



GAUTENG PROVINCE
AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) IMPORTANT NOTIFICATION FOR ALL GAUTENG GAME FARM OWNERS

Gauteng Veterinary Services (GVS) of the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (GDARD) would like to alert all game farm owners of the continuing threat of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) for Gauteng. FMD is a controlled disease in terms of the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984) which causes great economic losses, to the farmers and the South African economy, due to its related negative trade implications. FMD is characterised by the appearance of clear fluid-filled blisters on the mouth, nose, teats, and feet of cloven-hoofed animals. These subsequently break open leaving red round sores. These signs may be accompanied by drooling, smacking of the lips and loss of body condition.

Up to the end of May 2022, 80 outbreaks have been reported in the previously FMD Free zone of South Africa: affecting KwaZulu Natal, Limpopo, Free State, Gauteng, and Northwest Provinces. Both the FS and the NW experienced new outbreaks during the months of June and July. The latest outbreak in Gauteng was detected in a feedlot which is in the Tshwane area. The property has been placed under official veterinary quarantine. The current ongoing outbreak in neighbouring Provinces is a likely source of the latest Gauteng outbreak due to inadvertent movements of livestock. These compound our risk as Gauteng because many animals from neighbouring Provinces are sold in Gauteng.

Gauteng Veterinary Services encourages all game farm owners to remain on high alert, put good biosecurity measures in place, particularly, the control of movement of goods, vehicles and people entering and leaving their properties to reduce the risk of further spread of this devastating disease. Hunting farms should take care to issue removal permits to all hunters.

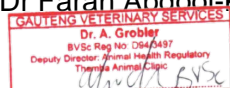
Through the cooperation between farmers and government, we will, once again, be able to quickly remove the presence of the FMD virus in Gauteng livestock and restore our favourable disease status at the earliest possible.

To report any suspicion of FMD or to request movement permits, please contact your State Veterinarian on:

Dr Duma Mpofu (Germiston): 071 543 3028

Dr Jaison Mpofu (Randfontein): 072 900 0869

Dr Farah Abdool-Khader (City of Tshwane): 072 084 4339



Yours sincerely,

Dr AMM Grobler

Acting Director: Veterinary Services

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