

iCEV Elanco Fundamentals of Animal Science Certification Practice Test (Sample)

Study Guide



Everything you need from our exam experts!

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Table of Contents

Copyright	1
Table of Contents	2
Introduction	3
How to Use This Guide	4
Questions	5
Answers	8
Explanations	10
Next Steps	15

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

- 1. What housing type is intended for weaned piglets?**
 - A. Nursery houses**
 - B. Growing/finishing pig houses**
 - C. Gestating sow houses**
 - D. Farrowing sow houses**
- 2. What is a goat called if it is younger than 1 year of age, regardless of gender?**
 - A. Kid**
 - B. Doe**
 - C. Buck**
 - D. Yearling**
- 3. What part of the syringe is responsible for piercing the skin?**
 - A. Plunger**
 - B. Barrel**
 - C. Needle**
 - D. Cap**
- 4. What is estrus in mammals?**
 - A. A period of sexual receptivity**
 - B. The process of implantation of a fertilized egg**
 - C. The phase of pregnancy development**
 - D. A form of non-reproductive behavior**
- 5. What type of disease is scrapies in sheep and goats?**
 - A. Respiratory disease**
 - B. Fatal, deteriorating disease**
 - C. Inherited genetic condition**
 - D. Parasitic infection**
- 6. A castrated male sheep or goat is referred to as?**
 - A. Ram**
 - B. Wether**
 - C. Ewe**
 - D. Filly**

- 7. What is the typical gestation period for a mare?**
- A. 280 days**
 - B. 336 days**
 - C. 150 days**
 - D. 270 days**
- 8. How is scrapies primarily characterized in terms of its impact on affected animals?**
- A. Digestive issues**
 - B. Centrally nervous system deterioration**
 - C. Skin infections**
 - D. Reproductive failure**
- 9. A colt, gelding, or filly are known as what up to 1 year of age?**
- A. Yearling**
 - B. Foal**
 - C. Weanling**
 - D. Stud**
- 10. What do you call a young, immature female chicken that has not yet begun laying eggs and is under one year old?**
- A. Pullet**
 - B. Hen**
 - C. Broiler**
 - D. Rooster**

Answers

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

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Explanations

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1. What housing type is intended for weaned piglets?

- A. Nursery houses**
- B. Growing/finishing pig houses**
- C. Gestating sow houses**
- D. Farrowing sow houses**

Nursery houses are specifically designed for weaned piglets, providing an environment that meets their developmental needs after they are separated from their mother. In a nursery house, the climate control, feeding systems, and space are tailored to promote growth and health in young pigs. These facilities typically accommodate piglets in the crucial post-weaning phase, allowing them to adjust to solid food and grow in a safe and comfortable setting. The other housing types serve different purposes: growing/finishing pig houses are designed for larger pigs that are growing towards market weight; gestating sow houses are utilized for pregnant sows; and farrowing sow houses are intended for sows that are about to give birth and for their piglets immediately after birth. Each of these types supports specific stages in pig production, emphasizing why nursery houses are the appropriate choice for weaned piglets.

2. What is a goat called if it is younger than 1 year of age, regardless of gender?

- A. Kid**
- B. Doe**
- C. Buck**
- D. Yearling**

A goat that is younger than one year of age is referred to as a kid. This term is universally used to describe young goats, regardless of their gender. The period when a goat is considered a kid typically extends from birth until approximately one year old. The terms used for adult goats are different; a female goat is called a doe, and a male goat is known as a buck. Additionally, once a goat reaches the age of one year but is still not fully mature, it is often referred to as a yearling. Therefore, understanding these classifications is crucial in animal husbandry and helps in accurate communication regarding age and gender in goat management.

3. What part of the syringe is responsible for piercing the skin?

- A. Plunger**
- B. Barrel**
- C. Needle**
- D. Cap**

The needle is the component of the syringe specifically designed for piercing the skin. It is a slender, sharpened tube that allows for the delivery of medication or the extraction of fluids directly into or from the body. When using a syringe for injections, the needle's point is crafted to easily penetrate skin tissues, ensuring that the procedure is as smooth and efficient as possible. In contrast, the plunger is the part that is pushed to expel or draw the liquid in the barrel, while the barrel holds the fluid being injected. The cap serves as a protective cover for the needle, preventing contamination and accidental punctures before use. Each of these parts has a distinct function, but only the needle possesses the design features necessary for penetrating the skin.

4. What is estrus in mammals?

- A. A period of sexual receptivity**
- B. The process of implantation of a fertilized egg**
- C. The phase of pregnancy development**
- D. A form of non-reproductive behavior**

Estrus in mammals refers to a specific period during which a female is sexually receptive and fertile. This phase, often known as "heat," is characterized by behavioral and physiological changes, enabling the female to attract males for mating purposes. During this time, hormonal changes influence the female's body, leading to ovulation; thus, if mating occurs, there is a higher likelihood of successful fertilization. This understanding of estrus is critical in animal breeding and management, as it allows for optimal timing of breeding practices. Recognizing the signs of estrus, such as increased vocalization, restlessness, or changes in body posture, is essential for breeders to enhance reproductive success in their livestock or pets. In contrast, the other choices pertain to different reproductive stages or non-reproductive behaviors, but they do not define the specific timeframe of sexual receptivity represented by estrus.

