KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DATE: 3 July 2026

UPDATE ON WEEK 40 OF FMD RESPONSE

1. INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the FMD control activities for the week 16th March to 20th March 2026. The activities include FMD vaccination, awareness activities and sanitary controls in the country.

2. WEEK 40 HIGHLIGHTS/ REPORTS

50 000 doses of the FMD trivalent vaccine from BVI was delivered into the country on Saturday the 14th March 2025. Since the beginning of the national mass FMD vaccination campaign, 170 000 doses of FMD vaccine had been received. Of these, 101 100 doses of the vaccine has been used to vaccinate **98 731 cattle in 134 dip tanks**. The average vaccination coverage is 87%. At the end of week 40, **68 900 doses** of the were remaining in stock.

There are currently ongoing outbreaks at Ntsinini, Mabande and Sikhalasabhodwe. Mabande and Sikhalasabhodwe are dip tanks which were previously vaccinated 8 months ago in the Shiselweni region. It has been noted with disappointment that cattle from these dip tanks graze in RSA and the farmers have vowed to continue with this illegal practice.

A new FMD case was picked up at Zinyane dip tank in the Hhohho region. This is most likely to have been an incursion from Mgobodzi in RSA where an outbreak was reported.

2. VACCINATION REPORT

In week 40, all eleven vaccination teams were deployed to 34 dip tanks where a total **26 045 cattle** were vaccinated. Of these, **4 198 cattle** got booster FMD shots in 4 dip tanks (Zombodze, Sikhalasabhodwe, Munywaneni and Mabande).

To date, **98 731 cattle** have been vaccinated in **134 dip tanks.** Of these, **89 109** got first FMD vaccine dose and **9 622** got FMD booster shots. To vaccinate all these animals, **101 100** doses has been used and **68 900** doses remains in store. The vaccination coverage has been 87%.

Table1: Summary of vaccination Report

Week	TAs Vaccinated	Cattle population	Total Vaccinated	1st Dose	2nd Dose	Vaccine Doses used	Vaccine Doses Left
37	26	18 462	18 037	14 289	3 748	18 200	101 800
38	32	27 800	23118	23 118	0	23 700	78 100
39	43	36 675	31531	29 855	1 676	32 800	45 300
40	34	30 856	26 045	21 847	4 198	26 400	18 900
Delivery of 50 000 doses from BVI							**68 900**
41	62	40700					28 000

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3. NEW INFECTIONS

- A suspect case of FMD was reported at Zinyane dip tank in Mayiwane. This is suspected to be an incursion from Mgobodzi in RSA.
- Though cases have been reported at Sincuduma dip tank, when the dip tank was vaccinated, cattle in one feedlot in that dip tank were all found to be infected.

4. CHALLENGES

i. Most of the dip tanks that were vaccinated had very poor infrastructure, especially the crush pens. Some teams started by fixing crush pens before vaccinating.
ii. Mixing of herds from different dip tanks was seen in most dip tanks.
iii. Mabande, Sikhalasabhodo and Nquthu farmers continue to send their cattle to RSA for grazing despite being cautioned about this behavior when the outbreak first occurred in that area in 2025. This behavior is suspected to have been the cause of reintroduction of FMD in Lavumisa
iv. Meat and Milk are being smuggled through Nsalitje to Sithobela after the decommissioning of some check points in the Shiselweni and Lubombo regions. This is pausing a high reisk of introduction of FMD in the cleared areas of Lubombo.

5. NEXT WEEK ACTIVITIES

i. Vaccination Program

Date	Day	Dip Tank
23.03.2026	Monday	• Mpembekati, Malunguza, Matsanjeni, Busiti, Lundzi • Sokhokhozela, Sijingo, Mhlosheni, Bantwabami • Mkhumbane, Langeni, Tinkovane, Ngowane • Madubuya Libetse, Luverary, Kasoza
24.03.2026	Tuesday	• Mgobhodzi, Nkonkoza, Dwaleni, Babili • Ncwele, Usuthu B3, Mngolotsi, Njelu • Maphophoma, Methulo, Mvuma, Mphaphati • Cooperation, San Roy, Lutsi, Buhlebemajaha
25.03.2026	Wednesday	• Logoba, Maholwane, Mzimvubu, Habela • Mdlaka, Ntsinini, Melethi, Usuthu B1 • Mkhunjini, Njelu, Egcekeni, Luhlokohla • Riders Ranch, Nkonyeni, Mangweni, R&S
26.03.2026	Thursday	• Nkonkwane, Nquthu, Lamswelanto, Phunga • Ntsakane, Ntsinini, Mphatsa, Ntsakane • Ndzingeni, Lesibovu, Mvangatini, Ndlamanzi • Nkonyane, Malandela, Eswatini Dairy, Gidzamuva,

ii. Public awareness and sensitization campaigns are planned for Mankayane and Mahlangatsha sub regions.
iii. Finalization of SOPs for feedlot cattle and breeding cattle will be done in the coming week.