading, incoming pigs and pigs going to market.

Preventative Procedures

- Intramuscular injection: site selection, needle handling, safe restraint (e.g. intramuscular vaccination).
- Oral drench: dose calculation (mL/kg), delivery, pig positioning.
- Sharps safety: needle disposal, hygiene.
- Observation after procedures (30 min): swelling, reaction signs.

Recordkeeping

- Data fields: pig ID, procedure type, product and dose, batch number
- Reporting procedures: notifying vet or supervisor, using templates (e.g. swelling, distress).
- Record storage and security per SOP

Rauemi | Resources

Legislation and codes of practice relevant to this skill standard includes but is not limited to:

- NZ Pork Guidelines are available on request from NZ Pork. www.nzpork.co.nz.
 - NZPork Guidelines for developing Biosecurity farm plans
 - NZPork Transport Biosecurity Guidelines
- Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 [Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines Act 1997 No 87 \(as at 30 November 2022\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- MPI Code of Welfare: Pigs 2018 [Code of Welfare – Pigs](#)
- Biosecurity Act 1993 [Biosecurity Act 1993 No 95 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)
- Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 [Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 No 70 \(as at 05 April 2025\), Public Act Contents – New Zealand Legislation](#)

- Biosecurity (Meat and Food Waste for Pigs) Regulations 2005
- Animal Status Declaration forms for pigs

and any subsequent amendments or replacements.

Pārongo Whakaū Kounga | Quality assurance information

Ngā rōpū whakatau-paerewa Standard Setting Body	Muka Tangata – People Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council
Whakaritenga Rārangi Paetae Aromatawai DASS classification	Pork Production > Health and Nutrition
Ko te tohutoro ki ngā Whakaritenga i te Whakamanatanga me te Whakaōritenga CMR	0052

Hātepe Process	Putanga Version	Rā whakaputa Review Date	Rā whakamutunga mō te aromatawai Last date for assessment
Rēhitatanga Registration	<type here>	[dd mm yyyy]	[dd mm yyyy]
Arotakenga Review	<type here>	[dd mm yyyy]	[dd mm yyyy]
Kōrero whakakapinga Replacement information	This skill standard will replace Unit standard		
Rā arotake Planned review date	31 December 2030		

Please contact Muka Tangata – People Food and Fibre Workforce Development Council at qualifications@mukatangata.nz to suggest changes to the content of this skill standard.