

Stud Groom

Breeding & Bloodstock

Job Summary

The stud groom's role encompasses a variety of positions from handling stallions to foaling-down broodmares or preparing yearlings and is fundamental to the day to day running and operation of any study farm. A few tasks involved on a near daily basis are mucking out stalls, bringing horses in, educating foals and weanlings, and feeding horses.



Main Duties

- Prepare weanlings, yearling and mares for sale at horse sales;
- Prepare mares for entry to the serving barn during the breeding season;
- Preparing stock for veterinary checks and farriery visits;
- Feed and water animals according to schedules and feeding instructions;
- Examine and observe animals to detect signs of illness, disease, or injury;
- Provide general stable maintenance such as cleaning water troughs and small repairs;
- Implement pasture management plan;
- Review H&S risk assessments prior to commencement of work to ensure all work is carried out in accordance with safety rules and health and safety legislation;

Job Level

Skilled Operator Role

Typical Employer

Stud Farms;

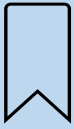


Case Study

Breeding & Bloodstock

Ireland is one of the leading bloodstock producing nations in the world. It is the third biggest producer of foals, and Irish vendors are, by value, estimated to have been the second biggest sellers of bloodstock by public auctions in 2016 after the USA. There are over 6,500 breeders in Ireland with over 60 farms standing stallions. Irish breeders cover a broad range of operations – from some of the biggest global bloodstock operations with many of the world's top stallions, to smaller breeders – 92% of the 6,777 registered breeders having fewer than five thoroughbred broodmares.

[Source: Economic Impact of Irish breeding and racing 2017]



Competencies (Behavioural)

- A love for horses or horse racing is the No. 1 motivating factor why people work within the horse racing industry (HRI Education & Training Survey 2020);
- Intrapersonal skills (perseverance; initiative; self-motivation), Critical thinking skills (problem solving), Interpersonal skills (communication; teamwork);

Knowledge & Skills

Equine Knowledge & Skills

Breeding operations & pedigrees;
Stallion management;
Horse care & welfare;
Equine nutrition, anatomy & physiology
Equine transportation;
Horsemanship skills;

People Knowledge & Skills

Communication skills;
Health & safety regulations;
Health & safety risk assessments;
Self development;

Racing Knowledge & Skills

Racing industry knowledge;
Racing rules & regulations;
Integrity of the sport;

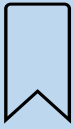
Business Knowledge & Skills

I.T. / digital Skills;
Media & communication skills;

Education

While no specific qualification or training is required to begin a career as a Stud Groom, many new entrants to the industry have a qualification in Level 5 Horsemanship (Course Code: 5M3371) or Level 6 Equine Breeding (Course Code: 6M3507). See www.qualifax.ie for further information.

CPD: The Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association (I.T.B.A.) provides members with the opportunity to continue their professional development through a calendar of training and seminar activities on an ongoing basis. See www.itba.ie for further information.



Career Path (Alternative Careers)

Stud Secretary
Stud Manager
Stallion Handler

Experience

Experienced stud grooms are highly sought after staff and it takes many years working with racehorses, broodmares, foals and youngstock to develop the necessary skills and experience.

Job Availability

Job availability is limited. Follow www.equip.ie for information on job opportunities within the breeding, racing and racing administration.



Certification

No certification is required.

Working Conditions

This role is primarily outdoors based.

Pay & Benefits

Generally, the amount of pay you receive for working is a matter of agreement between you and your employer. These negotiations normally occur when you receive a job offer.