



Western Cape
Government

Agriculture

BETTER TOGETHER.



Prospectus: Equine Studies
Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute

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Applications

Applications on the prescribed application form must reach the Institute by or on 30 June of the preceding year of study. Application forms are available from the Registrar, or on the Elsenburg website. All applicants must, if required, complete the standardised tests of the Stellenbosch University.

Student number

On receipt of new applications the Institute office assigns a unique number to each applicant that serves as identification of the individual concerned so as to simplify future communication. The student number must be used in all future correspondence with the Institute.

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PLEASE NOTE

Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute reserves the right to amend the Prospectus at any time.

Management of the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute accept no liability for any inaccuracies there may be in the Prospectus. Every reasonable care has, however, been taken to ensure that the relevant information to hand as at March 2012, the time of going to press, is given fully and accurately in the Prospectus.

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Vision and Mission of Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute

Vision

The Advancement of Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute as an agricultural and educational centre of excellence to the benefit of the broader community.

Mission

To promote sound, integrated managerial and skills training in agriculture with advanced specialisation in area specific fields of excellence informed by industry and societal needs.

Elsenburg: a proud tradition

Elsenburg's history dates back to 1698, when the land was allocated to Samuel Elsevier by Willem Adriaan van der Stel, at that time the governor of the Cape colony. The farm's successive owners, among whom Martin Melck is probably the best known, built it up to one of the prime farms in the Cape. Martin Melck built the beautiful old manor house in 1761. The farm was sold to the government by the Myburgh family in 1898.

On 1 September 1898 the Agricultural College, the first of its kind in South Africa, opened its doors. Five students received their diplomas at the end of the first academic year (June 1899). During the first fourteen years of its existence the average number of students was 44. During the First World War, however, there was a drastic reduction in applications, with only 8 students studying there in 1915.

In 1926 Elsenburg College of Agriculture and the University of Stellenbosch amalgamated and a two-year diploma course was offered at Elsenburg, with the primary aim of training prospective farmers. In 1927 this course was replaced with a one-year course, which was replaced by practical courses in 1931. In 1939 the two-year diploma course was reinstated. Elsenburg's relationship of 47 years with the University was severed in 1973 and the Department of Agriculture accepted responsibility for agricultural training at Elsenburg.

An important milestone in 1976 was the establishment of the Diploma in Cellar Technology. Many of South Africa's winemakers today, received their agricultural training at Elsenburg.

In 1994, with the transformation to a democratic political order in South Africa, the Department of Agriculture: Western Cape was created. The Elsenburg and Kromme Rhee colleges of agriculture amalgamated. The amalgamation placed a great responsibility on the Department of Agriculture to continue and to expand the training offered. A Centre for Further Education and Training was consequently created to address the need for short, practical courses.

The relationship with the University of Stellenbosch was again initiated and since 2004 Elsenburg has been offering a B. Agric programme in association with the University of Stellenbosch's Agriscience Faculty.

This development is in line with the government's new academic policy to give tertiary students more mobility between educational institutions. Duplication of programmes is also eliminated. Elsenburg College of Agriculture was renamed on 1 April 2004 to the Cape Institute for Agricultural Training: Elsenburg.

South Africa: an agricultural gem!

The creation of employment opportunities and the provision of sufficient and safe food and fibre of high quality at affordable prices are some of the demands faced by the agricultural sector. The opportunities and challenges in agriculture lie in the diversity of our topography, the variation in our soil, the divergent nature of our climatic regions, and in the expectations of demanding buyers of our agricultural products. Agriculture has to maintain a balance with nature without exploiting natural resources. Our country has an astonishing diversity of fauna and flora that has to be respected, protected and conserved. The agriculturalist is dealing with living and life-giving organisms in such a way that the goal to improve the quality of life of all, will be furthered.

Agriculture in South Africa contributes almost 5% to the gross national product, assists significantly in earning foreign exchange, is an important provider of employment and supplies basic human requirements in food and fibre. Agritourism is becoming increasingly important as an industry and provides an escape for many city dwellers. For each R1 million increase in the final demand for agricultural products, 83 new employment opportunities are created, in comparison with a corresponding figure of only 29 employment opportunities in the rest of the economy. It is generally acknowledged that agriculture has an important role to play in poverty alleviation.

Soil is an important production factor in agriculture. The Republic of South Africa extends over 122,3 million hectares of which 16 million hectares are used for crop production. Around 1,5 million hectares have established trees and 83 million hectares are covered by natural grazing. Soils with optimum physical and chemical conditions are scarce and localized, but there are various unique soil/climate interactions that allow for the cultivation of products for niche markets.

South Africa is a water scarce country. Around 30% of the country receives less than 250 mm rain per year, around 34% receives between 250 and 500 mm, 25% between 500 and 750 mm per year and only 1% of the country receives more than 750 mm of rain per year. In most regions rainfall is uncertain and periodic droughts occur. As a result of these and other factors, South Africa is dependent mainly on catch-dams and subterranean water sources. Just over 1,2 million hectares are irrigated. At present, agriculture is one of the largest users of water, almost 50%, but the farming sector faces increasing pressure for more water for industrial and residential users. Only 10% of agricultural soil is viable without irrigation. Water and irrigation management in South Africa consequently demands thorough knowledge of the subject.

South Africa is an agricultural gem. Due to the varying climatic conditions and topography, practically any crop can be cultivated. The country is currently self-sufficient in most primary food and fibre requirements for its rapidly growing population. Food crops in which there are not yet self-sufficiency, but which grow in large quantities are oil seeds, rice, tea and coffee. More than 33% of our horticultural production is exported, deciduous fruit comprising the largest volume. Further examples of South African exports are subtropical fruit, maize, sugar, vegetables, wine, cut flowers, flower bulbs, mohair and karakul pelts. 81% of agricultural land is natural grazing used mainly for extensive stock farming. This is almost 70% of South Africa's total area.

A variety of animals are reared: large and small stock, pigs and poultry. Aquaculture and game farming are rapidly growing industries with great potential. After-harvest handling, processing, storing and preserving of products and foods are different ways in which value is added to fresh produce. The ultimate quality of the product enjoyed by the consumer is dependent on the quality of the soil or the animal from which it is derived. Sustainable and responsible pest and disease control is therefore required.

From the above, it is clear that specialised knowledge, expertise, production and management skills are required for sustainable agricultural production. Graduates can enter various careers in agriculture and related sectors. Careers in farming management, cellar technology, research, education and training, consultation, as well as installation management (e.g. cellars) and service delivery (e.g. suppliers), offer challenging options.

(Information obtained from University of Stellenbosch Year Book)

The profile of an agriculturalist

The graduate agriculturalist has the necessary knowledge, skills and attitude to function independently, or in a team, in an agricultural environment. This includes the judicious application of science to the management of the value chain of a variety of food and fibre products in an economical, environmentally friendly and sustainable way for the benefit, betterment and welfare of humanity. To make this contribution, the agriculturalist displays the following professional characteristics:

Knowledge

The knowledge of the applicable scientific concepts, the interaction between the biological and abiotic factors in the environment and the basic principles of research methods and methodology. The ability to create new knowledge, generate ideas and act innovatively. The ability to function effectively in an interdisciplinary environment. An understanding of sustainable development and

sustainable resource management. Management of information and making informed decisions. A systems approach to the analysis of environmental problems.

Attitudes

Respect for the environment and its users.

Acknowledgement of own limitations in terms of knowledge and skills. A positive approach to continuous professional development. Involvement in and service to the wider community. A positive example in terms of social responsibility and obligations. Acceptance of and a striving towards the highest academic standards.

Skills

The ability to collect, integrate, interpret and apply knowledge and to use this information in problem-solving.

Effective communication with role players from various environments and backgrounds. Sufficient skills to function as an agricultural scientist, either independently or as a member of a team. The ability to interpret and apply relevant subject literature. The ability to utilize relevant resources in the work environment effectively.

(Information obtained from the University of Stellenbosch Year Book)

ACADEMIC RULES

This set of Academic rules was compiled specifically for Equine studies of Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute. In case of any contradiction with the general rules of the University of Stellenbosch, these will apply.

