

The Farm Dog Certified Test consists of 12 situations that a dog might encounter in a typical farm environment.

All of the exercises are done on leash.

Test 1: Greet the judge

The handler approaches the judge with the dog at their side on a loose lead. The dog must not jump, or show aggression or excessive shyness.

Test 2: Walk around the farm and a passive stranger

The handler walks the dog on a loose lead at least 200 feet around a variety of objects and near a sitting person.

Test 3: Jump on hay/straw bale

Handler instructs the dog to jump on a bale and stay until released by the judge.

Test 4: Walk past farm animals

Handler walks the dog on a loose lead in view of penned farm animals.

Test 5: Walk over or through unusual surfaces

The handler walks the dog over three unusual surfaces, such as a plastic tarp, a sheet of plywood, and metal grating lying flat on the ground.

Test 6: Supervised separation

The handler places the dog in a crate and walks out of sight for a minimum of 1 minute.

Test 7: Pass through a gate

The dog stays while the handler opens the gate, passes through on the handler's command, and stays while the handler closes the gate.

Test 8: Handler feeds livestock

The dog is tethered while the handler approaches and feeds livestock in an enclosure.

Test 9: Reaction to another dog

The dog remains stationary on a loose lead while another dog is walked by twice, about 10 feet away.

Test 10: Reaction to noise distraction

The dog is exposed to two common farm sounds (such as hammering nails, leaf blowers, tractor engine, etc.) and must not panic.

Test 11: Dog approaches livestock

The handler approaches penned livestock with the dog on a loose lead. The dog may not lunge or be fearful or aggressive to the stock.

Test 12: Physical examination

The handler examines the dog for plant material or debris collected while working on the farm-examining the ears, eyes, mouth, coat, and toes.

Test items 2-11 may be conducted in a different order than listed.



What is the

FARM DOG CERTIFIED Test?

The Farm Dog Certified test assesses whether a dog has the capability to perform as a confident working partner on a farm.

The test presents the dog with situations that

would be typical for a farm environment. The dog must demonstrate self-control, courage, and trust in the handler.

These are all traits that are vital to a working farm dog.



My dog has never- seen livestock before.

That's okay! Your dog doesn't need to herd or inter-act with the livestock in any way. They are only re-quired to follow your directions.



If your interested in the Farm Dog Certified test for your dog, there will be 2 events on May 15th, 2021.

Location will be at the Moffitt Ranch in Windsor.

There will be 3 judges, the County-Wide Dog Training Club is hosting the events. Contact Robin Foutz if your interested at

grannybyrd@gmail.com or leave a message on her cell phone and she will get back to you.

See you at the Ranch