# Agricultural and Environmental Systems Career Field

**Companion Animal Selection, Nutrition and Management**

**Subject Code: 010925**

**Outcome & Competency Descriptions**

**Course Description:**

Students will identify and apply responsible animal science principles and routine husbandry practices to companion animals. Topics will include principles and practices of nutrient utilization, breeding programs and management of facility/housing design, meal plans and general care practices. Students will apply knowledge of companion animal care to enhance animal growth, enrichment, training, and education engagement programs. Throughout the course, students will follow practices for care and legal compliance in relation to classification of animals.

**Strand 1. Business Operations/21st Century Skills**

Learners apply principles of economics, business management, marketing and employability in an entrepreneur, manager and employee role to the leadership, planning, developing and analyzing of business enterprises related to the career field.

**Outcome: 1.1. Employability Skills**

Develop career awareness and employability skills (e.g., face-to-face, online) needed for gaining and maintaining employment in diverse business settings.

**Competencies**

1.1.1. Identify the knowledge, skills and abilities necessary to succeed in careers.

1.1.2. Identify the scope of career opportunities and the requirements for education, training, certification, licensure and experience.

**Outcome: 1.2. Leadership and Communications**

Process, maintain, evaluate and disseminate information in a business. Develop leadership and team building to promote collaboration.

**Competencies**

1.2.1. Extract relevant, valid information from materials and cite sources of information.

1.2.2. Deliver formal and informal presentations.

1.2.3. Identify and use verbal, nonverbal and active listening skills to communicate effectively.

1.2.5. Communicate information (e.g., directions, ideas, vision, workplace expectations) for an intended audience and purpose.

1.2.6. Use proper grammar and expression in all aspects of communication.

1.2.12. Use technical writing skills to complete forms and create reports.

**Outcome: 1.3. Business Ethics and Law**

Analyze how professional, ethical and legal behavior contributes to continuous improvement in organizational performance and regulatory compliance.

**Competencies**

1.3.1. Analyze how regulatory compliance (e.g., United States Department of Agriculture [USDA], Food and Drug Administration [FDA], United States Department of Interior [USDI], Ohio Livestock Care Standards, water quality standards, local water regulations, building codes) affects business operations and organizational performance.

1.3.2. Follow protocols and practices necessary to maintain a clean, safe and healthy work environment.

1.3.3. Use ethical character traits consistent with workplace standards (e.g., honesty, personal integrity, compassion, justice).

1.3.9. Identify potential conflicts of interest (e.g., personal gain, project bidding) between personal,

organizational and professional ethical standards.

**Outcome: 1.4. Knowledge Management and Information Technology**

Demonstrate current and emerging strategies and technologies used to collect, analyze, record and share information in business operations.

**Competencies**

1.4.2. Select and use software applications to locate, record, analyze and present information (e.g., word processing, e-mail, spreadsheet, databases, presentation, Internet search engines).

**Outcome: 1.6. Business Literacy**

Develop foundational skills and knowledge in entrepreneurship, financial literacy and business operations.

**Competencies**

1.6.1. Identify business opportunities.

1.6.3. Explain the importance of planning your business.

1.6.7. Identify the effect of supply and demand on products and services.

**Outcome: 1.8. Operations Management**

Plan, organize and monitor an organization or department to maximize contribution to organizational goals and objectives.

**Competencies**

1.8.2. Select and organize resources to develop a product or a service.

1.8.8. Identify routine activities for maintaining business facilities and equipment.

1.8.9. Develop a budget that reflects the strategies and goals of the organization.

**Outcome: 1.10. Sales and Marketing**

Manage pricing, place, promotion, packaging, positioning and public relations to improve quality customer service.

**Competencies**

1.10.2. Determine the customer's needs and identify solutions.

1.10.3. Communicate features, benefits and warranties of a product or service to the customer.

1.10.5. Monitor customer expectations and determine product/service satisfaction by using measurement tools.

1.10.6. Discuss the importance of correct pricing to support a product’s or service’s positioning in the marketing mix.

1.10.8. Use promotional techniques to maximize sales revenues (e.g., advertising, sales promotions, publicity, public relations).

1.10.10. Demonstrate sales techniques.

**Outcome 1.11 Principles of Business Economics**

Examine and employ economic principles, concepts and policies to accomplish organizational goals and objectives.

