Working with Stock - Hazards, Risks & Control Measures

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| **Hazard** | **Risk** | **Control measure** |
| Animal behaviour | Animal charging, kicking, trampling leading to injury | Be always aware of the animals – do not take them for granted!  A good yard design allows for a quick exit from the yard. |
| Dust | Limited vision  Breathing problems | Water yards with sprinklers or a water truck.  Use of a scarf to protect your nose and mouth. |
| Noise | Hearing loss  Diminished hearing ability | Use of hearing protection when the noise is very loud. |
| Moving parts on equipment such as slide gates | Injuries such as broken arms | Keep arms and hands away from gates.  Make sure plant and equipment is well maintained. |
| Hazardous substances | Poisoning, skin exposure and inhalation | Read Safety Data Sheet (SDS) and labels and use substances according to the directions.  Dispose of and clean up spills correctly. |
| Heat from branding furnace and brands | Burns | Take extreme care when using your brands – carry them by your side.  Ensure correct positioning of the animal when branding.  Ensure the brand is the correct temperature. |
| Sharp objects such as scalpels, vaccinating needles and dehorning knives | Injuries such as deep cuts, puncture wounds or needle stick | Handle sharp objects with care.  Have a safe place to place them in between uses.  Use correct disinfecting techniques to stop the spread of disease to other animals.  Do not leave needles unprotected when not being used.  Dispose of needles in a ‘sharps’ container.  Always tell the person in charge if a needle stick injury has occurred. |
| Solar radiation | Dehydration  Sunburn  Heat stroke | Wear a broad brim t; not a cap. That is the correct PPE.  Drink plenty of water.  Work in the cooler parts of the day.  Wear a hat and sunscreen. |

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| Animal blood, saliva and urine | Contamination  Disease  Contracting zoonosis such as Q-fever | Always make sure you are working in a hygienic manner.  Wash any area that may have come into contact with animal blood, saliva or urine with a strong disinfectant.  Obtain relevant immunisation. |
| Snakes, wasps, bees etc. | Bites, stings, allergic reaction | Be aware of your surroundings and keep a look out to ensure that the first aid kit is available.  If you have known allergies to any bites or stings, ensure that you always have the correct medication on hand. |
| Employees from different background | Injury – not understanding safety | Demonstrate procedures, in sequence each time you perform a task, for any workers who may have problems with language, literacy or that have a disability.  As the person to demonstrate what they have learnt so that you can check their understanding.  Show patience and understanding and take time to assist them.  Lead by example.  Respect everyone’s beliefs, culture and religion. Remember: You do not have to agree with their beliefs, but you have to respect their right to have them.  Assist when you can with language, literacy and numeracy skills.  Help those who are physically handicapped.  Prevent yourself and others from being hurt. |