



KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DATE: 3 July 2026

UPDATE ON WEEK 26 OF FMD RESPONSE

1. INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the FMD control activities for the week 8th December 2025 to 12th December 2025. The activities include the awareness activities and sanitary controls in the FMD affected areas of the Shiselweni, Lubombo and Manzini regions and other parts of the country.

2. WEEK 26 REPORTS

In week 26, vaccination continued in the Mpaka – Matsetsa outbreak area where booster shots were given to the dip tanks that were being vaccinated, only EY Spray was being vaccinated for the first time in this outbreak area. In addition three dip tanks in Shiselweni (Mpolweni, Ntongane and Mpakeni) received booster vaccinations.

Several dip tanks in Malindza, Sidvokodvo, Manzini, Luve, and Mliba were inspected to assess the disease situation in previously vaccinated dip tanks and in contact dip tanks linked to Mbulu, which had reported cases in the previous week. In previously vaccinated dip tanks, the number of cases had drastically decreased, indicating a positive response to the FMD vaccine. However, suspect cases were identified in some contact dip tanks of Mbulu.

A new checkpoint was successfully established at Mkhuzweni in the Ngculwini sub-region on Tuesday, 9 December 2025. The Tikhuba checkpoint was redeployed to Maphiveni during week 26.

Following the successful pilot implementation of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for sending pen-kept pigs to the slaughterhouse in the Shiselweni region, two additional pig consignments were dispatched to the abattoir. A further three consignments are scheduled for slaughter in the coming week. An SOP for the movement of slaughter cattle to the abattoir in Shiselweni was finalized in week 26. A pilot consignment of cattle was successfully sent to the abattoir on Friday, 12 December 2025.

3. INSPECTIONS

Mouth and hoof inspections of cattle were conducted at Khuphuka, Lalela, Likima, Mbulu, Mliba, Mkhutsali, and Machobane dip tanks, where some suspect cases were identified.

Inspections were also carried out at Croydon, Manzana, Moyeni, Dlokweni, High Point, and Mtindzekwa dip tanks, where no suspect cases were detected.

4. AWARENESS AND SENSITIZATION

An awareness meeting was held with the Manzini Regional Administrator on Wednesday, 10th December 2025. The Regional Administrator emphasized the need for increased awareness campaigns in the region. The Animal Health Inspector (AHI) Manzini, together with NDMA representative Mr. Lukhele, will engage VOC radio to negotiate airtime for public awareness broadcasts during week 27.

5. NEW INFECTIONS

Dip Tanks that reported new infections in were found with suspect cases on inspection in week 26 were the following;

- Khuphuka, Mliba and Mkhutsali in the Luve Mliba sub-regions. Collected blood samples tested positive on NSP in the laboratory.
- Machobane and Lukhitsi dip tanks had clinically positive animals on inspection.

6. VACCINATION REPORT

A total of **9 349 cattle** in **12 dip tanks** were vaccinated during week 26.

First-time vaccination: EY Spray, Mdumezulu, and Mphiwa dip tanks

Mop-up vaccination: Sikhuphe dip tank

Booster vaccinations: Sikhonyane, Mkhende, Timbongolweni, Sikhayi, Bhudlungu, Mpakeni, Ntongane, and Mpolweni dip tanks

- 7 899 cattle received booster doses.
- 1 450 cattle received their first dose.

Cumulative vaccine stock to date:

- Total vaccine used: 254 200 doses
- Vaccine remaining: 23 500 doses

7. CHALLENGES

- a. Shortage of transport, resulting in limited mobility for surveillance teams and lack of vehicles to escort consignments to the abattoir.
- b. Inadequate materials, equipment, and personnel for the effective establishment and operation of checkpoints.
- c. Continued illegal movement of animals and animal products.

8. ACTIVITIES FOR WEEK 27

i. Vaccination

Vaccination Schedule for week 27

Day	Date	Dip Tank
Monday	15.12.25	Groenpan Lugulu Thulwane Sigcaweni Mmemo Mangcashini
Tuesday	16.12.25	Lugulu Thulwane Ndukuyamangedla Sigcaweni Sivalo Mnkonkoloti
Wednesday	17.12.25	Ndukuyamangedla Sigcaweni Mtindzekwa

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		Moyeni Mnkonkoloti Masundvwini
Thursday	18.12.25	Mhlumeni Moyeni Mpontjini

*Vaccination will start at 0530hrs

ii. Notification of the Hhohho Regional Administrator (RA) regarding the risk of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) transmission to Hhohho dip tanks that have epidemiological contact with the Mliba dip tanks.

iii. Initiation of the process to establish additional FMD control checkpoints to prevent the spread of FMD into Hhohho Region and the remaining parts of Manzini Region. The proposed checkpoint locations are:

- Madlangempisi / Mzaceni
- Bhalekane (Sidwashini Bridge)
- Njakeni Bridge
- Mangweni (before the bridge at Sihhoye)
- Mananga Traffic Circle
- Luve

iv. Redeployment of the Mbadlane checkpoint to Mafutseni.

v. Finalization of the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the slaughter of livestock originating from the Mpaka/Matsetsa outbreak area.

vi. Convening of a meeting with the Manzini Regional Development Team (RDT) scheduled for 15th December 2025.

