



Republic Of Botswana

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE

17 February 2026

To: **All Media Houses**

PRESS RELEASE

UPDATE ON THE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAK

Farmers, members of the public and stakeholders are informed of the following developments;

Confirmed Cases:

- (i) Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) has been confirmed in the disease control Zone 3c at Moroka, Kgari, Nlapkhwane and Mulambakwena crushes.
- (ii) The on-going surveillance has not picked FMD cases outside Zones 3c and 6b - the disease outbreak is so far confirmed to Zones 3c and 6b only.

Vaccinations:

- (iii) Cattle in Zones 6b (north of Bisoli Farm) and Zone 3c (east of Shashe River) have been vaccinated against FMD (15,305 cattle vaccinated out of the expected 17000). A booster vaccination will be done 28 days after the first vaccination.

Movement Restrictions:

- (iv) Movement restrictions announced in the press release of the 2nd February 2026 have been revised with immediate effect as follows;
 - a. Movement of live cloven-hoofed animals, remains prohibited except for direct slaughter at licensed slaughter facilities between and within zones 4a, 4b, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. This includes slaughter for social events (funeral, wedding etc) at licensed slaughter facilities.
 - b. Movement of cloven hoofed derived fresh products between, out of and within zones 4a, 4b, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 is allowed.
 - c. Movement of live cloven-hoofed animals into and out of zone 7 **remains** prohibited **except for direct slaughter** within the zone until further notice.
 - d. Movement **into, out of, or within**, zones 3c, 3b, 6a and 6b, of live cloven-hoofed animals, remains **prohibited** until further notice.

- e. Movement of livestock feeds, trophies, skins (dikgole), and hooves out of zones 6b and 3c **remains prohibited**.
- f. Movement of cloven hoofed derived fresh products (meat, fresh milk) out of zones 3b, 3c, 6a, 6b and 7 **remains prohibited**, while movement **into and within** a zone is allowed. Transit of cloven hoofed derived fresh products through zones 3b, 3c, 6a, 6b and 7 is allowed in sealed containers or trucks under veterinary permit.
- g. Import and export including transit of cloven-hoofed animals and fresh products thereof, remains **prohibited**, except in zone 2 where export is allowed.
- h. Movement of cloven-hoofed animals and fresh products thereof, within and into zones 1 and 2 is **allowed**. Movement of cloven hoofed derived fresh products is **allowed** from zone 2 to 1 in **sealed** containers or trucks under veterinary permit.

Slaughtering:

- i. Home slaughter of live cloven-hoofed animals **remains prohibited**.

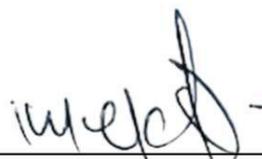
Regional Update:

Farmers and stakeholders are informed of the FMD outbreak in the Northern Cape Province of the Republic of South Africa which shares border with Tsabong district and that importation of grasses including lucerne is not permitted.

Farmers, members of the public and stakeholders are urged to comply with the disease prevention measures, remain vigilant and report any signs of illness in livestock to the nearest Department of Veterinary Service or Botswana Police Service offices.

For more information please contact the National Emergency Operations Centre; telephone 3934505 and 3934510 or toll free – 0800600130 or WhatsApp: 77702971 or email – fmdneoc@gov.bw and MoLA PR-3689151/9116

Contacts for more information:



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