1. ATTENDANCE OF CLASSES AND ABSENTEEISM FROM CLASSES, PRACTICALS, TESTS, EXAMINATIONS

Students are expected to attend all classes, practicals, tests and examinations. Lecturers keep attendance records, copies of which are submitted every semester to the Director for record purposes. The following rules apply:

1.1 Absence from lectures

If lecturers are of the opinion that the class attendance of a student during the academic year is unsatisfactory, they may, after the student has been called in and warned, but has not reacted, report this to the Director. The Director will then deal with the matter as he or she deems fit.

1.2 Absence from practicals

1.2.1 Permission for absence is granted only as an exception (see 1.3). The onus then rests with the students themselves to arrange with the lecturer concerned to do the relevant practical component and/or be evaluated.

1.2.2 In a case of absence without authorisation from a practical, students are given a zero mark for any evaluation and also forfeit the right to a later evaluation.

1.3 Authorised absence

1.3.1 Authorised absence is granted only as an exception. Students themselves must make all relevant arrangements.

1.3.2 Any request for authorised absence must be submitted to the Faculty Management in writing and must include the necessary motivation and/or proof.

1.3.4 Requests for compassionate leave must be arranged directly with the Director or an authorised person from Student Affairs.

2. DETERMINATION OF EXAMINATION ADMISSION MARKS (PREDICATE MARKS)

- 2.1 Predicate marks are earned through scheduled and non-scheduled tests, assignments, practical tasks and library work.
- 2.2 In all modules at least two evaluations are done during normal class time as a means of continuous evaluation. These evaluations are the only scheduled opportunities for earning a predicate mark. If students are absent from such an evaluation opportunity (due to illness or other valid reasons), they forfeit that opportunity. They then have to organize another time with the lecturer to do the evaluation.
- 2.3 Medical certificates or other documentation will be accepted as an excuse for absence during any evaluation **provided** it is presented within 2 work days after the evaluation
- 2.4 Exceptional cases will be considered by Faculty Management on receipt of written, well motivated representations by the student.
- 2.5 Composition of predicate mark:
The scheduled evaluations: 70% of the predicate
Internal examination: 30% of the predicate
- 2.6. A minimum of 50% is required for the scheduled evaluations to be able to write the internal examination.
- 2.7 A predicate mark of 60% is required for EQASA - **The Equestrian Qualifications Authority of Southern Africa (EQASA)**, (examination admission (students need to obtain 70% in EQASA examinations to pass).
- 2.8 It is the responsibility of students to ascertain whether they earned a predicate in the various modules, without which they will be denied admission to the EQASA examination.
- 2.9 If a student does not qualify for the EQASA examination, paid fees may be carried forward to a future examination.

3. EXAMINATION

- 3.1 Students are examined or evaluated in all the modules for which they register.

- 3.2 Examination/evaluation covers the entire field of study of a module. Students are expected to keep themselves informed of the content of required modules.
- 3.3 EQASA examinations are written only during officially scheduled times. Students with examination admission must take advantage of the main examination opportunity.
- 3.3.1 There are three main examination opportunities during the academic year:
The April / May examination.
The August examination.
The November examination.
Any module can be examined at any given opportunity, as long as there are a minimum of 6 students to be examined in the module.
- 3.3.2 Supplementary examinations take place at following examination weeks/opportunities.
- 3.4 If students are absent from the main examination opportunity (due to illness or any other reason), they forfeit that opportunity. The supplementary examination is then the only other opportunity to write an examination on that module.
- 3.5 Authorised absence of the main examination will rarely be granted.
- 3.5.1 Students who cannot attend the main examination opportunity must apply in writing for admission to the next scheduled examination opportunity. Valid medical certificates and/or other motivating documentation must accompany the application to EQASA.

4. PASS REQUIREMENTS

- 4.1 Students have to obtain the 70% EQASA pass mark per module.

5. DURATION OF STUDY

- 5.1 Students have to obtain Modules 1, 2 and 3 in their first year and Modules 4 and 5 in their second year.
- 5.2 If students do not pass the relevant modules within the given time, they must continue as part-time students.

OVERVIEW FOR THE EQASA SYLLABUS: MODULE 1-5

Equine Studies follows the Equine Qualifications Authority of South Africa (EQASA) syllabus. Modules 1 – 3 are studied in the first year and Modules 4 and 5 in the second year.

