



DIRECTORATE OF
Animal Disease Diagnostic, Reporting & Surveillance,
L&DD, Punjab

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To

1. All the Divisional Directors, Livestock, working in Punjab.
2. All the Additional Directors,, Livestock, working in Punjab.
3. All the Disease Investigation & Control Officers, working in Punjab.

Subject: ADVISORY ON FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) CONTROL IN PUNJAB.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) is a highly contagious viral disease affecting cloven-hoofed animals, including cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats. The disease poses significant economic challenges due to decreased milk production, weight loss, and trade restrictions. In Punjab, proactive measures are essential to prevent and control FMD outbreaks. Recent outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Punjab have raised concerns among livestock farmers. The most prevalent FMD serotype in Punjab is serotype O, followed by serotype A and serotype Asia-1.

The key risk factors of FMD are;

1. Introduction of new animals without proper vaccination records
2. Irregular or delayed vaccination
3. Movement of veterinary and insemination service providers between farms
4. Movement of animal brokers, traders and milk collectors between farms
5. Proximity to infected farms and larger herd sizes
6. Lack of biosecurity measures at farm entry points

The Disease can be presented and controlled by adopting the following measures:

1. All cattle and buffaloes should be vaccinated 2 times a year with FMD trivalent vaccine. Newly introduced animals should be vaccinated and kept under observation in the isolated area for at least 14 days before joining the herd.
2. Quarantine newly purchased animals for at least two to three weeks. Separate infected animals from healthy to prevent further spread within the herd. Restrict farm

access to essential personnel only. Disinfect animal transport vehicles, farm equipment, and footwear before entry with any one the following solutions.

- Sodium Hypochlorite (Bleach) 3% solution
- Citric Acid 0.2% solution
- Vinegar 3% solution

3. Early Detection of disease is important for control and following signs

- High fever (up to 106°F)
- Excessive salivation and blisters in the mouth, feet, and teats
- Lameness, reluctance to move, and loss of appetite

Farmers should immediately report suspected cases to local veterinary officials or report through ADRS Farmer android app (may be downloaded from Google Play Store) for early containment and treatment of sick animals. The Para veterinary staff report disease through ADRS VA / AIT and Veterinary officer of the concerned CVD/CVH through ADRS RO application.

4. Avoid unnecessary movement of livestock between farms and markets. Also ensure proper documentation and health checks before transporting animals.

5. Public Awareness & Support is critical for the control of disease;

- The local CVD/CVH incharge should organize farmer meetings to educate farmers on FMD control and disease reporting through Mobile application
- Farmers should stay updated through local veterinary hospital or dispensaries.
- Report through ADRS farmer android application
- Contact the helpline number 0800-09211 for emergency assistance.

6. The FMD disease outbreak should be treated as emergency and responded accordingly to control the further spread of the disease. Following control measures should be adopted to deal this emergency.

- Immediately separate the diseased animals from the healthy ones.
- Inject FMD serum to the sick animals
- Disinfect the farm premises

- There should be strict implementation of animal and human movement control at the infected premises.
- Strict implementation of biosecurity measures and use of proper PPEs to handle the animals to avoid the disease spread.
- Vaccinate all animals in infected epidemiological unit.

The department has started ADRS-info a virtual disease reporting and surveillance system throughout the Punjab. The android applications are available on Google play store. There are three apps for convenience.

1. ADRS Farmers, for use of farmers for disease reporting.
2. ADRS-VA for use of Veterinary Assistant and AITs for disease reporting
3. ADRS-RO for the field officers and the lab officers for disease reporting, verification, sample collection and lab test results.

To ensure prompt disease reporting and response, it's recommended that all veterinary and para-veterinary staff regularly use the ADRS Info Android application. The app is available for download on the Google Play Store. For assistance with installation and registration, the Assistant Disease Investigation Officer (ADIO) of concerned district can be contacted.


20/02
DIRECTOR

CC:

1. The PSO to Secretary, L&DD, Punjab, Lahore.
2. The Director General (Research), L&DD, Punjab, Lahore.
3. The Director General (Extension), L&DD, Punjab, Lahore.
4. The Director General (Production), L&DD, Punjab, Lahore.
5. The Director General (ERP), L&DD, South Punjab, Bahawalpur.