



agriculture, forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Fax cover

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TO:	Industry stakeholders	
FAX / EMAIL:	As per request	
FROM:	Director Animal Health	
FAX:	012 329 7218	DATE: 2 March 2011
ENQUIRIES:	As per contact list	
NO. PAGES:	5	
SUBJECT:	Suspect serological positive FMD results in FMD free zone without vaccination	

To whom it may concern

We wish to inform you of suspect serological positive Foot and Mouth Disease results in South Africa's FMD free zone without vaccination. Please find attached press release in this regard.

South Africa has no restrictions on the export of products that have been fully processed to inactivate the FMD virus. However due to the fact that countries may differ with respect to allowances of certain products, we request exporters to acquire a letter of no objection from the relevant country. The same applies to consignments moving intransit through South Africa, where the country of final destination must provide the letter of no objection.

If any consignments are refused entry into foreign countries and returned to South Africa, the importer must apply for a veterinary import permit to re-import the product into South Africa. Consignments will only be allowed if they comply with the requirements of the veterinary import permit.

Any enquiries regarding specific commodities to be exported should be addressed to the relevant official as stated in the attached contact list.

Kind regards

A Schoeman
For Director Animal Health

Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries • Departement van Landbou, Bosbou en Visserye • Kgoro ya Tamo, Kgopedikgwa le Bomi bjo dithapi • Letaphe le Tamo, Meru le Botshwesi • UMnyango Wozolimo, Ezemahlelhi Nazezinhlazi • Muhasho wa vhumu maDaka na vhumu akhova • Ndzwulo ya Vunini Swihlele na swa Tinkhampili • Litiko Letokulima, Temahlalei Neletshilanti • Isobe lezolimo ezemahlaleli nezolimo ezemahlaleli



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Media release

Immediate release

Date: 28 February 2011

SUSPECT SEROLOGICAL POSITIVE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE RESULTS IN THE NORTHERN PART OF KWAZULU- NATAL

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) has picked up some suspect positive serological results for Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the northern part of KwaZulu-Natal during routine surveillance in the protection zone for the disease.

Even though no clinical symptoms for the disease have been seen to date, the Department is continuing to conduct intensive investigations. Some reactors were picked up in the free area of the disease.

FMD is a severe, highly contagious viral disease which affects livestock with significant economic impact. The disease affects cattle and swine as well as sheep, goats, and other cloven hoofed animals. The disease does not affect human beings.

Over 600 animals have been tested, and 50% of them were found to be positive. Government wishes to convey the message that the situation is under control, and that there is no need to panic.

A team of experts from the Department is on the ground conducting further investigations to verify the results. The control measures will be determined by the findings of this investigation.

The matter has been reported to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) last Friday (February 25 2011). As a result of this development we temporarily suspended the official OIE recognized FMD free status of South Africa. Consequently, we have suspended all exports of cloven hoofed animals; *inter alia*, cattle, goats, sheep and their products with immediate effect, except for products that have been fully processed to inactivate the FMD virus.

The Ingwavuma area, north of the Greater St Lucia Wetland Park (Isimangaliso), the Mkuze Game Reserve as well as the area east of the Pongola Nature Reserve have been declared an FMD-controlled area by the Director Animal Health, in terms of the Animals Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984). No cloven hoofed animals or their products may be moved out of this FMD controlled area.

The Department wishes to reassure the farming community in Northern KZN that there is no need to panic as their livestock is in no immediate danger yet.

Farmers are cautioned to observe Bio-Security measures – not to allow any new animals into their herds, and to minimize the movement of their own herds to other farms.

All suspected cases of the disease in animals must be reported to the local State Veterinarian.

For more information, contact:

Selby Bokaba

Spokesperson: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

Cell: 082 778 0245

The technical spokesperson on FMD is Dr Botlhe Modisane

Cell: 082 377 0865

Contact persons for enquiries related to import and export of commodities**Dr Jyotika Rajput**JyotikaR@daff.gov.za

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7540

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Game animals
- Wild carnivores
- Hides and skins
- Hunting trophies, horns and hooves

Dr Julie-Anne KochJulie-AnnC@daff.gov.za

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7420

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Fresh meat and casings import
- Tallow
- Fomites (second hand jute bags, grasses, etc)
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Dr Lisa MontgomeryLisaM@daff.gov.za

Tel + 27 (0)12 319 7648

Fax +27 (0) 12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Exotic Animals (including rabbits)
- Raw material for pharmaceutical use
- Pharmaceutical products and vaccines
- Fresh meat and casings export

Dr Boitumelo MotsisiBoitumeloMot@daff.gov.za

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7684

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Live cattle, sheep, goats and camelids
- Ruminant semen and embryos
- Animal feeds and pet food (raw materials)
- Manure
- Processed meat, gelatine, flavourings, colourings

Dr Caroline Dowsing (Gibbs)CarolineG@daff.gov.za

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7673

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Dairy products
- Hair, bristles and feathers
- Galley waste

Dr Leana Janse van Rensburg**LeanaJvR@daff.gov.za**

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7507

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Live pigs
- Pig semen
- Path specimens
- Pet food and animal feeds (finished products)
- Wool

Dr Mariëtta Bronkhorst**MariettaB@daff.gov.za**

Tel +27 (0)12 319 7536

Fax +27 (0)12 329 6892 (NO permit applications will be accepted at this fax)

- Disease free compartments
- Animal quarantine facilities
- Semen and embryo centres
- Taxidermies
- Approval of tanneries – **Contact Mrs Viviers (012 319 7700)**
- Dairy export facilities
- Pet food and animal feed facilities
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