



Republic Of Botswana

MINISTRY OF LANDS AND AGRICULTURE

02 April, 2026

To: All Media Houses

PRESS RELEASE

**NOTIFICATION OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAK IN ZONE 11 –
GOODHOPE DISTRICT, RAMATLABAMA NATIONAL ARTIFICIAL
INSEMINATION LABORATORY AND TRAINING CENTRE**

Farmers, members of the public and stakeholders are informed of an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) at Ramatlabama National Artificial Insemination Laboratory and Training Centre (NAIL) in the Goodhope District, Disease control zone 11.

While further investigations are ongoing, the following disease prevention measures effect immediately:

- Movement of all cloven-hoofed animals is prohibited in zones 3c, 4a, 4b, 5, 6b, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13. The prohibition includes transport or slaughter of cloven hooved animals for own personal use or social events (weddings, funerals, megoga etc). All issued permits are revoked with immediate effect.
- Movement of cloven-hoofed animals within **Disease Control Zone 2 (Ngamiland, Okavango)** and **Zone 1 (Chobe)** is allowed.
- Movement of cloven-hoofed animals into and out of zones 3b and 7 is prohibited. However, Movement of cloven-hoofed animals within zones 3b and 7 is allowed with a permit for direct slaughter at a licensed facility. Slaughter for social events in these zones is allowed only at registered slaughter facilities.
- Movement of cloven-hoofed animals into, out of and within zone 6a remains prohibited except for direct slaughter within the zone at registered slaughter facilities. However, movement for direct slaughter is prohibited in zone 6a crushes which are located within a 20km radius from zones 6b and 3c Maitengwe
- Movement of **fresh products (meat, fresh milk, etc.)** from cloven-hoofed animals between zones 4a, 4b, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 is **NOT allowed** with immediate effect

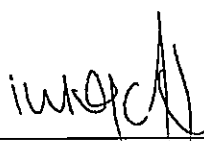
- Movement of fresh products from cloven hoofed animals from zone 6a to zone 6b and 3c is allowed without a permit. Direct movement of fresh products between zones 3c and 6b is allowed without a permit.
- Fresh meat from cloven hoofed animals slaughtered at licensed slaughter facilities is allowed out of zone 2 to zone 1 in sealed containers under a veterinary movement permit.
- The Ramatlabama NAIL is under quarantine; therefore movement of cloven hoofed animals and their derived fresh products including semen is not allowed into and out of the farm.
- **Export** of cloven-hoofed animals and their fresh products is prohibited except for fresh products from zone 2 subject to importing country conditions.
- **Importation and in-transit** of cloven hoofed animals of all cloven-hoofed animals is suspended. All issued permits are revoked with immediate effect.
- **Importation of processed products** (pasteurized milk, cooked products and fodder) is allowed with an import permit. UHT milk importation is allowed without a permit.

Farmers are requested to:

- Look after their animals to prevent the potential spread of the disease: Cattle in Ramatlabama and villages surrounding the AI camp **must be herded at all times and kraaled** at night to prevent them mixing with other herds.
- Ensure that cattle are fully identified with **BAITS ear tags, zonal brands and owner brands**.
- Cooperate with government officials carrying out investigations and animal health controls.

Farmers, members of the public and stakeholders are urged to 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



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