



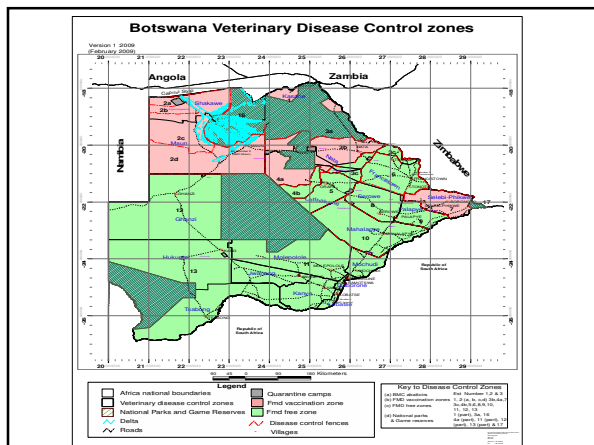
Dealing with export zones: Foot-and-mouth disease in Botswana (2008)

T. K. Phillemon-Motsu
Director of Veterinary Services,
Botswana



GENERAL BACKGROUND

- Botswana's National Vision: Towards prosperity for all by 2016
- Rural Development is a priority for government
- Livestock production underpins the rural economy
- Livestock, beef contributes 80% of the agricultural sector's 3% contribution to the GDP.
- Access to export market underpins livestock production
- 80% of our beef is exported to the EU market



HISTORY OF FMD IN BOTSWANA

Year	FMDV SAT type	Year	FMDV SAT type
1963	3	1981-2001	None
1964	3	2002	2
1965	3	2003	1
1966	3	2004	None
1967	None	2005	2
1968	1	2006	1, 2
1969-76	None	2007	2
1977-79	1,2	2008	2
1980	2		

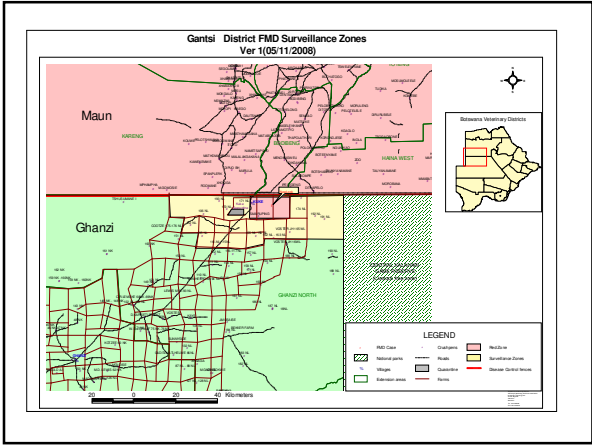
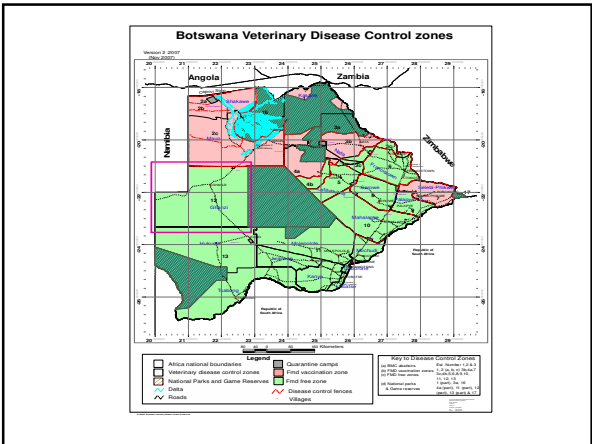
HISTORY OF FMD IN BOTSWANA

- Recent outbreaks of FMD in Botswana
 - Matsiloje (zone 6) - 2002 – SAT 2 – EXPORT ZONE
 - Matopi (zone 6) 2003 – SAT 1 - EXPORT ZONE
 - Pandamatenge (zone 1) 2005 – SAT 2- NON EXPORT ZONE
 - Bobonong (zone 7) 2006 – SAT 2 - EXPORT ZONE
 - Muchenje (zone 1) 2006 – SAT 1 – NON EXPORT ZONE

HISTORY OF FMD IN BOTSWANA

- Habu (zone 2)-2007-SAT 2-NON EXPORT ZONE
- Newlook farm (zone 12)- 2008- SAT 2-EXPORT ZONE

