

ICEV Animal Science Certification Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Introduction

Preparing for a certification exam can feel overwhelming, but with the right tools, it becomes an opportunity to build confidence, sharpen your skills, and move one step closer to your goals. At Examzify, we believe that effective exam preparation isn't just about memorization, it's about understanding the material, identifying knowledge gaps, and building the test-taking strategies that lead to success.

This guide was designed to help you do exactly that.

Whether you're preparing for a licensing exam, professional certification, or entry-level qualification, this book offers structured practice to reinforce key concepts. You'll find a wide range of multiple-choice questions, each followed by clear explanations to help you understand not just the right answer, but why it's correct.

The content in this guide is based on real-world exam objectives and aligned with the types of questions and topics commonly found on official tests. It's ideal for learners who want to:

- Practice answering questions under realistic conditions,
- Improve accuracy and speed,
- Review explanations to strengthen weak areas, and
- Approach the exam with greater confidence.

We recommend using this book not as a stand-alone study tool, but alongside other resources like flashcards, textbooks, or hands-on training. For best results, we recommend working through each question, reflecting on the explanation provided, and revisiting the topics that challenge you most.

Remember: successful test preparation isn't about getting every question right the first time, it's about learning from your mistakes and improving over time. Stay focused, trust the process, and know that every page you turn brings you closer to success.

Let's begin.

How to Use This Guide

This guide is designed to help you study more effectively and approach your exam with confidence. Whether you're reviewing for the first time or doing a final refresh, here's how to get the most out of your Examzify study guide:

1. Start with a Diagnostic Review

Skim through the questions to get a sense of what you know and what you need to focus on. Your goal is to identify knowledge gaps early.

2. Study in Short, Focused Sessions

Break your study time into manageable blocks (e.g. 30 - 45 minutes). Review a handful of questions, reflect on the explanations.

3. Learn from the Explanations

After answering a question, always read the explanation, even if you got it right. It reinforces key points, corrects misunderstandings, and teaches subtle distinctions between similar answers.

4. Track Your Progress

Use bookmarks or notes (if reading digitally) to mark difficult questions. Revisit these regularly and track improvements over time.

5. Simulate the Real Exam

Once you're comfortable, try taking a full set of questions without pausing. Set a timer and simulate test-day conditions to build confidence and time management skills.

6. Repeat and Review

Don't just study once, repetition builds retention. Re-attempt questions after a few days and revisit explanations to reinforce learning. Pair this guide with other Examzify tools like flashcards, and digital practice tests to strengthen your preparation across formats.

There's no single right way to study, but consistent, thoughtful effort always wins. Use this guide flexibly, adapt the tips above to fit your pace and learning style. You've got this!

Questions

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- 1. Difficulty giving birth in cattle is referred to as which of the following?**
 - A. Eclampsia**
 - B. Mastitis**
 - C. Prolapse**
 - D. Dystocia**

- 2. What document records an animal's ancestry?**
 - A. Brand**
 - B. Pedigree**
 - C. Passport**
 - D. Registration**

- 3. In bovine anatomy, which term describes the underside of the body including the feet?**
 - A. Dorsal**
 - B. Cranial**
 - C. Caudal**
 - D. Ventral**

- 4. In what molecule are genes located?**
 - A. RNA**
 - B. Protein**
 - C. Lipids**
 - D. DNA**

- 5. Which term describes a young female horse?**
 - A. Gelding**
 - B. Mare**
 - C. Filly**
 - D. Stallion**

- 6. The process of giving birth is known as which of the following?**
- A. Parturition**
 - B. Conception**
 - C. Gestation**
 - D. Lactation**
- 7. What is the term for a female pig that has not yet farrowed?**
- A. Sow**
 - B. Boar**
 - C. Gilt**
 - D. Barrow**
- 8. Which of the following parasites are also called blood worms?**
- A. Strongyles**
 - B. Nematodes**
 - C. Tapeworms**
 - D. Flukes**
- 9. A castrated male horse is referred to as which term?**
- A. Gelding**
 - B. Stallion**
 - C. Colt**
 - D. Mare**
- 10. Which breeding method involves transferring embryos from a donor to recipient females?**
- A. Embryo transfer**
 - B. Artificial insemination**
 - C. In vitro fertilization**
 - D. Selective breeding**

Answers

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1. D
2. B
3. D
4. D
5. C
6. A
7. C
8. A
9. A
10. A

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Explanations

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1. Difficulty giving birth in cattle is referred to as which of the following?

- A. Eclampsia**
- B. Mastitis**
- C. Prolapse**
- D. Dystocia**

Dystocia is the term for difficulty giving birth in cattle. It describes a challenging or prolonged parturition that may require veterinary assistance due to problems with the fetus, the birth canal, or uterine contractions. Eclampsia refers to low blood calcium causing tremors around calving, mastitis is an udder infection, and prolapse describes the uterus or vaginal tissues protruding through the vulva, which is a complication that can occur around calving but isn't the general term for difficult birth.