**Competencies**

1.11.3. Use economic indicators to identify economic trends and conditions (e.g., inflation, interest rate fluctuations, unemployment rates).

1.11.4. Determine how the quality, quantity and pricing of goods and services are affected by domestic and international competition in a market economy.

1.11.8. Identify the relationships between economy, society and environment that lead to sustainability.

**Outcome: 1.12. Site and Personal Safety Procedures**

Follow site and personal safety procedures in specific situations with specialized tools and equipment, evaluate the situation and take corrective action.

**Competencies**

1.12.1. Use Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) defined procedures for identifying employer and employee responsibilities, working in confined spaces, managing worker safety programs, using ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs), maintaining clearance and boundaries and labeling.

1.12.2. Interpret safety signs and symbols.

1.12.3. Interpret personal safety rights according to the employee Right to Know plan.

1.12.4. Describe how working under the influence of drugs and alcohol increases the risk of accident, lowers productivity, raises insurance costs and reduces profits.

1.12.5. Identify the location of emergency flush showers, eyewash fountains, Safety Data Sheets (SDSs), fire alarms and exits.

1.12.6. Identify procedures for the handling, storage and disposal of hazardous materials.

1.12.7. Select, use, store, maintain and dispose of personal protective equipment (PPE), appropriate to job tasks, conditions and materials.

1.12.8. Identify safety hazards and take corrective measures.

1.12.9. Identify, inspect and use safety equipment appropriate for the task.

1.12.10. Follow established procedures for the administration of first aid and contact emergency medical personnel when necessary.

1.12.11 Apply inspection, rejection criteria, hitch configurations and load handling practices to slings and rigging hardware.

1.12.12. Apply inspection, rejection criteria, hitch configurations and load handling practices to slings and rigging hardware.

1.12.14. Identify the source of electrical hazards and use shutdown and established lock-out/tag-out procedures.

**Strand 2. Animal Science**

Learners apply principles of animal anatomy, physiology, genetics, behavior, nutrition and production to the research and development, selection and reproduction, health and management of animals in domestic and natural environments.

**Outcome: 2.1. Nutrition**

Analyze, formulate, prepare, and administer a ration for a population of specific animal species based on the economics, nutrition and availability of feedstuffs and evaluate the feed’s effects on animals and animal products.

**Competencies**

2.1.1. Identify the traditional and alternative types, compositions, quality and compatibility of feedstuff, feed additives and feed byproducts.

2.1.2. Describe the role of nutrients and the nutritional requirements of different animal life processes and species.

2.1.3. Collect a feedstuff sample and interpret the data to determine the quality.

2.1.4. Identify and address major nutrient deficiency and toxicity symptoms.

2.1.5. Identify the biological and non-biological contaminants (physical, chemical, biological and radiological) found in feedstuffs and their impacts on animals.

2.1.6. Formulate and prepare rations and diets for different stages of an animal’s life.

2.1.7. Calculate performance indicators (feed efficiency, average daily gain, minimum energy required) in relation to the cost, quality and availability of feeds.

2.1.8. Select and determine the feeding and watering practices and systems, based on the animal population, purpose, and requirement.

**Outcome: 2.2. Body Systems**

Describe the interrelationships of animal body systems with growth, development, health, maintenance, reproduction and production.

**Competencies**

2.2.1. Describe external anatomical parts and their functions within different species.

2.2.2. Compare and contrast the anatomical parts of the digestive system(s) and describe their physiology within different species.

2.2.4. Identify the anatomical components of the skeletal system, including the types and forms of bones, and describe their physiology.

2.2.5. Identify the anatomical components of the musculature systems, including, striated, cardiac and smooth muscle and describe their physiology.

2.2.6. Compare and contrast bone growth, muscle growth, and fat deposition in relation to developmental patterns.

2.2.12 Compare and contrast between the male and female reproductive system, structures and function.

2.2.13. Describe the endocrine system, its structure, and the role of hormones.

**Outcome: 2.3. Care and Management**

Apply animal care, management and record procedures to ensure husbandry and welfare, including managing environmental conditions to ensure health and performance.

