



**EXTERNAL INTEGRATED SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT
OCCUPATIONAL CERTIFICATE: LIVESTOCK FARMER
(LIVESTOCK FARM SUPERVISOR)**

NQF Level: 3 | Credits: 112 | SAQA ID: 99253 | Curriculum Code: 612101001

Developed by: Agri SETA

**EXEMPLAR PREPARATORY QUESTION PAPER
(KNOWLEDGE AND PRACTICAL APPLICATION)**

Marks: 100

Time: 2 hours

INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. This question paper consists of THREE questions. Question 1 and Question 2 consist of TWO scenarios, and Question 3 consists of one scenario that combines knowledge and practical application content:

QUESTION 1: Livestock Health Care (40)

QUESTION 2: Livestock Production and Breeding (40)

QUESTION 3: Supervisory and Team Leadership (20)

2. Answer ALL the questions.

3. Read ALL the instructions and each scenario carefully before answering.

4. Start EACH question on a NEW page.

5. Number your answers correctly according to the numbering system used in this question paper.

6. Answer in the lined spaces provided under each question.

7. This is a closed-book assessment. No reference material may be used.

8. Some questions require a practical, applied response (for example, a treatment plan, a feeding/rotation plan, or a record entry) rather than a definition. Read each question carefully to see what is required.

9. You must achieve 65% overall to be declared competent.

10. Ensure you have your ID, Statement of Results (SoR), and stationery.

11. Write neatly and legibly.

12. Use the following time frame as a guideline:

QUESTION 1: 48 minutes

QUESTION 2: 48 minutes

QUESTION 3: 24 minutes

QUESTION 1

LIVESTOCK HEALTH CARE

1.1 Multiple-choice questions: Choose the correct answer and write only the question number and the letter, e.g., 1.1.6 D. (5 x 1 = 5)

1.1.1 A vaccination programme given to livestock before an outbreak occurs, to prevent disease, is called ... treatment.

- A. curative
- B. preventative
- C. quarantine
- D. emergency

1.1.2 The stage during which an animal has been infected with a disease-causing organism but does not yet show clinical signs is called the ...

- A. withdrawal period.
- B. gestation period.
- C. incubation period.
- D. quarantine period.

1.1.3 Which of the following is an external parasite that commonly affects livestock?

- A. Roundworm
- B. Liver fluke
- C. Tick
- D. Tapeworm

1.1.4 Keeping newly acquired animals separate from the rest of the herd for a set period before introducing them is called ...

- A. vaccination.
- B. quarantine.
- C. dehorning.
- D. branding.

1.1.5 A sudden rise in coughing and nasal discharge among housed cattle during cold, damp weather is most likely linked to ...

- A. poor genetics.
- B. environmental and housing-related stress factors.
- C. overfeeding.
- D. incorrect breed selection.

1.2 Refer to Scenario A

SCENARIO A

Karoo Wool Farm keeps 340 Merino sheep in the Eastern Cape. During late winter, the farm supervisor notices that 25 sheep are lame, hold a front foot off the ground while grazing, have hooves with a foul smell and separating horn, and there has been a drop in appetite and wool quality. Farm records show that the sheep have been kept on waterlogged pasture near a leaking irrigation line for the past month. Hoof trimming and footbath treatments have not been carried out in over six months. A group of sheep purchased at a recent auction was introduced into the flock ten days ago without a quarantine period. As the Livestock Farm Supervisor, you are required to interpret the health records, identify the cause of the problem, recommend treatment, and implement biosecurity measures according to farm SOPs.

1.2.1 Identify FOUR symptoms observed on the farm and explain what EACH indicates about the health status of the flock. (4 x 1 = 4)

1.2.2 Discuss FOUR factors that could have contributed to the health problem on the farm. (4 x 1 = 4)

1.2.3 Describe SIX livestock health care procedures that should be implemented immediately to manage the situation and protect the flock. (6 x 1 = 6)

1.2.4 Recommend SEVEN biosecurity measures that must be applied to prevent further health problems on the farm. (7 x 1 = 7)

SUBTOTAL SCENARIO A: [26]

1.3 SCENARIO B (Practical Application)

Vaalplaas Mixed Livestock Unit grazes cattle, sheep and goats together on the same veld in the Free State. During a routine inspection, the farm supervisor finds that several cattle are bloated, reluctant to eat, and standing with an arched back, a number of sheep have wool loss, open wounds and maggots around the tail area, and some goats have swollen, watery, cloudy eyes. Health records show that fly control treatments have not been applied this season, and the cattle were recently moved onto a lush young clover pasture without a gradual introduction period. The farm's SOPs require preventative fly control before the summer season, gradual introduction to high-quality pasture, and prompt isolation of affected animals, but these have not been consistently followed. As the Livestock Farm Supervisor, you are required to interpret the conditions affecting each species, evaluate the management practices, and apply appropriate treatment and biosecurity measures.

