



education

Department:
Education
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT TASK

2010

These guidelines consist 10 pages.

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PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT TASKS FOR AGRICULTURAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES:

The Practical Assessment Task (PAT) in Grade 12 consists of the management aspects in enterprise specific production processes.

The write up on the PAT should include evidence of how the production-related process is to be approached, and should include:

1. In the Management plan, you must provide the necessary management aspects of the related enterprise in an organized timeline.
2. Different processes involved when conducting the various practical activities e.g. feeding, branding, inoculation, classing and care of animals. The learner must also provide sketches and diagrams of all the practical activities carried out. Mention apparatus that is used in the different processes.
3. Challenges and successes.
4. The safety precautions and environmental issues considered. For example, what is being done with the waste products like manure and waste water? Is it discarded in such a way as to prevent pollution?
5. What books, magazines and other resource material did you consult before doing the practical activity?
6. Overall impression.

The following are resources that can be used to complete the write up on the PAT.

Learners can consult the Department of Agriculture website (www.agriculture.gov.za) on additional information concerning feedlots. Other useful organizations to contact are AgriSA, the Agricultural Research Council as well as learners can watch AgriTV on SABC2 on Saturdays. AgriTV provides learners with a multitude of information on feedlots as well as the latest vaccines, feeds and growth hormones available on the market. Learners are also encouraged to purchase the Farmer's Weekly to get greater insight into the latest trends in feedlot farming in SA and the rest of the world.

The Practical Assessment Task for Grade 12 is internally set, internally assessed and externally moderated. The PAT is internally set because of the numerous enterprise activities that are prevalent in South African Agricultural schools. The project is completed under controlled conditions.

The management project should include a series of practical (minimum 6) activities. These tasks should be completed across the first three terms and be handed in by the end of the third term. Tasks should be set in real-life settings, for example milking of cows, artificial insemination, inoculation, castration, dehorning, etc. The learners should know the assessment criteria before they start with each task.

The Practical Assessment Task counts 25% of the total promotion mark and should take the form of developing and applying agricultural management skills. The total mark is 100 and consists of day to day practical activities (50 marks) and specific practical activities (50 marks). The Practical Assessment Task therefore focuses on the development of skills in the production process as well as the application of management skills in a production-related context.

FINAL MARK

The final mark of the PAT consists of assessing the following domains:

Day to day practical activities	50
Specific practical activities	50
TOTAL	100

PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT TASK

A Practical Assessment Task (PAT) for a feedlot requires the following resources:

- Feedlot
- Crush pen/Neck clamp
- Animals
- Water
- Feed
- Vaccine/dip
- Growth hormones and application equipment
- Injection and inoculants
- Disinfectants
- Dehorning iron
- Horn cutter
- Gas dehorning bolt
- Earmarking apparatus
- Parasite control measures

You are responsible to work in the feedlot from ... to ...

You will also be responsible to do practical tasks over the three terms in the feedlot. These tasks should be finished by the third term.

1. Day to day practical activities and responsibilities in the feed lot will consist of the following:

1. Responsibility
2. Mixing of feeds
3. Classing of animals
4. Handling of animals
5. Feeding/Watering of animals
6. Record keeping
7. Cleaning of the feedlot
8. Initiative
9. Perseverance
10. Quality

This will assess responsibility, initiative, perseverance and quality, etc.

2. Specific practical activities will involve:

1. Dehorning
2. Immunization
3. Growth hormones
4. Branding of cattle
5. Earmarking and tagging
6. Treatment: External parasites
7. Treatment: Internal parasites, etc.

Practicals will be assessed as follows:

In the classing of feedlot animals one should look at issues such as types of cattle that must be grouped, e.g. heifers, bulls, cows, wieners, certain weight classes, age, fatness, etc.

In de-horning, one considers if the animal is properly secured, if the actual clipping of the stub is done in a proper fashion, the correct use of the dehorn iron, and if the wound is properly sterilized. The bull calves must be handled in such a way that they do not injure themselves.

Immunisation looks at the dosage the learner administers to the cow, the way the needle is inserted into the vein and at how the vaccine is injected into the animal. The learner must specify why it is necessary to immunize the animal and the precautions to be taken when vaccinating into the vein.

