

MEDIA STATEMENT FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE



FMD Resources



Foot-and-Mouth Disease Update 4: Garden Route District Municipality Multi-Agency Command Centre on 16 February 2026 at 16h30

Joint Statement: Garden Route DM, Western Cape Government and Agri Western Cape

FMD STATS: GARDEN ROUTE

Affected municipal area:	Mossel Bay
Potential municipal area affected (test results pending):	George
Number of Vehicle Control Points around quarantined area:	9
FMD-affected farms (officially confirmed):	1
FMD-suspect site(s), pending test results:	4
FMD-Vaccines administered to date:	3568
Livestock infected:	Cattle

STATE VETERINARIAN FEEDBACK

Latest Test Results

The Western Cape Provincial Government (WCG) Local State Veterinarian, Dr Leana Janse van Rensburg, is still waiting for confirmation on whether the pending Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) test samples are positive or negative.

Lesions have been identified on the western side of George, and samples were subsequently collected and submitted for laboratory testing.

The George State Veterinary Office is following a risk-based approach, which first requires containing the known outbreak area in the Mossel Bay municipal area to limit the potential spread of the virus. Once more resources become available, the State Veterinarian and her team will focus on vaccinating communal and informally kept cattle. Free-roaming livestock in KwaNonqaba, Mossel Bay, will therefore be vaccinated from 20 to 21 February 2026.

Limit travel to and along farm roads

The FMD virus spreads when animals are moved, even before signs are visible. The virus is also transferred by vehicles, trailers, equipment, cyclists, clothing, footwear, hands, feed and animal products, to name a few. Farmers are also urged to disinfect roads after cattle moved over roads. No animals are allowed to be moved out of the 10km radius of the index farm, unless these are going for slaughter and with a valid permit (Red Cross Permit).

FMD RESOURCES

All FMD resources, including updates, are uploaded here:

<https://www.gardenroute.gov.za/document-category/foot-and-mouth-disease/>

Western Cape Department of Agriculture updates, are uploaded here:

<https://www.elsenburg.com/foot-and-mouth-disease-fmd-outbreak-information/>

The next update will be published by 18 February 2026.

REPORT SUSPECT SITES

Garden Route Emergency Call Centre

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