

PART A

RTE2149A Shear Sheep to Improver Level

Purpose

This competency standard covers the selection, handling and shearing of sheep to improver level of equivalent to the minimum rate of pay as set down by the industry award between 70 and 80 sheep per day. It requires the application of skills and knowledge to identify problem sheep and rectify shearing complications. Competency requires an awareness of enterprise and legislative requirements with regard to shearing practices and shearing shed procedures. The work requires the application of some judgement and discretion and would be carried out with minimal supervision within enterprise guidelines.

LEARNING OBJECTS	Level	Object No
RISK ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL IN THE SHEARING		
<i>Assessment Component</i>		
• Participate in a risk assessment and nominate risk controls for a specific task in the shearing shed.	2	5
<i>Underpinning Topics</i>		
• Discuss OHS legislation requirements in the shearing industry and outline OHS responsibilities of the employee in the shearing shed.		4
SHEARING OPERATIONS		
<i>Assessment Component</i>		
• Demonstrate safe procedures for selecting and checking equipment, catching, dragging and releasing sheep and removing wool.	2	18
<i>Underpinning Topics</i>		
• Adopt physical fitness practices and a diet that reduce fatigue levels and the risk of sustaining work-related illnesses or injuries.		15
• Handle sheep in the yards and wool shed in ways that minimise stress.		29
SHEARING CHALLENGES		
<i>Assessment Component</i>		
• Identify potential sources of contamination of wool from shearing, diseased and problem sheep, danger points for injury and report difficulties and grievances.	2	19
<i>Underpinning Topics</i>		
• Demonstrate safe procedures for selecting and checking equipment, catching, dragging and releasing sheep and removing wool.		18
IMPROVER SHEARING		
<i>Assessment Component</i>		
• Shear sheep at a rate of 70 to 80 sheep per day following detailed analysis of positions and position change techniques and a development of handpiece skills.	2	20
<i>Underpinning Topics</i>		
• Describe the procedures, equipment and techniques required to grind to manufacturer's and industry standards.		12
• Set up a grinder to required industry standards.		13
• Perform grinding operations to industry standards for optimum performance of shearing combs and cutters.		14
• Maintain position and control to shear sheep unassisted to an acceptable standard.		16
• Demonstrate safe procedures for selecting and checking equipment, catching, dragging and releasing sheep and removing wool.		18

PART B

RTE2149A Shear sheep to improver level

This competency standard covers the process of shearing sheep to an industry standard at a minimum rate of seventy to eighty sheep per day. Trainees must have achieved the competency RTE1106A Shear sheep to Novice Level before being assessed against this competency.

Trainee Name:		Signed:	
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KNOWLEDGE REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED

<i>Learning Objects</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Trainer</i>
5 Risk assessment and control in the shearing shed		
18 Shearing operations		
19 Shearing challenges		
20 Improver shearing		

PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS COMPLETED

<i>Learner can...</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Workplace Verification by...</i>
<p>Prepare for shearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Select correct matching combinations of combs and cutters. • Set up and adjust the handpiece safely and efficiently for optimum performance for required wool types. • Perform lubrication of handpiece (correct sequence and frequency). • Check and adjust safety clutch. • Check and adjust downtube/short tube. • Identify faults and malfunctions with shearing equipment. 		
<p>Follow health and fitness procedures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carry out warm up routines before shearing to minimise the risk of sprains and strains. • Maintain consistent fluid intake and appropriate work rate. 		
<p>Perform shearing operations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use blow reduction strategies. • Use second cut and skin piece reduction strategies. • Perform correct position change techniques. • Time work rate to meet prescribed daily rate. • Shear sheep to industry standard consistently. 		
<p>Respond to complications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treat injured sheep appropriately. • Report flyblown sheep • Identify black wool for removal. • Demonstrate knowledge of key indicators of poor equipment performance. • Perform fine tuning of handpiece, combs and cutters and downtube for optimum performance. • Adapt shearing technique and improve performance over time 		

CONTEXT OF ASSESSMENT

<i>Shed details</i>				
Brand				
Address				
Number of stands		Sheep shorn per day		Number of shed staff

ASSESSMENT PROCESS

Essential Knowledge	
Skills application	
Contingency	

EVIDENCE SOURCES FOR ASSESSMENT

<input type="checkbox"/> Workplace observation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Written/ oral questioning	
<input type="checkbox"/> Practical skills test	
<input type="checkbox"/> Third party report	
<input type="checkbox"/> Project	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

WHO CONTRIBUTED TO EVIDENCE COLLECTION?

Name	
Address	
Industry role	
<input type="checkbox"/> Competent	
<input type="checkbox"/> Not yet competent	

Assessor		Signed			
RTO		Phone		Date	