The first three modules cover all aspects of horse care and stable yard management. The modules are progressively studied and assessed; a successful learner at Module 3 will be qualified to run a stable yard.

Module One

EQASA: Professional Groom

Entry level subjects on horse handling, use and care of equipment in general use. Students will learn about the horse's natural life style, actions and re-actions.

Module Two

EQASA Certificate: Professional Head Groom

Building on the first module, with more in-depth knowledge required. Students learn the symptoms and signs of ill and good health in an equine and lunge a trained horse for exercise. Comprehensive knowledge of all equipment in common use including a double bridle.

Module Three

EQASA Certificate: Professional Stable Yard Manager

Many of the subjects that were incorporated in the previous modules now become "stand alone" subjects.

An indepth understanding of conformation, horse health, hoof care, feeding and diet and business management is required. There is a written General Knowledge paper at this level in which students must demonstrate an understanding of equine terminology as well as stable yard construction. The student must hold a valid Level 1 First Aid Certificate.

Module Four

EQASA Certificate: Assistant Coach

The student would have to successfully complete modules 1-3. Candidates will have to ride a trained horse on the flat and over jumps. Teach a group of learners showing knowledge of safety, the basic riding position both on the flat and over fences. The student must know how to apply the aids while riding in a confined space in order to control the horse. Complete a written paper on the theory of teaching.

25 hours of personal riding have to be logged. (Riding lessons from a qualified and registered instructor).

25 hours of teaching practice have to be logged and signed off by a qualified and registered instructor.

Module Five

Professional Equestrian Coach (Level One)

EQASA Certificate: International Level One Coach

This certificate is the first of three international level coach qualifications. Candidates must have a grade 12 (Matric) certificate, ride two horses one of which will jump a course of up to 1 metre, ride and assess a strange horse. Teach a group jumping lesson, teach an individual dressage lesson and complete a written examination paper.

Log 30 hours of personal riding.

Log 70 hours of teaching practice.

Candidates need to be active within equestrian sports both competing and coaching to be successful at this level.

ELSENBURG EQUINE STUDIES STABLE YARD SKILLS AND COMPETENCY CERTIFICATES

These stage certificates will introduce a person who is new to the industry the very basics of horse care and handling as well as an introduction to horse "body language" and behavior. Hopefully this will lead them into gaining a National Qualification through the EQASA programme.

Stage 1: This is the entry level qualification for grooms wishing to work in the equestrian industry. The subjects are general stable and yard hygiene, recognizing horse behavior, leading a horse, grooming and cleaning the feet. The assessment is done on site and in a practical manner.

Stage 2: Candidates are introduced to horse physiology, health, lungeing, grooming and trimming as for a show and travelling. The subjects' studied in Stage 1 are covered in more depth, horse care and handling is taught in greater depth for more understanding.

Stage 3: All the above subjects are covered in greater depth with the introduction of new subjects such as tack, ill health/good health etc. Any compatible subject with EQASA module 1 that is successfully completed will receive credits for that module and not have to be repeated.

These Competency Certificates are seen as entry level and will hopefully enable learners to go on to taking the National EQASA Certificates in horse care and management.

Admission requirement: Senior Certificate. Possession of own horse not essential.

MODULE INFORMATION: EQASA

MODULE 1

Examination Entrance Requirements

Minimum age: 17 years

Minimum pass mark: 70% for each subject

This is a practical exam with oral explanations

SUBJECTS:

Blankets and Boots:

Identify a variety of blankets and boots in daily use

Give reasons for their use

Clean and care for these items

Grooming 1:

Tie a quick release knot

Groom a horse, pull a mane and tail

Clean out the feet

Tack 1:

Name, assemble and fit a bridle

Clean tack

Recognise when tack is need of repair

Name parts of a saddle and fit onto horse

Name some tack in general use

Stable Yard Management 1:

Know the basic rules of feeding

Muck out a stable

Maintenance of the stable yard

Demonstrate correct and safe handling of horses

Use common sense in an emergency

Carry out risk assessment of the environment

Equine Physiology and Behaviour 1:

Points of the horse

Colours and markings

Understand body language

MODULE 2

Examination Requirements

Successful completion of Module 1

Minimum age for this exam is 17 years

It is a practical exam with explanations

The minimum pass rate for all subjects in this exam is 70%

SUBJECTS:

