



ACT
Government

Chief Minister and Treasury

Part D: Schedules and Appendices
Structures Classification Standards
Schedule 9
Veterinary Officers

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASSES 1 - 5

GROUP DESCRIPTION

Definition

The work of positions in this stream involves the application of professional veterinary knowledge and experience to inspection measures relating to meat and meat products; to the diagnosis and control of disease in animals and the provision of extension services in animal health and husbandry; to investigation and applied research into matters such as disease control and improved inspection procedures; or to the administration of technical provisions of relevant legislation. It includes the direction of these activities.

Qualifications

A person in this stream must:

- possess qualifications which will admit him/her to a degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Science of a University being a degree recognised by the Board as a degree which enables him/her to discharge efficiently the duties of his/her office; or
- have other qualifications which, in the opinion of the Board, are appropriate for the efficient discharge of the duties of his/her office.

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASSES 1 - 5

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Definition

Under general direction, performs professional veterinary work requiring the exercise of independence, initiative and judgement.

Features

This level includes positions, the occupants of which carry out activities such as:

- directing inspection activities at an export abattoir other than one meeting the requirements specified for a large abattoir and other than an abattoir where special factors exist (see guideline 1 for Veterinary Officer Class 2);
- performing inspection activities at a large export abattoir or at a group of miscellaneous meat processing or handling establishments; and
- carrying out field investigations, performing disease control and eradication activities and advising stock owners on animal husbandry methods.

Typical Duties

The duties listed below are typical of this work level.

- Carry out the duty listed for a Veterinary Officer Class 2 directing and performing inspection activities at a large export abattoir to the extent appropriate to this level.
- Perform inspection activities at a large export abattoir, or at a group of miscellaneous meat processing or handling establishments, including:
 - diagnosing diseases in animals;
 - directing the removal from human food channels of animals or meat showing evidence of being affected by disease or other unacceptable condition; and
 - inspecting plant and equipment to ensure adequate hygiene control.

- Investigate and report on inspection procedures, techniques, equipment and materials.
- Carry out special laboratory tests and investigations and assist with diagnostic techniques and research projects.
- Carry out surveys on the causes of mortalities and wastage of livestock.
- Perform disease control and eradication activities.
- Advise stock owners on disease control and animal husbandry methods.

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASS 2

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Definition

Under general direction, directs professional veterinary work, or performs professional veterinary work of a difficult and complex nature.

Features

This level includes positions, the occupants of which carry out activities such as:

- directing and performing inspection activities at a large export abattoir (see guideline 1);
- directing and performing inspection activities at an export abattoir where special factors exist (see guideline 2);
- carrying out difficult and complex projects relating to departmental veterinary activities;
- directing animal health and husbandry activities in a district; and
- conducting the more important field or laboratory investigations into aspects of animal health and husbandry.

Typical Duties

The duties listed below are typical of this work level.

- Direct and perform veterinary inspection activities at a large export abattoir or at an export abattoir where special factors exist including:
 - controlling the work of subordinate staff;
 - diagnosing diseases in animals;
 - directing the removal from human food channels of animals or meat showing evidence of being affected by disease or other unacceptable condition;

- discussing and resolving with works management appropriate courses of action to ensure compliance with meat export regulations and other requirements;
- inspecting plant and equipment to ensure adequate hygiene control; and
- developing and maintaining liaison with producers and governmental authorities on aspects of meat inspection.
- Carry out difficult and complex projects relating to meat inspection operations and policies.
- Supervise the detection and control of livestock diseases in a district.
- Conduct the more important field or laboratory investigations into aspects of animal health and husbandry.

Guidelines

- (1) A large abattoir is one where the general number and variety of animals being slaughtered, the number of chains on which the animals are being processed and the general dispersion of the premises, particularly in relation to individual slaughter floors justify at least two Veterinary Officers to provide an adequate degree of professional supervision.
- (2) While normally the Class 1 level is appropriate for a position directing the inspection activity at other than a large abattoir, special factors may exist which justify consideration of a classification at the Class 2 level. Such a situation may be found for example in abattoirs where discontinuity of operations and the resulting complexity of the management task call for a high level of resourcefulness, skill and judgement in implementing and maintaining requisite inspection standards.
- (3) A classification at the Class 2 level could also be considered in exceptional circumstances such as where the incidence and diversity of pathological or other condition of the stock or significant factors militating against adequate health control procedures raise veterinary problems of a difficult and complex nature.
- (4) In evaluating the Veterinary Officer in charge position the likelihood of special factors being present for a limited period of time should be considered. If the conditions are likely to be temporary or non recurring local arrangements covering the period involved may be more appropriate.

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASS 3

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Definition

Under limited direction, directs a significant program of professional veterinary work within a geographical or functional area, or performs more difficult and complex professional veterinary work.

Features

This level includes positions, the occupants of which carry out activities such as:

- directing inspection activities within a group of export abattoirs;
- directing a program of animal health services within a number of districts;
- planning and directing significant field or laboratory programs; and
- directing and performing activities concerned with the technical administration of veterinary programs.

Typical Duties

The duties listed below are typical of this work level.

- Direct inspection activities within a group of export abattoirs, including:
 - ensuring uniformity of inspection standards within the group under his control and ordering appropriate corrective action;
 - planning and ensuring the optimum use of staff;
 - resolving major problems associated with the application of inspection standards; and
 - advising senior staff on the efficiency of inspection operations.
- Direct a program of animal health services within a number of districts, including:
 - making recommendations on policies relating to animal health matters;

- planning and implementing disease control and eradication programs; and
- promoting, organising and co-ordinating animal health extension activities.
- Plan and implement programs, including laboratory and field investigations into animal health and disease control.
- Develop and implement procedures necessary for efficient and economic use of staff and resources.
- Investigate and make recommendations for consideration by departmental management on matters arising from the administration of relevant legislation.

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASS 4

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Definition

Under broad policy control, directs an organisation of moderate size and scope engaged in the provision of a veterinary service or directs activities which are concerned with the technical administration of a veterinary service and which have major policy implications, or performs the most difficult and complex professional veterinary work having major policy implications.

Typical Duties

The duties listed below are typical of this work level.

- Control and co-ordinate animal health services including disease control and eradication activities and research programs involving laboratory and field investigations.
- Direct a veterinary inspection service in a State organisation, including:
 - ensuring that required standards, techniques and methods are applied;
 - examining the need for new or amended techniques and methods, standards, procedures, instructions and rules;
 - promoting the conduct of investigations into aspects of meat inspection; and
 - maintaining contact and co-operation with industry and other governmental authorities.
- Direct activities concerned with the provision of policy advice to management and the technical administration of a veterinary program at a national level.
- Negotiate with overseas authorities and make recommendations on the application of overseas standards relating to the export of meat and meat products.

VETERINARY OFFICER CLASS 5

WORK LEVEL DESCRIPTION

Definition

Within broad policy guidelines directs an organisation of extensive size and scope engaged in the provision of a veterinary service.

Typical Duties

The duty listed below is typical of this work level.

- Direct a veterinary inspection program and meat marketing, production and export control activities in a large State organisation.