1.3.1 Which conditions are most likely affecting the livestock described in Scenario B?

- A. Cattle – Bloat; Sheep – Flystrike; Goats – Pink eye (infectious keratoconjunctivitis)
- B. Cattle – Flystrike; Sheep – Bloat; Goats – Footrot
- C. Cattle – Pink eye; Sheep – Bloat; Goats – Flystrike
- D. Cattle – Bloat; Sheep – Pink eye; Goats – Flystrike

(3)

1.3.2 Explain how the farm's management practices (lack of fly control and sudden pasture change) contributed to the conditions described in Scenario B. (3)

1.3.3 Develop a THREE-step treatment plan for the cattle, sheep and goats in Scenario B, ensuring your plan complies with the farm's SOPs. (4)

1.3.4 Which remedies correctly match the conditions identified in Scenario B?

- A. Bloat → Antibiotic eye ointment; Flystrike → Anti-bloat drench; Pink eye → Insecticide wound dressing
- B. Bloat → Anti-bloat drench; Flystrike → Insecticide wound dressing; Pink eye → Antibiotic eye ointment
- C. Bloat → Insecticide wound dressing; Flystrike → Antibiotic eye ointment; Pink eye → Anti-bloat drench
- D. Bloat → Vaccination; Flystrike → Isolation only; Pink eye → Hoof trimming

(2)

1.3.5 As the farm supervisor, outline TWO immediate biosecurity measures you would implement to prevent further spread of disease on this farm. (2)

SUBTOTAL SCENARIO B: [14]

TOTAL QUESTION 1: [40]

QUESTION 2

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION AND BREEDING

SCENARIO A

Midlands Dairy Herd manages 180 Holstein dairy cows under an intensive production system in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. Recent records show that the average calving interval has increased from 12 to 15 months, and calf birth weights are below target. Herdsmen report that heat (oestrus) detection is inconsistent and breeding records are incomplete. Pasture camps have not been rotated for three months because fencing repairs were delayed, and mineral lick supplementation was stopped during the wet season. Several calves have not yet been ear-tagged, and disbudding of young calves has been delayed. As the Livestock Farm Supervisor, evaluate the production, nutrition and breeding practices on the farm and recommend suitable actions.

2.1.1 Explain FOUR routine livestock herding and handling practices that promote animal welfare and ensure the safety of animals and workers. (4 x 1 = 4)

2.1.2 Discuss FOUR livestock breeding practices that can shorten the calving interval and improve herd productivity. (4 x 1 = 4)

2.1.3 Describe FOUR nutrition and feeding practices that should be implemented to improve livestock growth and reproduction. (4 x 1 = 4)

2.1.4 Explain THREE routine production practices related to identification, disbudding or parasite control that should be prioritised on this farm. (3 x 1 = 3)

2.1.5 Define any FIVE key terms or principles used in livestock production and explain the importance of EACH. (5 x 2 = 10)

SUBTOTAL SCENARIO A: [25]

SCENARIO B (Practical Application)

Eastern Cape Boer Goat Ranch runs a commercial meat goat herd of 250 animals under an extensive browsing system. Workers are herding a group of goats into the handling pen for routine vaccination, and some animals have become stressed due to shouting and fast movements behind them. Breeding records show that bucks and does run together year-round, resulting in kidding taking place throughout the year rather than in a defined season. Grazing records reveal that browsing camps have not been rested according to the planned rotation schedule, leading to bush degradation in some camps. A recent inspection also found a heavy tick infestation among the herd, and several kids have not yet been identified with ear tags. As the Livestock Farm Supervisor, you are required to address the handling, breeding, nutrition, and identification practices on the ranch.

2.2.1 Describe TWO safe handling practices that protect both animals and workers when herding goats into a handling pen. (3)

2.2.2 Explain how introducing a controlled (seasonal) breeding season would improve herd management on this ranch. (3)

2.2.3 Draft a plan for supplementary feeding and browsing camp rotation to improve nutrition and rangeland condition on the ranch. (5)

2.2.4 Explain TWO routine practices you would implement to control the tick infestation and manage herd identification. (2)

2.2.5 Briefly explain why accurate record-keeping is essential in livestock production. (2)

SUBTOTAL SCENARIO B: [15]
TOTAL QUESTION 2: [40]

QUESTION 3

SUPERVISORY AND TEAM LEADERSHIP

You are the Livestock Farm Supervisor at Waterberg Beef Ranch. The farm employs five workers responsible for grazing rotation, animal health support, weighing and records, infrastructure maintenance, and calving supervision. The following tasks were scheduled for Monday:

Worker	Assigned Task
Worker A	Move the herd from Camp 2 to Camp 3 for rotational grazing
Worker B	Assist with the annual vaccination programme
Worker C	Record cattle weights at the weigh crush
Worker D	Repair the damaged water trough in Camp 1

Worker E	Monitor calving cows in Camp 4
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At the end of the day, you discovered the following:

- Worker B left early and missed part of the vaccination programme.
- Worker C recorded incomplete weight data for the herd.
- Worker A moved only half of the herd to Camp 3.
- Workers D and E completed their tasks successfully.
- Farm records for the day were not updated correctly.
- Some workers stated that they did not receive clear instructions in the morning.

As the Livestock Farm Supervisor, you are required to address the situation according to farm policies, accepted supervisory practices, and workplace procedures.

3.1.1 Develop a work schedule and assign responsibilities for FOUR daily livestock farming activities that should be completed the following day. (4 x 0.5 = 2)

3.1.2 Explain FOUR actions you would take to communicate work instructions and farm notices effectively to the workers. (4 x 0.5 = 2)

3.1.3 Worker B repeatedly leaves early and fails to complete assigned duties. Describe FOUR fair disciplinary actions that should be followed according to accepted workplace disciplinary procedures. (4 x 0.5 = 2)

3.1.4 Recommend FOUR methods that can be used to improve the performance and productivity of workers on the farm. (4 x 0.5 = 2)

3.1.5 Identify FOUR types of farm records that should be maintained accurately and reported on regularly. (4 x 0.5 = 2)

3.1.6 Draft a simple livestock health record entry for an animal that was treated on the farm this week. Your entry must include the animal's identification, the treatment given, and the date. (10)

TOTAL QUESTION 3: [20]

GRAND TOTAL: 100

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