**Competencies**

2.3.1. Identify species-specific terminology (gender, age, reproductive status).

2.3.2. Identify, classify, evaluate and select animal species or breeds for a desired outcome.

2.3.3. Determine the biotic and abiotic factors (e.g., air, ventilation) that impact the animals’ environment.

2.3.4. Apply concepts of pest control and nuisance animal control, sanitation, and disinfection procedures for animals’ care and management.

2.3.5. Perform species-specific animal identification techniques for traceability and records.

2.3.6. Calculate a facility or habitat's carrying capacity and its impact on animal health.

2.3.7. Identify and recognize predator-prey relationships and implement control measures.

2.3.8. Evaluate and perform animal care procedures aligned with industry standards throughout the life of the animal.

2.3.9. Monitor and evaluate the quality of an animal's habitat and implement corrective methods as needed.

2.3.10. Recognize common restraints and tack devices for handling including their use and adjustments.

2.3.11. Groom animals through brushing, bathing and therapeutic treatments.

2.3.12. Assess the nails and hooves of animals and understand the practice of trimming and treating for specific species.

2.3.13. Compare and contrast different standards of grooming and styling techniques for specific animal species and breeds.

2.3.14. Identify and recognize normal and abnormal dental structures and conditions.

**Outcome: 2.4. Recognizing Diseases and Disorders**

Evaluate animal conditions for species-specific diseases and disorders to assess an animal’s health and welfare.

**Competencies**

2.4.1. Identify common infectious and noninfectious causes of diseases and disorders within different species.

2.4.2. Identify abnormalities in the skeleton, body form and functions and identify associated symptoms.

2.4.3. Describe the clinical signs that are associated with an abnormality caused by environmental factors (e.g. heat stress, standing condition, air quality).

2.4.4. Assess clinical signs of animals and identify diseases caused by microorganisms (e.g., parasites, viruses, bacteria, fungi, protozoa).

2.4.5. Describe zoonotic diseases and explain the health risk on humans and animals.

2.4.6. Implement disease prevention methods and procedures including the use of personal protective equipment.

2.4.7. Utilize voided specimens to determine animal health by performing urinalysis and fecal floatation with centrifugation.

2.4.10 Differentiate between active and passive immunities and identify immunization schedule per species.

**Outcome: 2.5. Animal Health**

Implement preventive measures, treatment and maintenance options for species-specific diseases and disorders to improve an animal’s health and welfare.

**Competencies**

2.5.2. Apply concepts of body condition scoring to assess general health and nutrition status.

2.5.3. Recognize the preventative measures or treatments needed to maintain animal health.

2.5.6. Describe the routes of administration for medications (oral, IM, IV, SQ) and the process of drug absorption, distribution, metabolism, withdrawal and excretion.

2.5.7. Interpret and follow label directions for the dosage, route of administration and withdrawal period.

2.5.8. Simulate the administration of drug treatments and vaccines, following quality assurance guidelines, and monitor common adverse effects and potential problems associated with administration.

**Outcome: 2.6. Population Management**

Manage reproduction practices in animal populations across habitats to achieve the desired outcomes and specific goals.

**Competencies**

2.6.1. Identify factors that lead to reproductive maturity and select animals for reproductive readiness.

2.6.2. Compare and select superior individuals based on phenotype.

2.6.3. Compare and select superior individuals based on breeding values and heritability of the desired traits.

2.6.4. Identify normal and abnormal signs of parturition and recommend appropriate management practices.

2.6.5. Understand the rationale to manipulate an animal’s reproductive processes to support breeding (e.g., sex-sorted semen, heat synchronization, nutritional flushing, light cycling, natural and selected breeding).

2.6.6. Understand the rationale for selecting breeding methods (e.g., artificial insemination, embryo transfer, natural selection, selective breeding, invitro fertilization, cloning).

2.6.7. Describe requirements and environmental influences during different stages of gestation within different species.

2.6.8. Describe ethical and responsible animal population management practices (e.g., spaying, neutering, heat suppression, relocation, reintroduction, hunting, containment, culling, euthanasia).

**Strand 3 Biotechnology**

Learners engage in the scientific process, learn fundamental processes using modern tools and laboratory techniques, adhere to safety protocols, and bring a biotechnology product to the market.

