

REF NO	B.PAP.2
TITLE	PRODUCTION ANIMAL PRACTICE
CATEGORY AND VALUE	B – 10 CREDITS
NOTIONAL STUDY HOURS	100

## Introduction

This module covers the *principles* of veterinary practice as they pertain to production animals, generally defined as animal species which may be used for human consumption or whose products may be used for human consumption. Production animals can include cattle (dairy and beef), sheep, pigs, camelids and poultry, but this is not an exhaustive list.

Because the general principles of production animal practice are deemed to be relevant to all species, the module may be studied in the context of just one or more than one production animal species.

This module is required by candidates who wish to achieve a designated CertAVP in [*check which ones*] and provides the foundation for further study in a number of CertAVP C-level modules, including veterinary public health, animal welfare and reproduction.

## Aim

The aim of the module is to provide the foundation for developing expertise in production animal veterinary practice. Its specific objectives are:

- To develop the clinical decision-making and reasoning skills required by advanced practitioners, including the ability to gather, organise, analyse, interpret and present complex data and information.
- To develop communication skills, particularly the ability to write case reports as a means of articulating clinical reasoning and decision-making processes.
- To develop the reflective skills needed to improve understanding of issues raised in clinical practice and to help evaluate learning progress and learning needs.
- To expand and deepen technical knowledge of all aspects of production animal veterinary practice.

## Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of the module, candidates will be able to:

- Apply pathophysiological knowledge, epidemiological principles and evidence-based approaches (including selection of appropriate **diagnostic procedures**) to the **evaluation and management of individual clinical cases and population problems** in a chosen area of production animal veterinary practice.
- Apply **therapeutic and surgical** principles, including **anaesthesia and sedation**, to the management of clinical and population health problems in a chosen area of production animal veterinary practice.
- Describe use of **diagnostic imaging** in their practice premises and (where applicable) in the field, including quality control procedures in place that allow for the safe production of diagnostic images

- Provide practical advice on **population health and welfare** in a chosen area of production animal practice
- Discuss the practical application of available **information technologies for improving animal health and production**.

## **Content**

The scope and level of study which candidates will need to undertake in order to achieve the intended Learning Outcomes will depend on their existing familiarity with the topics, their individual learning needs, the production animal species being studied and the educational approach taken by module providers. The topics listed below are indicative of the required areas of study – they are not intended to be prescriptive and they should be viewed in the context of the production animal species being studied.

### **Evaluation and management of clinical cases and population/herd/flock health disease problems**

- Application of evidence-based veterinary medicine
- Selection of appropriate laboratory diagnostic procedures and interpretation of results
- Diagnostic imaging, including radiology and diagnostic ultrasound
- Fertility and reproduction management, including approaches to pregnancy diagnosis where appropriate
- Disease dynamics in populations

### **Therapeutics and surgical practice**

- Clinical pharmacology
- Surgical practice, including pre-operative evaluation, aseptic techniques, peri-operative analgesia, post-operative care and client education.
- Anaesthetic management, including pre-anaesthetic assessment, sedation, analgesia, anaesthetic equipment, monitoring and supportive measures, recovery/post operative care.

### **Population health and welfare**

- Welfare, nutrition and husbandry
- Health and disease surveillance
- Population/herd/flock health planning and disease control
- Information technologies for improving animal health and production (for example, specific software analyses and farm databases)

## **Assessment**

Module providers are responsible for deciding on assessment strategies and methods, subject to accreditation by RCVS. The following general guidance applies to assessment of this module:

- Assessment will be in accordance with the general requirement for the CertAVP qualification to be benchmarked against the Quality Assurance Agency's (QAA) "M" level in the national qualifications framework.
- Assessment will support the RCVS requirement for the module to be accessible to candidates

from a wide variety of veterinary backgrounds

Assessment will be aimed at encouraging learning and at measuring progress towards the intended learning outcomes of the module.

The following assessment methods may be appropriate to this module:

- Reflective case studies and reports (approximately four 1500 word reports), aimed at demonstrating the ability of candidates to apply theory to practice, articulate clinical reasoning and decision-making, evaluate evidence and reflect on practice.
- Critical appraisal of scientific articles (for example, through participation in a journal club) aimed at demonstrating the ability to assess evidence by systematically reviewing its relevance, validity and results.