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Republic Of Botswana

Ministry of Agricultural Development and Food Security

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ALL MEDIA HOUSES

PRESS RELEASE

SUSPECTED OUTBREAK OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) IN NGAMILAND

Farmers and the general public are hereby informed of the suspected outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in Naune crush, Sehithwa extension area in Ngamiland district. This comes about after reports from farmers of sighting cattle that were showing suspicious signs. Officials from the Department of Veterinary Services followed up the allegations and found five animals that were showing signs that are consistent with the disease.

As a result of these findings the slaughter and movement of all cloven hoofed animals and their fresh products within and out of the Sehithwa, Toteng, Bodibeng, Kareng and Semboyo extension areas are suspended until further notice.

Export of all meat products from export slaughter and processing plants produced in the last 30 days in Ngamiland is suspended.

Farmers are urged and required to cooperate with ministry officials and round up animals as and when they are required to do so without fail. They are also expected to report any sick cattle without delay.

This disease control measures will be reviewed once the extent of the outbreak is determined.

The public will be informed of any developments as more information becomes available.

Dr Letlhogile Modisa
Director of Veterinary Services