In the case of the following practicals namely branding, earmarking, administering growth hormones and parasitic control, the focus will be on how the learner uses the different apparatus to conduct the various processes. The learner will also consider the different precautions that he/she should take when conducting these practicals in the feedlot. In the case of branding, one looks at how the learner will handle the branding iron, and check if he/she makes a triangular burn on the animal's surface. In this instance administering aftercare is very important.

The mark distribution for the different practical activities is as follows:

Day to day practical activities and responsibilities	Marks
1. Responsibility	5
2. Mixing of feeds	5
3. Classing of animals	5
4. Handling of animals	5
5. Feeding/Watering of animals	5
6. Record keeping	5
7. Cleaning of the feedlot	5
8. Initiative	5
9. Perseverance	5
10. Quality	5
TOTAL	50

Specific practical tasks	Marks
1. Dehorning	5
2. Immunization	10
3. Growth hormones	5
4. Branding	5
5. Earmarking and tagging	5
6. External parasites	10
7. Internal parasites	10
TOTAL	50
GRAND TOTAL	100

CHECKLIST 2 FOR PAT: FEEDLOT

NAME: _____ GRADE: 12

Day by day practical activities in the feedlot	Mark	Learner's Mark
1. Responsibility		
Follows written or verbal instructions without the need for help.	2	
Carries out appropriate safety procedures.	2	
Assumes responsibility easily, leads in group work.	1	
	5	
2. Mixing of feeds		
Mix feeds correctly	2	
Determine digestibility, protein content and nutritional value	2	
Calculate mixing ratios.	1	
	5	
3. Classing of animals		
Correct classing of animals.	2	
Heifers, cows, oxen and bull classes	2	
Classing according to fatness	1	
	5	
4. Handling of animals		
Animals handled in a way that reduces stress.	2	
No injuries to animals	2	
Animals are calmly handled.	1	
	5	
5. Feeding/Watering of animals		
Animals are fed according to a prescribed programme	2	
Animal's water requirements are adequately met.	2	
Shows good fattening progress.	1	
	5	
6. Record keeping		
An adequate recording system compiled.	2	
Records of feeds, weight gain, illnesses, diseases, mortalities and immunization programs were kept.	2	
An up to date balance sheet is kept.	1	
	5	
7. Cleaning of the feedlot		
The lot is cleaned properly	2	
Waste is discarded in a proper way	2	
No signs of environmental pollution.	1	
	5	
8. Initiative		
Offers solutions or explanations to unexpected problems.	2	
Recognition of and ability to anticipate problems	2	
Solve problems without help.	1	
	5	

9. Perseverance		
Completed required practical tasks and attention to written work.	2	
Positive attitudes and well motivated.	2	
Willing to carry out repetitive procedures	1	
	5	
10. Quality		
Practical work is thorough	2	
Evident attention to detail producing a very good final result.	2	
Written work accurate with regard for clear, neat presentation.	1	
	5	
TOTAL	50	

Specific practical activities in the feedlot	Mark	Learner's Mark
1. Dehorning		
Preparation of the equipment used	1	
Correct clipping of stubs	1	
Correct temperature of dehorn iron	1	
Correct use of dehorn iron	1	
Application after treatment	1	
	5	
2. Immunization		
Determining the illnesses/diseases that occur frequently in a feedlot and the preventative immunization program that must be followed.	2	
Correct dosage	1	
Identification of the correct vein	1	
Inserting the needle into the vein	2	
The substance is injected slowly	2	
Making sure needle is in the vein after half of the serum is injected	2	
	10	
3. Growth hormones		
Preparation of equipment to be used	1	
Preparation of the animal	1	
Identification of spot where the hormones are to be applied	1	
Actual implantation process	1	
Making sure that the growth hormones are correctly inserted	1	
	5	
4. Branding of cattle		
Correct temperature of branding iron	1	
Time of applying the iron not too long	2	
Colour of the burn mark	1	
Aftercare	1	
	5	
5. Earmarking and tagging		
Correct use of apparatus	2	
Numbers/Colours correct	2	
Aftercare	1	
	5	
6. External parasites		
Identification of animals with parasites	3	
Identification of type of parasites	3	
Chosen medication	3	
Disposal of empty containers	1	
	10	

7. Internal parasites		
Identification of animals with parasites	3	
Identification of type of parasites	3	
Chosen medication	3	
Disposal of empty containers	1	
	10	
TOTAL	50	
GRAND TOTAL	100	

Teacher

Learner

Date