

## Animal Handling – Core Competencies: Cattle

<b><u>Competency</u></b>
1. Approach, catch and use gate or crush to restrain
2. Hold yearling, adult
3. Use of halter, standard & temporary
4. Restrain by 'nosing,' tongs & nose rings
5. Anti-kicking devices/techniques; tail, flank, flank rope, anti-kick bar, spangle
6. Lift/restrain feet for examination
7. Casting (tying of ropes etc.)
8. Movement of cattle out of shed and into race/crush
9. Body condition score
10. Weight estimation
11. Assessment of degree of finish for beef
12. Tagging/identification; transponders, tags, neck bands, tattoos, freeze branding
13. Draw milk by hand, sterile milk sampling, CMT
14. Examine mouth & aging
15. Recognise signs of health
16. Sites for injection (s.c, i.m., i.v.), blood sampling (including use of jugular clamp)
17. <i>Per os</i> dosing (syringe, gun, bolus)
18. Signs of oestrus
19. Insert speculum, PRIDs, CIDRs
20. Breed recognition
21. Linear assessment

## Animal Handling – Core Competencies: Calves

<b><u>Competency</u></b>
1. Approach to catch, hold and restrain calf
2. Move calf
3. Put calf in crate
4. Turn up calf, examine navel, teats
5. Tagging
6. Weight estimation
7. Signs of health
8. Administration of medicine: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>per os</i> dosing syringe</li><li>• dosing gun,</li><li>• stomach tube (oral &amp; nasal)</li><li>• parenteral</li><li>• sites of injection</li></ul>
9. Blood-sampling
10. Castration
11. Restrain for disbudding; use of disbudder

## Animal Handling – Core Competencies: Sheep

<b><u>Competency</u></b>
1. Catch, hold, move, turn up
2. Examine mouth, teeth & age
3. Condition score
4. Examine and pare feet
5. Use drenching gun, administer bolus or capsule by gun
6. Lambing assistance: tail docking, castration, stomach tubing etc
7. Sites for injection
8. Signs of health; mucosa, take pulse and temperature
9. Identify major breeds/cross breeds in Ireland
10. Selection of ewes and rams for breeding; examination of ram for reproductive soundness
11. Insert speculum/site of AI; vaginal pessary

## Animal Handling – Core Competencies: Horses

<b><u>Competency</u></b>
1. Approach and catch in stable
2. Halter, lead by halter, tie up by halter (quick release knot)
3. Exit stable
4. Release correctly into stable
5. Hold horse for inspection, reverse and turn
6. Lead horse for inspection
7. Restrain using twitch /chifney / pinch / lift front leg
8. Apply/take off bridle
9. Signs of health
10. Vaccinations, worming programmes
11. Administration of medicines, know sites for injections
12. Points of the horse
13. Comment on general conformation (static, dynamic)
14. Lift feet and use hoof pick
15. Recognise good farriery
16. Comment on hoof conformation
17. Shoes and bits
18. Put on/take off rug, knee caps, hock boots, exercising, stable & tail bandages
19. Measure height (estimation and by measuring stick); factors affecting height of horses
20. Examine mouth and ageing
21. Colours & markings
22. Estimate weight of horse
23. Lunge horse

## Animal Handling – Core Competencies: Companion Animals

<b><u>Competency</u></b>
<b>Dogs</b>
1. Approach and restrain
2. Hold and carry
3. Lift on to table and hold for examination
4. Comment on temperament
5. Assess approximate weight and age and establish sex
6. Identify common breeds
7. Examine and clip nails
8. Evacuate anal glands
9. Apply tape muzzles
10. Identify common sites for injections & blood sampling
11. Be familiar with the normal reproductive cycle of dogs
12. Advise on appropriate diets, feeding and exercise
13. Advise on routine grooming and maintenance
14. Advise on care of puppies
15. Advise on vaccination and worming programmes
16. Examine mouth
17. Estimate age
18. Give tablets
19. Take pulse and temperature
20. Restrain for blood sampling and injection
21. Examine for presence of testicles / spay scar
22. Body condition score of dog
23. Scan for microchip; confirm presence or absence of microchip using scanner; check for tattoo
24. Check for flea infestation
25. Examine ears, clean ears
26. Description of dog (coat type, colour etc.)

<b>Cats</b>
1. Safely handle and carry out routine procedures on cats
2. Basic knowledge of how to handle & control feral cats
3. Confidently sex cats and kittens
4. Advise about the reproductive cycle & neutering of cats
5. Advise about routine vaccination and worming of cats
6. Advise on control of fleas/mites
7. Advise on provision of a suitable diet
8. Safely administer oral medication
9. Safely administer ear and eye preparations
10. Know the common sites for s/c, i/m and i/v injections and blood sampling
<b>Rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, mice</b>
1. Confidently and competently lift, handle, restrain, and sex