Newlook / ZONE 12 /Ghanzi outbreak



- ### Sequence of events
- **20/10/08**
 - 3 x clinical cases detected by a surveillance officer
 - verified by the Principal Vet Officer
 - Director notified immediately by phone
 - Director notifies Disease Alert Team (DAT) and sensitizes authorities
 - **21/10/08**
 - FMD DAT mobilised and arrived at the site, about 800km

- ### Sequence of events
- **22/10/08**
 - DAT inspected animals and took samples
 - Samples arrived at Botswana Vaccine Institute
 - National livestock movement standstill instituted and all slaughter facilities including export abattoirs closed.
 - A press release to that effect: radio, print media, television, public address meetings
 - OIE, Regional CVOs and trading partners informed

Moseb A.H. Dr. Bayolele

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REFERENCE: 109/10/2008/V (134)

27 October 2008

PRESS RELEASE
SUSPECTED OUTBREAK OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) IN GHANZI DISTRICT

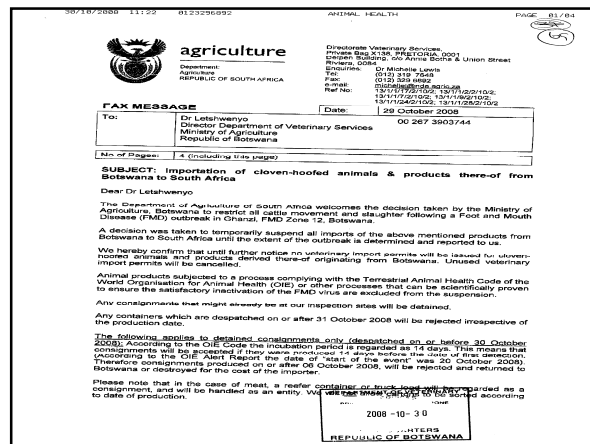
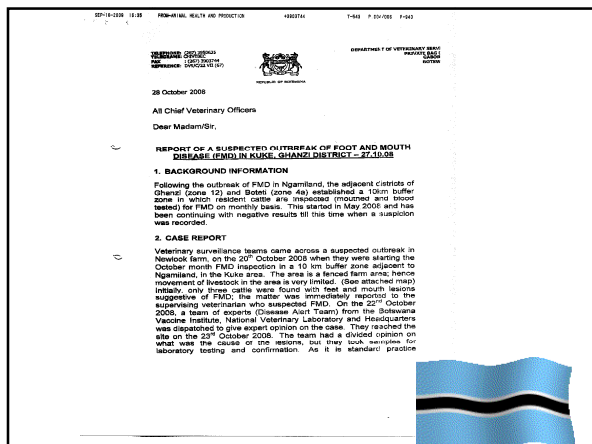
The Department of Veterinary Services informs the public of a suspected outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Kake extension area in the Ghanzi veterinary district. Five cattle are reported showing feet and oral lesions normally associated with the disease; samples have been collected for laboratory testing at the Botswana Vaccine Institute (BVI) and results are awaited. A complete movement ban of all cloven hoofed animals (cattle, sheep, goats, antelopes & pigs) and their fresh products is hereby instituted with immediate effect, while surveillance to determine the extent of disease spread is on-going. All cattle slaughter facilities including the BVI abattoirs in Lobatse and Francistown are closed with immediate effect.

Meanwhile veterinary officials throughout the country are conducting surveillance to determine the extent of disease spread. Farmers are urged to cooperate with veterinary officials and bring their cattle for inspection. Farmers who have within the last 30 days moved cloven-hoofed animals from the Ghanzi area should report to the nearest veterinary office to enable immediate inspection of those animals. Farmers are urged to be vigilant and report any cattle showing suspicious lesions to nearby veterinary and police officers.

The public will be kept informed of further developments on this matter.

Thank you.