Tack 2

The ability to identify different bits

A thorough knowledge of tack and clothing in general use

Identify and fit different types of saddles and a double bridle

Lungeing 1

Fit basic lungeing equipment

Lunge a trained horse for exercise

Physiology and Behaviour

Describe a horse using basic conformation terminology

Understand signs of good and ill health in the horse

Travelling and Trucking

Prepare a horse for both local and distance travel

Legislation pertaining to travelling horses in South Africa

Techniques re handling difficult horses

Load and unload horses

Care of the horse while travelling

Grooming 2 and Turnout

Clip a horse and give reasons

Trim a horse and give reasons

Bandage a tail

Bandage a leg for support, travel, and stable

Plait a mane and tail

Yard Management 2

Identify different types of feed

Recognise good and poor quality feed

Understand a stable yard routine

Identify poisonous plants

Basic emergency procedures for humans and horses

MODULE 3

Examination Requirements

Successful completion of Modules 1 and 2

Minimum age for this exam is 18 years

A valid Level 1 First Aid Certificate issued by a recognised organisation

The candidates will be examined orally with practical application where necessary

The minimum pass rate for this exam is 70%

SUBJECTS:

Conformation and Unsoundness:

The ability to assess two horses or ponies with the view of advising to clients for a possible purchase.

Have an understanding of balance, movement and temperament.

Age a horse with a degree of accuracy

Have a practical knowledge of common unsoundness

Have the ability to recognise and discuss conformation factors predisposing horses to unsoundness.

Understand the functions of muscles, tendons and ligaments.

Feeding and Diet:

Identify types of feed, nutritional values, costs, source and supply.

Discuss different rations needed based on type of horse and work

Know the digestive tract and discuss parasite control.

Discuss prohibited substances

Manage grassland and paddocks

General Knowledge:

This is a written paper in which candidates will be expected to show an up to date knowledge of equestrian terminology, the skeletal and muscular anatomy and have an understanding of stable and un-mounted vices. Knowledge of the two types of stable construction and the supporting areas.

Lungeing

Candidates will demonstrate lungeing an experienced horse to improve its way of going using the ancillary equipment of choice.

Discuss an on - going training programme for the horse based on their assessment while lungeing.

Equine Foot Care:

Discuss the principles of shoeing, tools and their uses

Different types of shoes and basic corrective shoeing
Structure of the foot and how to remove a shoe

Equine Health Care:

Dress wounds and deal with everyday problems.

Demonstrate the ability to carry out the Veterinarians instructions and be able to discuss veterinary problems.

Have the knowledge of parasite control and a vaccination programme for a stable yard.

Have a good knowledge of infectious and contagious diseases and their control.

Know symptoms of colic and diseases and how to deal with them while waiting for the vet.

Stable Yard and Business Management 3

Know the importance of a stable routine

Have a thorough knowledge of business and staff management

Administration of different forms of small business practises

Occupational Health and Safety regulations

The four Acts governing Animal Welfare

MODULE 4

Examination Requirements:

Successful completion of Modules 1, 2 and 3

The minimum age for this examination is 18 years.

The minimum pass rate for all subjects in this module is 70%.

Candidates must be in possession of a recognised Level One First Aid Certificate.

SUBJECTS:

Theory of Teaching: (Written Paper)

Candidates will be expected to know the basic principles of the theory of teaching and Demographics relating to teaching different age groups and learning levels.

Plan outrides with an understanding of road safety.

Students must demonstrate their ability to plan interesting, constructive and enjoyable lessons for a group of riders.

Basic Riding

Describe and demonstrate (as if to learners) the correct seat on the flat and over jumps.

Candidates will ride a trained, unknown horse showing a correct seat and application of the aids.

Candidates will be required to jump show jumping fences of up to 0.85m in good rhythm and style.

Group Lesson:

Candidates will be required to teach a group of learners, showing knowledge of safety and the ability to assess and teach to the level of assessment.

Candidates must demonstrate teaching methods to correct the identified faults of the riders and use simple school movements to further the ability of the riders.

Candidates will include a simple jumping lesson of up to 0.60m for the learners.

The duration for this lesson is 30 minutes.