5. What type of disease is scrapies in sheep and goats?

- A. Respiratory disease**
- B. Fatal, deteriorating disease**
- C. Inherited genetic condition**
- D. Parasitic infection**

Scrapie is a fatal, neurodegenerative disease that affects sheep and goats, making it a significant concern in animal health. This condition is classified as a transmissible spongiform encephalopathy (TSE), which involves the improper folding of prion proteins in the nervous system. Over time, the disease leads to severe neurological deterioration, resulting in behavioral changes, loss of coordination, and ultimately death. The characteristics of scrapie include its long incubation period and its progressive nature, which means it can take years for symptoms to appear after the initial infection. Once signs become evident, the disease is invariably fatal, emphasizing the importance of understanding scrapie's impact on livestock health and herd management. Unlike respiratory diseases, which primarily affect an animal's breathing function, or inherited genetic conditions, which are passed down through generations but do not typically cause immediate health crises, scrapie is distinct in its biological mechanism and its severe impact on the central nervous system. Furthermore, it is not caused by parasites, which would involve different pathogens and treatment approaches. Understanding scrapie's classification as a fatal, deteriorating disease provides insight into the management, prevention, and implications for those involved in sheep and goat farming.

6. A castrated male sheep or goat is referred to as?

- A. Ram
- B. Wether**
- C. Ewe
- D. Filly

A castrated male sheep or goat is known as a wether. This term specifically describes a male animal that has undergone castration, which is the surgical removal of the testicles. The purpose of castration can include reducing aggression, preventing breeding, and improving the quality of the meat. In contrast, the term "ram" refers to an intact male sheep, while "ewe" denotes a female sheep. The term "filly" is used to describe a young female horse, which is unrelated to sheep or goats. Understanding these terms is essential for anyone involved in animal husbandry, as it helps in identifying the role and management of different livestock.

7. What is the typical gestation period for a mare?

- A. 280 days
- B. 336 days**
- C. 150 days
- D. 270 days

The typical gestation period for a mare, which refers to the time a mare carries her foal before giving birth, is approximately 11 months or around 330-340 days. B, at 336 days, falls within this range and is considered an accurate representation of the average gestation length for equines. Understanding the gestation period is vital in animal science, particularly for breeding and veterinary practices, as it allows for better planning of reproductive schedules and care for the mare during this critical time. The other options do not align with the standard gestation length for mares; 280 days, 150 days, and 270 days are not within the expected range for equine gestation.

8. How is scrapies primarily characterized in terms of its impact on affected animals?

- A. Digestive issues
- B. Centrally nervous system deterioration**
- C. Skin infections
- D. Reproductive failure

Scrapie is primarily characterized by its significant impact on the central nervous system of affected animals, particularly sheep and goats. This disease is a type of transmissible spongiform encephalopathy, which leads to neurodegeneration. The infection causes a range of neurological symptoms, such as ataxia (loss of coordination), tremors, and changes in behavior. Over time, the disease progresses, leading to severe deterioration of brain function. It is crucial for individuals involved in animal science and veterinary medicine to recognize these neurological signs as they are key indicators of scrapie. While the other options may suggest possible complications or associate with other animal health issues, they do not directly relate to the hallmark features of scrapie. For instance, digestive issues are not a primary concern with this condition, nor are skin infections or reproductive failures. Understanding that scrapie is fundamentally a neurological disease helps in proper diagnosis and management of affected flocks.

9. A colt, gelding, or filly are known as what up to 1 year of age?

A. Yearling

B. Foal

C. Weanling

D. Stud

A colt, gelding, or filly up to 1 year of age is known as a foal. The term "foal" specifically refers to a horse of either sex that is less than one year old. This encompasses all young horses that have not yet reached the stage of weaning, which typically occurs around 6 months of age, but the foal classification continues until the horse turns a year old. Other terms like "yearling" refer to young horses that are between one and two years old, while "weanling" is a term used for horses that have been weaned from their mothers but are still under one year of age. "Stud," on the other hand, refers to a male horse that is used for breeding. Understanding these classifications is essential for animal science, particularly in managing and breeding horses.

10. What do you call a young, immature female chicken that has not yet begun laying eggs and is under one year old?

A. Pullet

B. Hen

C. Broiler

D. Rooster

A young, immature female chicken that has not yet begun laying eggs and is under one year old is referred to as a pullet. This term specifically describes female chickens during their early stages of life, typically from hatching until they reach sexual maturity around six months to one year of age. In contrast, a hen is a mature female chicken that is typically over one year old and has started laying eggs. A broiler is a type of chicken raised for meat production, and a rooster is an adult male chicken. Thus, when identifying the stage of life of a female chicken that is young and non-egg-laying, "pullet" is the precise term to use.

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://elancofundamentalsofanimalscience.examzify.com>

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