



## Agriculture & Rural Development

Department:  
Agriculture and Rural Development  
North West Provincial Government  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



AgriCentre Building  
Cnr. Dr. James Moroka and  
Stadium Rd  
Private Bag X2039, Mmabatho 2735

### CHIEF DIRECTORATE: CORPORATE SERVICES

Tel: +27 (18) 389 5719/5684  
Fax: +27(18) 384 4571  
E-mail: [Esethako@nwpg.gov.za](mailto:Esethako@nwpg.gov.za)

## MEDIA STATEMENT

**Att : ALL EDITORS  
Media Houses**

**Date: Thursday, 14 April 2022**

### **VETERINARY INSPECTIONS TO CONTINUE DURING EASTER WEEKEND FOLLOWING FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAK IN THE NORTH WEST PROVINCE**

**Mahikeng** –Following Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak in Potchefstroom at Dr Kenneth Kaunda District recently, the North West Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (NWDARD) has so far inspected 65 farms and this operation is set to continue during the Easter weekend. On all these farms a total of 1463 cattle, 100 sheep, and 19380 pigs were inspected. This week alone, two of the farms were issued with Precautionary Quarantine Notices.

The Veterinary Service of the Department equally continues to enforce a tight biosecurity process. Dr Langa Madyibi, Director: Veterinary Service of the NWDARD said “Strict attention is paid to biosecurity when moving from farm to farm as Technicians are required to disinfect when moving around the farms.” This is to curb any possible spread of the disease to other farms.

Madyibi said that inspection and blood sampling of farms in the neighboring 10-kilometer radius (from the farm where the first outbreak was determined) is continuing to determine if there are any farms that may be latently infected. The process will continue until all the farms in that radius have been sampled. “Afterwards a period of 2 incubation period is going to be allowed to pass before another round of sampling takes place. That will help to determine the clinical endpoint of the disease and begin our Day 0 counting for determination of lifting of quarantines,” Madyibi further clarified.

The MEC for NWDARD, Desbo Mohono is still calling for calm among the livestock farmers in the province. "The Department has assembled a dedicated team to ensure that all precautionary measures are undertaken to prevent the further spread of the disease. We urge farmers to be on the lookout for clinical signs that resemble the disease and report them immediately to the nearest State Veterinary office," MEC Mohono reiterated.

All farmers, livestock owners, members of the industry are again, urged to use caution when sourcing cattle, ensure that you know the health of the animals you are investing in and where possible, seek a health attestation from the seller's veterinarian confirming the health status of the animals you are buying.

Should any suspicious clinical symptoms (salivation, blisters in the mouth, limping, or hoof lesions) be seen, they should be reported to the local State Veterinarian immediately and such animals must not be moved under any circumstances.

**Ends!**

**Issued by:**  
**Communication Services Directorate**  
**Enquiries: Ms Emelda Setlhako**  
**Tel: 018 389 5684/ Cell: 060 745 4020**  
**Email: ESetlhako@nwpg.gov.za**  
**Website: www.nwpg.gov.za/dard**  
**Facebook: www.facebook.com/dard**  
**Twitter: @nwpg\_dard**