Candidates are expected to be up to date with their methods of teaching

Candidates must log 25 hours of personal riding and 25 hours of teaching practise.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate their potential to be an effective instructor with sound teaching principles and good human relations techniques.

MODULE 5

EQASA Certificate of Horsemastership, Horsemanship and Riding Instruction:
International Level One Coach

Examination Requirements:

A Grade 12 (matric) certificate

Successful completion of modules 1 – 4

Minimum age this exam may be taken is 18 years

70 hours of logged lessons taught.

30 hours of personal riding, (lessons from a qualified instructor) also logged.

A current, valid First Aid Certificate.

All EQASA qualified instructors are expected to show the following competencies:

Understand the rules regulating equestrian sport

Ability to teach, effectively, a group and / or individuals

Ability to teach the correct basic seat on the flat and jumping

Motivate riders and plan lessons

Understand the factors that affect learning of horse and rider

Demonstrate good communication skills.

Demonstrate a working ability to coach at this level, from experience gained by competing themselves.

SUBJECTS:

Personal Riding

Candidates will ride two horses, one which they know for jumping a course of up to 1m and an unknown horse on the flat.

Candidates will be asked to assess the second horse and give comprehensive feedback to the assessor regarding its way of going and level of schooling as well as an on-going training programme for the horse provided.

The show jumping course will consist of 6 jumps of up to 1m which must be jumped in good rhythm and style.

Candidates will be expected to discuss with the assessors their jumping round and give feedback as to what they felt were the positive and negative points of the round.

Teaching Examinations:

Individual Flat Lesson

Give a lunge lesson to a learner showing the ability to identify faults and use appropriate exercises to help improve them.

Move on to a flat lesson in which knowledge of school movements ie lateral work and mounted vices is demonstrated.

Demonstrate the clear ability to work on both the horse and rider to improve the way of going.

Group Jumping Lesson

Candidates must be able to demonstrate up to date and correct principles of training horse and rider over fences of up to 0.85m.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate their ability to control a group of learners as well as cater to individual riders needs.

A thorough knowledge of correct distances in gymnastic exercises and the ability to identify when horse or rider have lost confidence.

A working knowledge of a variety of exercises to improve the horse and rider's way of going.

General Knowledge: (Written paper).

Candidates will be expected to have thorough knowledge of the scales of training for both horse and rider.

Give answers to teaching related questions and problem solving with horses.

Experience and practical knowledge are vital aspects for the success of candidates at this level.

Elsenburg Equine Studies Short Course

Stage 1 Certificate of Competence in Horse Handling & Stable Yard Skills.

This is an entry level short course with continual assessment for candidates who would like to gain more knowledge of horse care or start a career in the equestrian industry with no previous experience.

The minimum age is 16years

SUBJECTS:

Stable Hygiene:

Clean out a stable using the appropriate tools.

Different types of bedding used, advantages and disadvantages.

Disposing of used bedding.

Fly control

Cleaning utensils, water buckets and sweeping the yard.

Stable Routine:

Putting a headcollar on a horse

Tying a quick release knot

Name a grooming kit

Groom a horse

Clean out the feet

Lead a horse

Blankets:

How to recognise different types of blankets

Put a blanket on the horse and remove it

Daily care of the blankets

Paddock & Stable Yard Maintenance:

Understand the need to care for paddocks, riding areas and the stable yard.

The importance of clean, fresh water at all times – stable and paddock

Care of the fencing

Storing tools in the designated area for safety of people and horses

Horse Health:

Learn to recognise the signs of good and ill health in the horse.

The importance of producing a report about the above findings

Take the temperature of a horse.

Horses Natural Lifestyle:

Understand instincts, actions and reactions of the horse.
Know basic points of the horse, colours and markings.

Watering & Feeding:

The importance of clean fresh water at all times
The importance of cleanliness in the feed room, stable and yard

Care of Equipment:

How to clean tack
How to put a saddle and bridle on a horse
How to clean the grooming equipment, boots and numnahs

Stage 2:

This stage develops the knowledge gained in the previous stage. A learner accredited with this stage will be able to show knowledge and practical ability on a variety of subjects to do with horse care. This will be demonstrated to a higher and more efficient level and with a greater depth of knowledge than the previous stage.

SUBJECTS:**Equine Physiology and Handling:**

Know some of the main bones in the skeletal system
Trot a horse in hand
How to hold a horse while the vet or farrier are working with it
Know the value of calmness and kindness in establishing a horse's confidence.

Horse Health:

Be able to recognise when a horse is off colour or lame
Treat minor wounds
Know the importance of regular worm counts

Feeding & Watering:

Recognise different feed stuffs
Recognise good and bad quality
Be able to feed horses in the paddock and stable and understand the importance of checking a horse's food and water consumption.

Equine Foot Care:

Know the external parts of the foot
Know daily foot care and the reasons for it
Describe some of the farrier tools and how to remove a shoe in an emergency.

Lungeing:

Name the equipment used to lunge a trained horse for exercise

Lunge a horse.

Name some of the safety features the handler should be aware of

Travelling:

Name some of the essential equipment that should accompany a horse on a journey

Know the importance of recording the temperature of the horse while it is travelling

Grooming and Trimming:

Know how to pull a mane

How to trim a horse and the reasons for this

How to plait a mane

Stage 3:

All the above subjects are covered in greater depth with the introduction of some new subjects. Any compatible subject with EQASA Module 1 that is successfully completed will receive credits for that subject in Module 1 and not have to be repeated.

SUBJECTS:**Equine Physiology and Anatomy:**

Knowledge of the horses muscle structure

Good and bad conformation points

Structure of the lower limbs including the tendons and ligaments

Respiratory system

Horse Health:

Vaccination programme

Minor ailments

Symptoms of some common diseases

When to contact the vet and what information to provide

Management and General Handling

Understand how to handle young or difficult horses

Stable vices

Lead and handle a young horse with knowledge of accepted methods of restraint.

Equine Nutrition:

Knowledge of a variety of feed stuffs and how or where the horse will utilise them

Organise a feed room

Care of a competition horse

Stable Design and Construction:

Understand the basics of stable design and layout

Supporting Buildings

Stable fittings

Equine Footwear:

Knowledge of the structure of the foot

Indepth knowledge of diseases of the foot

What to look for in the newly shod foot

These Competency Certificates are seen as entry level, they should enable learners who have had no previous experience to go onto to take the National EQASA Certificates in horse care and management.

Stage 4:

This is short course designed for learners who have had extensive previous experience with care of horses and riding. A Portfolio of Evidence (POE) must be provided. Successful learners will be qualified to teach special needs riders, while under the supervision of a Senior South African Riding for the Disabled Association (SARDA) Instructor.

For full qualification under the International Group for Equestrian Qualifications (IGE) matrix learners must complete all EQASA Modules 1-5.

SUBJECTS:

All EQASA Module 1 subjects including:

Lungeing:

Lunge a trained horse for exercise

Group Lesson (Able Bodied)

Teach a group of 3 to 4 learners the basic riding position

Control and assess the group and demonstrate the ability to use appropriate terminology for correction of rider's position faults.

Group Lesson (Disabled)

Show the ability to work with side walkers, leaders and a physiotherapist, while assessing and teaching basic riding skills to learners with a variety of disabilities.

Riding Proficiency 2: (Excluding Jumping)

Candidate's riding will be assessed in the three basic paces

Verbal explanations of the aids may be asked for

Explanation of the jumping position will be asked

Horse Assessment for SARDA purposes, this will include:

Conformation/Temperament

Leveling of schooling

Basic paces

Response to the aids

Written Paper:

This is a paper set by SARDA in accordance with Internationally Accepted Standards.

It will include questions about mentally handicapped, autistic and physically handicapped learners.

Short Courses for EQASA Modules 1-4

These courses are designed for candidates who are already working within the industry and who now need to formalise their knowledge and gain a qualification in order to comply with Government regulations being introduced in 2016. Broadly this states that anyone receiving money from the public for teaching riding must be qualified and registered.

A POE will be required on application. This provides proof of experience with horses, personal riding and teaching.

Refresher Course: In accordance with Professional Development Points for the Industry.

These courses are available on request and will be designed to keep qualified instructors/ stable managers updated with new developments within the industry as well as having their own riding and teaching skills re-assessed.

EQASA Modules 1-3 will be an annual course.

EQASA Module 4 and up will be every three years.

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