

**Dear Agri EC / EC RPO Members,**

2 July 2024

### **Update on the Foot-and-Mouth Status of the Eastern Cape**

The clinical presence of Foot and Mouth Disease in the Eastern Cape has increased to sixteen (16) farms being confirmed within the Kouga/Koukamma Municipal area and another four (4) suspected farms awaiting test results. There have been no new developments within the East London area, with two farms within the Berlin area being positive. We are awaiting feedback on the second round of testing to be done on these two farms and an indication on how movement in this area will be allowed. The investigation into the origin and extent of the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreak is ongoing.

On Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> of June 2024, Dr Maja, Director of Animal Health at the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) called a meeting with the MPO to address the impact of the current FMD outbreak on the dairy industry. Dr Maja confirmed that the State will permit voluntary vaccinations of naïve herds, contingent on individual applications submitted to the Department. It is important to note that only applications from neighbouring farms (farms located within a 10km radius of an active outbreak) will be considered and each application will be evaluated and approved based on merit. Dr Maja assured the MPO that complete applications would be processed within one day. Once approved, the vaccination of cattle will commence immediately, as soon as a State-appointed technician is available.

A revised indemnity form has been compiled by the Department which must accompany all applications submitted. Application and indemnity forms can be requested from Dr Alf Lategan of CapeCross Veterinary Services, who will be facilitating the process. A map of the vaccination area has been compiled by the MPO and Private vets and the process of completing application and indemnity forms has commenced, with completed applications and indemnities being submitted to the Department on Monday, 01 July 2024. Applicants are still awaiting feedback from the Department in terms of approval of vaccinations with regard to these application submissions.

We urge producers to be fully aware and fully understand the implications of vaccination before taking this route.

Approximately 7000 animals will be vaccinated between today, 02 July 2024, and tomorrow, 03 July 2024. Approximately, 23 000 animals have been vaccinated to date.



The Department has assigned more State Veterinarians and Technicians to the affected area to help with the voluntary vaccinations.

### **Foot-and-Mouth Disease Movement Restrictions within Kouga and Koukamma Municipalities, Eastern Cape**

The movement control of live cloven-hoofed animals from farms **within, into or out of** the Kouga and Koukamma Local Municipalities remains in place and farmers need to adhere to these controls. Illegal movements of animals are reported to Agri EC. Agri EC has consulted with law enforcement officials of the Kouga and Koukamma area to assist with policing and monitoring of these movements.

Anyone needing application forms to move cloven-hoofed animals is welcome to contact the Agri EC Coordination Centre on the details below.

Please contact the Agri Coordination Centre on email, WhatsApp or Telegram:  
[AgriOps@agriec.co.za](mailto:AgriOps@agriec.co.za) / [AgriOps2@agriec.co.za](mailto:AgriOps2@agriec.co.za) / 041 363 1890 / 060 997 4503.

### **Updated Radii of Kouga/Koukamma Area - excluding the 6 suspected farms:**



### **Additional Documents for your reference and records (sent together with this letter):**

- Dr Waldo Dreyers' report on the FMD Conference of the 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2024. - We would like to take the opportunity to thank Dr Waldo Dreyer for compiling this report.
- Dr Jade Hilton's Biosecurity Protocol for the Eastern Cape.
- Cape Eastern Livestock's Truck Sanitisation Protocol.



- Links to the video recording of the FMD Conference on the 19<sup>th</sup> of June 2024.

Agri EC requests our members to adhere to these movement control measures, apply strict biosecurity to their farms, and assist with curbing the spread of the disease.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brent McNamara", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Brent McNamara  
Agri EC CEO