Yours Faithfully
Dr. Moseb A.H. Dr. Bayolele
DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES



Sequence of events

- **23/10/08**
 - FMD Alert Team briefs the Director
 - A Control strategy formulated – stamping out with compensation is adopted
 - FMD control and eradication process initiated and set in motion

Sequence of events

- **27/10/08**
 - Virus isolation confirmed by BVI SAT 2.
 - Later virus characterization and subsequent phylogenetic comparisons and phyllogeography revealed the virus to be very closely related (98%) to the Habu one

Sequence of events

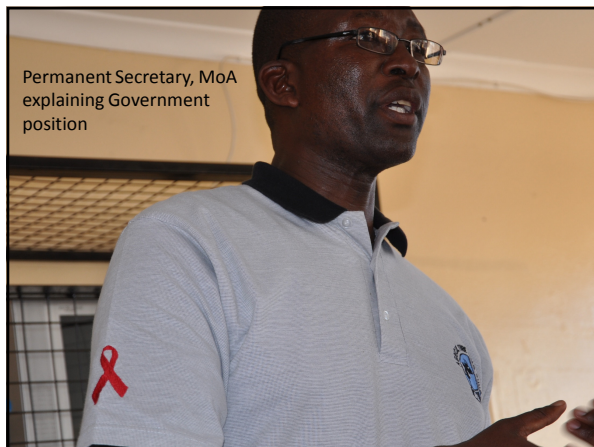
- **29/10/08**
 - DVS staff move to outbreak area and establish a Local Command Centre in Ghanzi as per the CP
 - National Command Centre also established in Gaborone
 - Meeting held in outbreak area to delineate the *infected*, *surveillance* and *free* zones and to determine position of roadblocks and disinfection /searching points.
 - DVS staff reinforced by Botswana Police and Botswana Defence Force (BDF) troops, moved to strategic positions to block possible movement of livestock.

Sequence of events

- **30/10/08**
 - First round of mass cattle inspections in the surveillance zone started
 - Minister addresses the public on the control strategy at Kuke and Ghanzi
 - ***Destruction of all clinical cases completed***
- **31/10/08**
 - Deployment of DVS staff, Botswana Police and BDF troops continues.
 - Mass cattle inspection started at all crushes in Ghanzi District



Minister, explaining about the FMD control proposals



Permanent Secretary, MoA explaining Government position



Member of the public making a comment during a meeting addressed by the Minister



General Manager, BVI was also in attendance



DVS emphasizing the impact of FMD on beef export

Extension officers continued public education



Sequence of events

- **01/11/08**
 - Mobilisation of equipment such as trucks, excavators, earth moving machinery (JCB, bulldozers), fire arms
- **02/11/08**
 - Counselling of affected farmers and farm workers
 - mass destruction of cattle starts
- **08/11/08**
 - Mopping up using helicopter, horse back and foot searches
- **11/11/08:**
 - Last animal destroyed
 - **1 583 cattle destroyed**
 - **Compensated @ P1 500.00 each, irrespective of breed, sex, age, or condition**

Sequence of events

5/11/08:

A Presidential Directive, CAB 36(A)/2008 is released:

- I am directed to inform you that His Excellency the President has made the following decisions as a result of advice tendered to him at the 36th Regular Cabinet Meeting held on Wednesday 5th November 2008. that:
 1. All the estimated 1 500 cattle in the three (3) infected farms of New Look, Nkamane and Maotoakgomo be destroyed and buried;
 2. Compensation of P1 500.00 per head irrespective of size, age, sex and breed of the animal be paid;
 3. The current 1.4m cordon fence separating Ngamiland and Ghanzi Districts be upgraded to a 2.4m high game proof fence;

Sequence of events

5/11/08

4. All staff engaged in the Foot-and-Mouth Disease control project , Permanent and Pensionable and Industrial Class, be paid commuted overtime allowance at 15% of their salaries;
5. Subject to confirmation of the costings and the applicable processing modalities following consultations between the Ministries of Agriculture and Finance and Development Planning:
 - (i) The total estimated Cost of the Animal Emergency Control Project (G 201-51/09188) be increased by about P24 757 834.00 from 157 838 000.00 to about 182 595 834.00
 - (ii) and a special finance warrant of about P24 757 834.00 be issued to the Ministry of Agriculture for the control and eradication of Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Ghanzi District

Sequence of events

- 12/11/08
 - Foot patrol search complete
 - Decontamination of staff & equipment starts
 - Upgrading of Kuke cordon fence starts
 - The EU & RSA lift the ban on Botswana beef except from zone 12 after assurance that cattle from that zone did not mix with cattle from other zones and could be easily identified.

TELEPHONE: 3650635
 TELEGRAMS: CHUVEBEC
 FAX: 3603744
 REF: DVS/C/22 VII (72)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES
PRIVATE BAG 0032
GABORONE
BOTSWANA

6 November 2008
 Director
 European Commission
 Directorate General for Health and Consumers
 Directorate C, Unit C1
 Animal Health and Standing Committees
 Head of Legislation Sector Imports and OIE
 [F 101 3/72] 101-200 Rue de la Loi
 B-1019 Brussels, Belgium

Dist: Mowward Batti

LIFTING OF THE SELF-IMPOSED EXPORT BAN ON BEEF EXPORTS BY BOTSWANA

Attached hereto, kindly find an update report regarding the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Botswana following our earlier notification DVS/C/22 VII (68) of 28th October 2008.

We are confident from our surveillance activities that the disease has not spread to elsewhere in the country and we have implemented appropriate measures to safeguard the rest of the country. On this basis we have lifted the ban for exports from areas not affected by the outbreak.

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 FAX: 3603744
 REF: DVS/C/22 VII (71)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES
PRIVATE BAG 0032
GABORONE
BOTSWANA

7 November 2008
 Director
 Directorate Veterinary Services
 Department of Agriculture
 PVBag X138
 Pretoria 0001
 South Africa

Dear Dr Mpho Maja

LIFTING OF THE BAN ON EXPORTS BY BOTSWANA

Attached hereto, kindly find an update report regarding the outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Botswana following our earlier notification DVS/C/22 VII (67) of 28th October 2008 and your communication referenced 13/11/07/102 of 29th October 2008.

We are confident from our surveillance activities that the disease has not spread to elsewhere in the country and we have implemented appropriate measures to safeguard the rest of the country. On this basis we have lifted the ban for exports from areas not affected by the outbreak.

I am available for any further information that you may require.

Thank you.

Yours Faithfully

M. Molebetsi (BVMS, MPVM, MBA)
 DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES

Sequence of events

- 20/01/09 - EU opens for Zone 12 except infected and surveillance zones
- 11/02/09 – OIE re-instates the FMD free zone without vaccination status of Botswana, including zone 12
- 11/02/09 – RSA lifts ban on beef from zone 12
- 23/02/03 – FMD outbreak control measures in zone 12 relaxed
 - 10km buffer along the boundary with zone 2 maintained and subjected to intense surveillance

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 TELEGRAMS: CHUVEBEC
 FAX: 3603744
 REF: DVS/C/22 VII (70)

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES
PRIVATE BAG 0032
GABORONE
BOTSWANA

PRESS RELEASE

CATTLE ZONAL BRANDING

The Department of Veterinary Services has notified that there are some cattle in certain areas which are not branded with zonal brands. Farmers are informed that all cattle should be branded with zonal brands, which depict the zone in which they were born. This is in line with the Branding of Cattle Act Cap 26:02 Statutory Instrument No. 81 of 1996 of the Laws of Botswana. It is also a component of the cattle traceable system, which is a marketing requirement.

The Department commends those farmers who have been branding their cattle with zonal brands and urge those who have not, to do so. From 15th February 2009, cattle which do not bear a zonal brand as required by the Law will not be allowed to be moved between zones, including for slaughter.

Farmers may contact their district veterinary offices on questions or clarifications pertaining to zonal branding.

Please find the attached Zonal Brands as per districts/villages.

Yours Faithfully

M. Molebetsi
 DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES

TELEPHONE: 0027 3036003
 TELEGRAMS: CHUVEBEC
 FAX: 3007100
 REFERENCE: DVS/C

DEPARTMENT OF VETERINARY SERVICES
PRIVATE BAG 0032
GABORONE
BOTSWANA

30th January 2009

The Director General
 Office International des Epizooties
 12 Rue de Prony
 75017 Paris
 France

Attention: Dr B. Vallat

Dear Sir

**APPLICATION FOR THE REINSTATEMENT OF THE OIE
RECOGNISED FMD FREE ZONE WITHOUT VACCINATION OF
BOTSWANA**

The Republic of Botswana hereby applies for the re-instatement of the OIE recognized FMD free zone without vaccination in the area/region comprising disease control zones 3c, 4b, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 18. This region lost the status after an outbreak of FMD in Ghanzi district (zone 12) in October 2008. The competent authority of Botswana took relevant steps as elaborated in the dossier attached to eradicate the disease and it has been successful, to the extent that traditional beef export markets of the European Union and the Republic of South Africa have started to accept the importation of Botswana beef again. The eradication strategy was stamping-out without vaccination. The last case was destroyed on the 30th October 2008.

In accordance with the Terrestrial Animal Health Code, which stipulates that where stamping out policy without vaccination was applied consideration for reinstatement of the former status can be made after three (3) months, an application is hereby made to the OIE Scientific


Commission for consideration of the reinstatement of the formerly FMD free without vaccination status.


Attached is a dossier which contains the details to substantiate the application. Completion of the dossier was guided by OIE guidelines for countries applying for FMD freedom.

The competent authority of Botswana remains available to provide any required additional information or clarifications.

Regards

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

M. Letshwenyo
 DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES



The Director General
 Our Ref.: LK/GK/09/30.038 Paris, 20 February 2009

Dr. Moeptapie Letshwenyo
 Director
 Department of Veterinary Services
 Private Bag 0032
 Gaborone
 BOTSWANA


Dear Dr. Letshwenyo

Zonal freedom from foot and mouth disease without vaccination: recovery of status

Following your written request of 20 January 2009 to the OIE for the reinstatement of the FMD free status without vaccination of control zone 15 after the outbreak was successfully eradicated in accordance with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*, the OIE Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases received the report of the ad hoc Group responsible for the evaluation of foot and mouth disease (FMD) status of Members during its meeting held from 11 to 12 February 2009.

I am pleased to inform you that the Scientific Commission accepted the recommendation of the ad hoc Group to the effect that Botswana fulfils the conditions to be considered as zone free from FMD without vaccination of control zone 15 after the outbreak was successfully eradicated in accordance with the provisions of the *Terrestrial Animal Health Code*. The Scientific Commission as mandated by Resolution No. 4011 of the 72nd General Session "Update on the procedures for Members for the official recognition and maintenance of status of certain animal diseases" approved that as from 12 February 2009, the status of a FMD free zone without vaccination has been restored for the zone comprised of districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Botswana with effect from 12 February 2009.

A notice to this effect has been placed on the OIE Web site.

Yours sincerely,

 Dr. Bernard Vallat

Dr. A. B. Nzing, Dr. B. J. Muir, Dr. S. Ajulu, Dr. A. Thomson
 Dr. M. Shabanova, Dr. P. Chastagner/Vicini, Dr. L. Krupar, Dr. J. A. Burt

157-0328 1033 1034/0328 1033/0328 1034

15 February 2009

PRESS RELEASE

ERADICATION OF THE OUTBREAK OF FMD IN KUKU, GHANZI DISTRICT


The public is informed that the outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in Kuku extension area in the Ghanzi district has been successfully eradicated. The World Organisation for Animal Health has subsequently reinstated the former FMD free zone without vaccination of Botswana. The European Union and the Republic of South Africa, the main markets for Botswana beef, have lifted the ban on Botswana beef, indicating that from Ghanzi district. Essentially the situation has reverted to the pre-outbreak status.

Consequently movement of cloven-hoofed animals and their fresh products will be amended as follows, with effect from 28th February 2009:

- With the exception of cloven-hoofed animals in the 10km buffer zone, cloven-hoofed animals in Ghanzi district will be allowed to move within the district without a permit and movement of the same into and out of the district will be with a permit issued after inspection of the animals and upon their bearing a zonal brand.
- Cloven-hoofed animals from the 10km buffer zone are high-risk animals and are therefore only allowed to move out of the area strictly down for slaughter and under a permit issued after inspection and upon bearing a zonal brand. Their movement within and into the area is under a permit issued after inspection and upon bearing a zonal brand.
- Cloven-hoofed animal products are allowed to move into, within and out of the district without a permit.

Notwithstanding these positive developments, cases of FMD continue to occur in Kuku extension area of Ngamiand district (zone 2), therefore

DIRECTOR OF VETERINARY SERVICES




THANK YOU