

OUTSTANDING TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT TECHNICAL SKILLS NATIONAL PROGRAMME

Protocol
Created by: Reaseheath College

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PROTOCOLS

BUILDING YOUR LEAN TOOLKIT TO FRAME THE NEW CURRICULUM



Protocols

Objective:

- Improve farm operational performance by developing protocols to standardise high quality and consistent implementation of all farm tasks to improve efficiency and drive out waste
- Develop Farm as an outstanding learning resource, demonstrating Lean practices in line with theoretical delivery
- Improve productivity and impact of student stock duties. Clear instructions for 'stock' students on farm – what to do, how, and when
- Increase technical skills, confidence and independence of students on stock duties
- Consistently high quality teaching across farm and teaching staff in practical sessions
- Provide a high quality teaching tool for theoretical teaching sessions
- Provide relevant and accessible CPD for both farm and curriculum team
- Create a continuous review process which involves students, farm and curriculum staff
- Create opportunity for reflection within stocks and practicals -what was the Value of the task you have just completed?
- Developing commercial and business skills, making students more employable
- Further improve and embed culture of Health and safety in the workplace



Data Link

Protocol example

Weighing Sheep/Lambs

Objective

To weigh lambs or ewes to monitor key growth stages and readiness for moving into different stages of production, monitoring animal health and welfare.

Scope

The success of the weighing procedure is dependent on:

- The logistics of the operation i.e. Time needed and taken Number of people, Number of animals, Age of animals and Roads /Obstructions
- Guidance set out under the Welfare of Animals at Time of Transport and 5 Freedoms as described by the Animal Welfare Act.
- Correct calibration of the weighing scales
- Correct use of EID reader to identify individual animals and record data

Protocol Description

Timing: As Required

1. Identify with unit manager (Shepherd) the animals to be condition scored
2. Prepare the handling pens and race for the sheep to be condition scored
3. Move the animals according to the movement protocol to the handling pens and race for condition scoring
4. Move animals through the race and handle each one in turn to assess condition.
5. Use a sack of feed of a known weight (i.e. unopened and labelled) to check the accuracy of the weigh scale (calibration)
6. Make sure the gates at the end of the weighing crate are closed
7. Start to move the sheep through the race towards the weighing crate
8. Open the gate to the weighing crate, and use the crush to control the flow of animals. They should be admitted one at a time
9. Once an animal has entered the weighing crate, close the entrance gate
10. Allow the animal to settle, scan with the EID reader and then record the weight of the animal on the EID reader
11. Mark the animal as required i.e. if it shows signs of lameness or has been provided any veterinary treatment
12. Open the gate and allow the animal to leave the crate. Use gentle encouragement, to encourage the animal if it is slow to move on
13. Repeat for remaining stock

Data to be collected

- Weight of Animals
- Condition Score
- Link to EUROP grid
- Veterinary data

Risks

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Risks	Control
Injury to people	PPE and training
Injury to animals	Correct procedure followed (good route and speed of movement)
Crossing roads	PPE enough staff time of day
Sheep escaping	Walk route, planning, gates
Injury to public	Road procedure PPE

Materials

- Race
- Weighing crate
- EID reader
- Stock Marker
- Whiteboard
- Pen

Other relevant protocols

- Biosecurity Protocol
- Movement Protocol
- Veterinary Medicines Protocol
- Condition Scoring Protocol

Review: What sources of WASTE have you identified in this protocol? Could you have collected any other data? What issues might this data help identify i.e. What is the Value of completing this task?



Impact of changes

Students' point of view...

- 'The job sheets are really great, I know exactly what to do and how, so there is much less hanging around waiting to be given a job.'
- 'The protocols have helped give us a sense of satisfaction when we know we have completed the job just right. Its great we can talk to the farm staff if we think there is an improvement that we have noticed, and they listen.'
- 'Sitting in the LEAN meetings has helped us understand what is going on, on the farm and why the data is what it is. This has really helped with the completion of our practical assignments. It was all a bit over my head at the beginning but it is making sense now.'