

Department of Livestock Services Circular No.3 Of 2025

**Department of Livestock Services
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4th August 2025

L/VET/4/5

**MINISTRY OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT**

2025 -08- 06

**REGISTRY
PO. BOX 747 - MASERU 100 - LESOTHO**

**TO: District Administrators
ALL DISTRICT AGRICULTURAL OFFICERS
ALL DISTRICT VETERINARY OFFICERS
ALL DISTRICT ANIMAL PRODUCTION OFFICERS
Ministry of Trade, Industry, Business Development
Ministry of Sports, Tourism, Arts and Culture
Ministry of Environment and Forestry
Ministry of Local Government, Chieftainship, Home Affairs and
Police- Commissioner of Police
Commander of Lesotho Defense Force
Commissioner of Customs (RSL)
Heads of Border Agencies
Director General of Health Services
The Representative-Food and Agriculture Organization of the
United Nations (FAO)
The Representative-World Health Organization (WHO)
Agricultural Information Services**

**COPY: Hon. Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition
P.S Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition
All heads of Departments-MAFSN
Heads of Divisions-DLS**

Suspension of Imports of Cloven-Hoofed Animals, Certain Animal Products and untreated Forages Due to Ongoing Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Outbreaks in South Africa.

Considering the ongoing outbreaks of **Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)** reported in various provinces of the Republic of South Africa, the Ministry of Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition, through the Department of Livestock Services, wishes to inform all relevant authorities and stakeholders of the immediate **suspension of the importation of cloven-hoofed animals and certain animal products** from South Africa.

This precautionary measure is aimed at protecting our national herd and maintaining our country's **FMD-free status without vaccination**, which is critical for access to international markets for livestock and livestock products.

Effective immediately, the following are suspended until further notice:

- Importation of **live cloven-hoofed animals** (e.g., cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, antelope)
- Importation of **red fresh or frozen meat** and unprocessed meat products from cloven-hoofed animals

However, the following commodities, considered safe, may still be imported, subject to approval and guidance from the Veterinary Authority:

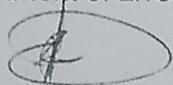
- **Ultra-High Temperature (UHT) treated milk and dairy products**
- **Heat-treated meat products in hermetically sealed containers** (e.g., canned meats)
- **Dry pet food** produced under approved processing standards
- **Processed brined sausages** that meet inactivation requirements for FMD
- **Formaldehyde-treated forages and hay**

All import permit applications for these safe commodities will be assessed on a **case-by-case basis** and must be accompanied by relevant health certification and compliance documentation as required by the Veterinary Authority.

We request all Ministries, Departments, and Border Control Agencies to ensure strict compliance with this directive and to collaborate with Veterinary Border Control Officers in enforcing this suspension.

Our cooperation in protecting our national livestock industry is appreciated.

For further clarification or guidance, please contact the Veterinary Authority under the Department of Livestock Services.



Relebohile Lepheana (Dr.)
Director General Veterinary Services

