



Garden Route
FMD Resources



MEDIA STATEMENT FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

WCG FMD
Resources



Foot-and-Mouth Disease Update 8: Garden Route District Municipality Multi-Agency Command Centre on 26 February 2026 at 16h00

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

FMD STATS: GARDEN ROUTE

Affected municipal area:	Mossel Bay
FMD-affected farms (officially confirmed):	4
FMD-suspect site(s), pending test results:	6
umber of farms vaccinated	52 (increased with 6)
FMD-Vaccines administered to date:	9631 (increased with 1051)
Livestock infected:	Cattle
Number of Vehicle Control Points around quarantined area:	7 static and 4 roaming

As previously stated, the Western Cape has received 30,000 doses of FMD vaccines from Biogénesis Bagó in Argentina. Of these, 10,000 doses have been allocated to the Garden Route. A further 45,000 doses are expected to be delivered to the Western Cape by the end of next week.

Tomorrow, 27 February 2026, at 11:00, a roadblock will be conducted at the Tsitsikamma Tollgate as part of ongoing control measures.

Vaccinations have started in the Friemersheim area and will move towards George after the weekend when more vaccines become available.

CLOSURE OF ROADS: APPLICATIONS AND ROADS CLOSED FOR TRAFFIC

Applications for the closure of Western Cape Provincial Roads must to be directed to Gerhard Otto, gotto@gardenroute.gov.za. Residents will be able to access these roads, but not other motorists or cyclists.

Role players involved in approving these applications, include the GRDM Disaster Management Centre, Western Cape Provincial Government Roads Engineer, the South African Police Service and the affected local municipality law enforcement.

Latest Test Results

The Western Cape Provincial Government (WCG) Local State Veterinarian, Dr Leana Janse van Rensburg, received confirmation on 23 February that laboratory results for the suspect farm in George tested negative.

However, test results for a heifer farm located 21 km north of the index farm in the Mossel Bay area returned positive. Calves from the index farm had previously been moved to this property on 21 January.

All livestock on the affected farm, as well as on a neighbouring farm, have since been vaccinated. A 3 km quarantine zone has been established around the affected property.

WESTERN CAPE VACCINATION PRIORITIES

It is important to note that when an animal is vaccinated and exposed to FMD, it gets less sick, shows milder clinical signs (fewer sores, less lameness), and they recover faster.

Phase 1: Infected herd and others within a 3km radius of an index farm (if lesions are found outside 3km, expand to 10km).

Phase 2: Commonage and informal area livestock.

Phase 3: High-risk herds (farms close to free-roaming cattle, close to abattoirs and where there is a lot of movement, etc.).

Phase 4: Dairy herds.

Phase 5: Beef herds.

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/>

WCG FMD Hotline Number: 080 928 4102 (Press 1 for FMD)

National Dept. Agriculture: 0860 246 640

The next update will be published by 3 March 2026.

REPORT SUSPECT SITES

Garden Route Emergency Call Centre

044 805 5071 or WhatsApp 081 709 5193

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