



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM

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UPDATE ON FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) OUTBREAK IN KAVANGO EAST REGION AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW OUTBREAK IN KAVANGO WEST REGION.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services under the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform would like to update the farmers and the general public about the Foot and Mouth Disease outbreak that was detected on 28 September 2020 at Hoha village in the Ndiyona Constituency of the Kavango East region, has now spread to Shighuru village in Mashare Constituency in the same region. Furthermore, a new FMD outbreak was detected on 27 October 2020 at Sivara village in the Kapako Constituency of the Kavango West region. Sivara village is situated 50 km west of Rundu town. Thirteen (13) cattle out of 31 cattle in the herd showed FMD clinical signs on physical examination conducted by veterinary officials.


In line with the Animal Health Act, Act 1 of 2011, the three constituencies namely Ndiyona, Mashare constituencies in Kavango East region and Kapako constituency in Kavango West region have been declared **infected areas**. The two regions are now **disease management areas** and the following FMD control measures are instituted:

- Movement restriction of all live cloven-hoofed animals into, out and within the **disease management areas** (the two Kavango regions) has been imposed with immediate effect and all previously issued movement permits are hereby cancelled and recalled;
- Movement of potentially infectious commodities out and within the two regions such as raw meat, milk, hides, skins, game trophies, grass and plant materials is not permitted;
- A number of roads blocks have been set up at strategic points and patrol teams are deployed around and within the two regions to enforce movement restriction
- Emergency vaccination to cover all cattle in the two Kavango regions against FMD is ongoing and all farmers are strongly advised to bring their cattle for vaccination at designated crush- pens;
- FMD surveillance aimed at establishing the extend of the outbreak in all northern regions has been intensified and farmers are requested to bring their animals for inspection whenever announced by veterinary officials;

- Movement of live cloven-hoofed animals from the FMD Free and Protection Zones into the two Kavango regions is allowed for animals aimed for direct slaughter, the animals must be slaughtered within 72 hours upon arrival and under the supervision of veterinary officials;
- Slaughtering of cloven-hoofed animals within one community/village for own consumption and social events such as weddings, funerals and others may be allowed in the two Kavango regions however, the meat should not be transported outside the infected areas;
- Raw meat and other animal products from the FMD Free and Protection zones and also from an export abattoir in the Zambezi region into the two Kavango regions are also permitted;
- In-transit of live cloven-hoofed animals and their products through the two Kavango regions is allowed;
- All vehicles transporting live cloven-hoofed animals into or in-transit through the two Kavango regions should be sealed under official veterinary supervision, the offloading of these animals should also be done under official veterinary supervision;

Farmers and the general are once again kindly requested to report any animals showing FMD signs (limping, excessive salivation etc) to the nearest State Veterinary offices or any Agricultural office.

The Directorate of Veterinary Services under the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform would like to appeal to all stakeholders for support in fighting this FMD outbreak, and also to thank the farmers and the general public for their cooperation during this outbreak situation.


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Dr Albertina Musika-Shilongo
CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER

