To all veterinarians

Dear colleagues

RE: MOLEMOLE FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE OUTBREAK

On 1 November 2019, an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) was confirmed on a farm in the Molemole Local Municipality, Capricorn District of Limpopo Province, which is in the suspended FMD free zone. On examination of cattle on the infected property, typical mouth lesions were found. However, feet lesions were noticeably absent and the rectal temperature readings for cattle displaying mouth lesions were found to be within the normal range.

Private veterinarians are urged to be vigilant when conducting physical examinations on all cloven-hoofed species and to report any FMD suspect lesions to the nearest state veterinarian, even without the display of a full spectrum of clinical signs.

When conducting routine activities on different farms or locations with cloven-hoofed species, veterinarians are reminded to exercise good biosecurity measures to prevent the inadvertent spread of disease from one farm to another. Proper adherence to biosecurity by veterinarians will also encourage farmers, their staff and farm visitors to adopt similar practices, thereby promoting education on FMD mitigation measures.

For any further enquiries, please send an email to FMD@daff.gov.za

Thanking you

[Signature]
Dr Mpho Maja
Director Animal Health

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