2. What document records an animal's ancestry?

- A. Brand**
- B. Pedigree**
- C. Passport**
- D. Registration**

An animal's ancestry is recorded in a pedigree. A pedigree is a documented family tree that lists the animal's parents, grandparents, and further generations, showing how traits may be inherited. Breeders rely on pedigrees to understand genetic relationships, predict inherited characteristics, and manage inbreeding to improve or maintain desired traits. Branding is for identification — like a tattoo or microchip — and does not convey lineage. A passport covers movement, ownership details, and health information such as vaccinations, but it doesn't map family history. Registration with a breed registry confirms identity and eligibility within a registry; it may include birth details and lineage, but the term pedigree specifically denotes the recorded ancestry across generations.

3. In bovine anatomy, which term describes the underside of the body including the feet?

- A. Dorsal**
- B. Cranial**
- C. Caudal**
- D. Ventral**

Understanding body orientation terms helps describe where structures are located on a cow. The underside of the body, including the feet, is described as ventral. This term denotes the belly side or bottom surfaces in a quadruped, i.e., toward the ground when the animal stands. Dorsal is the opposite—referring to the back or top side. Cranial means toward the head, and caudal toward the tail, not the underside. In cows, the bottom surfaces of the feet align with ventral.

4. In what molecule are genes located?

- A. RNA
- B. Protein
- C. Lipids
- D. DNA**

Genes are the instructions stored in the molecule that carries hereditary information, and in most organisms that molecule is DNA. DNA's structure, with long sequences of nucleotides, lets genes be precisely encoded, copied, and transmitted from one generation to the next. Genes are specific regions within DNA that are transcribed into RNA and often guide the production of proteins (or functional RNA molecules). While RNA can serve as genetic material in some viruses, and proteins and lipids play other roles in the cell, DNA is the molecule that houses genes in typical cellular life.

5. Which term describes a young female horse?

- A. Gelding
- B. Mare
- C. Filly**
- D. Stallion

Horse terminology hinges on age and gender. A young female horse is called a filly, signaling both her sex and youth. As she matures, she becomes a mare. The other terms describe males or a castrated male: a gelding is a castrated male horse, and a stallion is an intact adult male. Because the question specifies a young female, filly is the precise term to use.

6. The process of giving birth is known as which of the following?

- A. Parturition**
- B. Conception
- C. Gestation
- D. Lactation

Parturition is the process of giving birth, often described as labor or delivery. It encompasses the onset of uterine contractions, cervical dilation, and the expulsion of the fetus from the uterus. This term is distinct from conception (fertilization), gestation (the pregnancy period), and lactation (milk production after birth).

7. What is the term for a female pig that has not yet farrowed?

- A. Sow**
- B. Boar**
- C. Gilt**
- D. Barrow**

Understanding pig reproductive status terms helps here. A gilt is a young female pig that has not yet farrowed; farrowing means giving birth to piglets. Once she has a litter, she becomes a sow. The other terms describe different animals: a boar is an intact male, and a barrow is a castrated male.

8. Which of the following parasites are also called blood worms?

- A. Strongyles**
- B. Nematodes**
- C. Tapeworms**
- D. Flukes**

Blood worms are a name given to a group of nematodes that feed on blood and cause bleeding in the tissues they inhabit. In veterinary parasitology, this term specifically identifies the strongyles, a subset of roundworms that infect livestock and horses. Their life cycle and tissue migration—often through the intestinal wall or arteries—lead to blood loss and related disease, which is why they earned the label blood worms. Strongyles are a type of nematode, so the broader category “nematodes” is not the specific label here. Tapeworms and flukes belong to different parasite groups (cestodes and trematodes, respectively) and do not carry the bloodworm name.

9. A castrated male horse is referred to as which term?

- A. Gelding**
- B. Stallion**
- C. Colt**
- D. Mare**

In horse terminology, a castrated male is called a gelding. This term specifically refers to a male that has been castrated, which removes the ability to breed and often reduces testosterone-driven behavior. A stallion is an intact breeding male, a colt is a young male horse (typically under four years old), and a mare is a female horse. So the castrated male is best described as a gelding.

10. Which breeding method involves transferring embryos from a donor to recipient females?

- A. Embryo transfer**
- B. Artificial insemination**
- C. In vitro fertilization**
- D. Selective breeding**

Embryo transfer is the process of moving developing embryos from a donor female into recipient females so they can carry the pregnancies to term. This method lets multiple offspring come from a single high-quality dam by collecting her embryos and delivering them into synchronized recipient females. Artificial insemination, by contrast, deposits semen to fertilize eggs inside the dam, not transferring embryos. In vitro fertilization involves fertilizing eggs outside the body and then transferring the resulting embryos to recipients, but the action described—transferring embryos from a donor to recipients—matches the embryo transfer method itself. Selective breeding is about choosing which animals mate to improve traits, without moving embryos between animals.

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Next Steps

Congratulations on reaching the final section of this guide. You've taken a meaningful step toward passing your certification exam and advancing your career.

As you continue preparing, remember that consistent practice, review, and self-reflection are key to success. Make time to revisit difficult topics, simulate exam conditions, and track your progress along the way.

If you need help, have suggestions, or want to share feedback, we'd love to hear from you. Reach out to our team at hello@examzify.com.

Or visit your dedicated course page for more study tools and resources:

<https://icevanimalscience.examzify.com>

We wish you the very best on your exam journey. You've got this!

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