



REPUBLIC OF NAMIBIA

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**MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, WATER AND LAND REFORM**

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**VETERINARY PUBLIC NOTIFICATION NO. 10 OF 2022**

**RE: UPDATE ON SUSPENSION OF IMPORTATION AND IN-TRANSIT MOVEMENT OF CLOVEN-HOOFED ANIMALS AND THEIR PRODUCTS FROM SOUTH AFRICA**

The Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform hereby update the importers and the public about the review of suspension on importation and in-transit of cloven hoofed animals and their products from South Africa into Namibia or intransit due to the confirmed outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease in South Africa. There are currently 110 open FMD outbreaks in the previous FMD free zone of South Africa which occurred from 13 June 2022 to 5 August 2022 in the following provinces: Kwazulu Natal (73 cases), Limpopo (7 cases), North West (14 cases), Gauteng (1 cases), Free State (14 cases) Mpumalanga (1). This information was provided by the Directorate of Animal Health of South Africa in an Update Report on the FMD outbreak and Surveillance on 5 August 2022.

The revision of the Veterinary Public Notification was prompted by the current resurgence of new cases of FMD in six (6) provinces of South Africa, thus the need to reinforce the control measures in order to prevent possible spread and introduction of FMD into the Free zone of Namibia as it shares common border.

**THE FOLLOWING COMMODITIES ARE NOT ALLOWED FOR IMPORTATION AND INTRANSIT:**

1. All cloven-hoofed animals and their products such as:
  - Fresh/frozen pork,
  - Uncooked processed pork,
  - Raw meat
  - Bovine embryos and semen
  - Raw meat, including pork
  - Uncooked processed meat
  - Embryos and semen
2. Grass, forages, lucerne and silage
3. Any other FMD potentially infectious materials

**THE FOLLOWING COMMODITIES ARE ALLOWED FOR IMPORTATION AND INTRANSIT:**

1. Cooked processed products of cloven-hoofed animals' origin
2. Milk and milk-based products
3. Hides processed up to wet blue
4. Fully processed trophies

## **OTHER PREVENTIVE MEASURES INSTITUTED AT ENTRY POINTS BETWEEN SOUTH AFRICA AND NAMIBIA:**

- Thorough disinfection of all trucks in livestock business before entering Namibia
- Footbaths to be placed at all entry points
- Deployment of additional staff at border posts to re-enforce searching and inspections of vehicles

## **TRANSMISSION AND SOURCE OF FMD VIRUS:**

FMD virus is found in all excretions and secretions from infected animals. Notably, these animals' breath out a large amount of virus, which can infect other animals via the respiratory or oral routes. Animals that have recovered from infection may sometimes carry the virus and initiate new outbreaks of the disease. FMD is not readily transmissible to humans and is not a public health risk. The FMD can be transmitted through the following:

- Incubating and clinically affected animals
- Infected animals newly introduced into a herd (carrying virus in their saliva, milk, semen, urine, etc.);
- Direct contact between infected and susceptible animals
- Direct contact of susceptible animals with contaminated inanimate objects (hands, footwear, clothing, vehicles, etc)
- Consumption (primarily pigs) of untreated contaminated meat products (swill feeding)
- Ingestion of contaminated milk
- Artificial insemination with contaminated semen
- Inhalation of infectious aerosol
- Contaminated pens/buildings or contaminated animal transport vehicles;
- Contaminated materials such as hay, feed, water, milk or biologics;
- Contaminated clothing, footwear, or equipment;
- Virus-infected meat or other contaminated animal products (if fed to animals when raw or improperly cooked);
- Infected aerosols (spread of virus from an infected property via air currents).
- Virus may be present in milk and semen for up to 4 days before the animal shows clinical signs of disease
- African buffalo are the major maintenance host of the SAT serotypes of FMD virus and may harbour the virus for at least 5 years.

## **SUSPENSION PERIOD AND INFORMATION**

The suspension remains in force until further notice and all previously issued import and in transit permits are hereby cancelled and recalled with immediate effect.

Further information can be obtained from the Veterinary Import/ Export Office in Windhoek or any nearest State Veterinary Office. Otherwise contact Dr. Vistorina Benhard at [vet.permits@mawlr.gov.na](mailto:vet.permits@mawlr.gov.na) or 0814038589.

  
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**CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER**

