



GOVERNMENT NEWS



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FMD OUTBREAK OFFICIALLY OVER

- While control measures remain in place in the high surveillance area of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF) has declared the end of the outbreak.
- The department confirmed on Tuesday that there have not been any new cases of FMD detected in the declared disease management area in Limpopo since February, and more than three incubation periods have lapsed with no new cases being observed.
- “Intensive surveillance has demonstrated that the virus is no longer circulating. However, control measures remain in place in the area.
- The farming community and public are urged to remain vigilant,” DAFF said in a joint statement with the livestock industry.
- South Africa experienced a FMD outbreak in the high surveillance area of the FMD-free zone in Limpopo on 7 January 2019 and as a result, lost its World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) recognised FMD-free zone without vaccination status.
- During April, the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Senzeni Zokwana, led a high profile delegation to the affected communities in Limpopo to express their heartfelt appreciation to the farmers and all other parties that worked with the DAFF to contain the outbreak and resolve the situation.
- The department said it has successfully prepared and submitted a dossier to the OIE applying for a Containment Zone.
- Meanwhile, the department has successfully negotiated market access for safe commodities to most of the trading countries, with the most recent success being China lifting their ban on wool imports from South Africa.
- For the full statement visit: <https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa-world/fmd-outbreak-officially-over>



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