**Outcome 3.6** **Molecular-Genetics Technology**

Apply knowledge of genetic inheritance and modification to organisms and use genetic information and bioinformatics to analyze specimens.

**Competencies**

3.6.1. Use a Punnett Square to predict and explain Mendel's Laws, genotype, and phenotype.

3.6.4. Model central dogma of molecular biology (e.g. replication, transcription, translation).

3.6.18. Describe artificial selection and how it is used in plant and animal breeding.

**Strand 4 Power Systems**

Learners apply principles of tool use, power transmission, hydraulics, two- and four-stroke cycle combustion, exhaust, ignition, fuel, starting and charging, steering, HVAC, and lubrication systems to operate, maintain and repair equipment.

**Outcome 4.1 Tool, Stationary and Mobile Maintenance**

Inspect, clean, maintain and perform preventative maintenance on equipment.

**Competencies**

4.1.2. Identify types of hand tools, power tools and equipment and describe their functions.

**Strand 5 Elements of Production**

Learners apply principles of practice related to the management and maintenance of food, agriculture, and natural resources systems.

**Outcome: 5.15 Animal Behavior**

Apply management practices to assure animal welfare, considering species-specific behaviors, human safety, social influences, public perception, and regulations associated with animal welfare.

**Competencies**

5.15.1. Understand social influences, public perception and regulations that are associated with animal welfare.

5.15.2. Describe the adaptations and special senses (e.g., sight, hearing, smell, touch) of animals and how they contribute to animal behavior.

5.15.3. Identify and describe the innate behavioral patterns of animals.

5.15.4. Describe social relationships involved in behavioral adjustment and adaptation (e.g., animal-to-animal and human-to-animal interaction).

5.15.5. Interpret an animal’s intent based on its vocalization, body posture and chemical means of communication.

5.15.6. Recognize behavior abnormalities and recommend corrective action.

5.15.7. Humanely handle, restrain, and move animals.

5.15.8. Identify and describe the life expectancy and use of animals.

5.15.11. Identify methods to minimize animal stress and safety (physiology, psychological and nutritional).

5.15.12. Examine an animal to evaluate its general condition.

**Outcome 5.16. Biosecurity**

Connect the sources and causes of contamination and develop the protocols to implement biosecurity procedures.

**Competencies**

5.16.2 Identify activities and biological agents that contribute to the risk of acquiring or preventing a specific disease.

5.16.4. Assess a facility's biosecurity, classify the level of risk and recommend improvements.

5.16.5. Implement biosecurity procedures to prevent cross-site contamination (e.g., proper use and disposal of personal protective equipment [PPE] from site to site, vehicle cleaning between farm and processing site).

5.16.7. Select bio-containment practices (e.g., quarantine, eradicate, showering into facilities) to manage pests and diseases.

**Strand 6. Environmental Science**

Learners apply earth, life, and physical sciences to the production, extraction, processing, protection, use, and renewal of both renewable and non-renewable resources.

**Outcome: 6.7. Solid Waste and Renewable Resource Management**

Control and process solid waste using current and alternative technologies.

**Competencies**

6.7.6. Describe and monitor solid waste disposal procedures and management procedures (e.g., composting, incineration, recycling, burial, bio digester).

6.7.7. Explain the control processes and potential uses for solid waste byproducts (e.g., leachate, ash, landfill gas, biosolids~~,~~ methane, manure).

**Strand 8 Plant Science**

Learners apply principles of plant anatomy, physiology, nutrition and genetics to the research and development, selection and reproduction, planting, fertilization, health, harvesting and management of plants in a domestic and/or natural environment.

**Outcome 8.1 Plant Nutrition**

Select and apply macronutrients and micronutrients based on deficiencies identified from the use of industry-driven testing, application, methods and optimum management strategies that account for environmental factors.

**Competencies**

8.1.1. Compare and contrast organic and inorganic sources of macronutrients and micronutrients.

**Strand 9 Energy**

Learners apply principles of physics, chemistry, earth sciences and mathematics to energy sources, transformations, acquisitions, applications and their impacts.

**Outcome 9.1 Energy Sources**

Identify energy sources according to their economic viability, sustainability and environmental impact.

**Competencies**

9.1.7. Identify and describe best management practices (e.g., carbon sequestration, conservation, animal safety, efficiency) that lessen environmental impact.