KINGDOM OF ESWATINI

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

DATE: 3 July 2026

UPDATE ON WEEK 53 OF FMD OUTBREAK RESPONSE

1. INTRODUCTION

This report highlights the FMD control activities for the week 53 (15th June 2026 to 19th June 2026) of the FMD outbreak response. The activities include FMD vaccination, awareness activities and sanitary controls in the country.

2. WEEK 53 HIGHLIGHTS/ REPORTS

The week was dominated by inspection of dip tanks where FMD suspect cases were seen at Ludzibini, Engweni, Mehlwana and Mayithukuse dip tanks. Blood samples were collected where Ludzibini suzpects were confirmed for FMD. The results of samples from other dip tanks are still pending. Madadeni dip tank in Lubombo also had suspect cases. It was noted that the reporting of sick animals has greatly declined and the farmers are no longer taking FMD seriously as they still allow cattle from Mehlwana, Mayithukuse and Engweni to graze in RSA. There were rumors of FMD suspect cases at Nkonjane dip tank which are going to be investigated in the coming week.

During the inspection, other diseases which were seen in the cattle were severe cases of Lumpy Skin Disease and Abortions. The laboratory will investigate and confirm these cases in the coming week.

The long awaited PPE for the staff at checkpoints was finally delivered. This will be distributed in the coming week. Vaccination material was also delivered.

3. AWARENES AND SENSITIZATION

- FMD awareness and sensitization activities continued in selected dip tanks across the country. Livestock owners were reminded of the importance of complying with disease control measures, including movement restrictions, vaccination programmes, and reporting suspected disease cases promptly.

4. CORDON FENCES

600 poles, 30 rolls of barbed wire and veld span were delivered by FAO. These materials will be used to fence in the Shiselweni cordon fence from Welcome towards Nsalitje.

5. WAY FORWARD

- Check points will be established to contain the disease in the new outbreak area in Hhohho in the coming week.

- Preparations for vaccination will continue to ensure that all teams resume camp as soon as the FMD vaccine is delivered. Priority will be given to the affected dip tanks and those that need booster vaccine shots. Expected delivery date for the vaccine is the 25th June 2026 and vaccination to resume on the 29th June 2026.

Physical Address: Corner Sozisa Road and Mlilo Street Opposite National Fire Station, Mbabane, Eswatini
Postal Address: P.O. Box 162, Mbabane, Eswatini
Tel: +268 2404 2732/3/5/8 Email: info_moa@gov.sz