



Ref: VITT 1200/ FMD - Botswana  
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## Foot and mouth disease (SAT 1) in Botswana

**Note:** Defra's Food and Farming Group, International Trade Core Function (FFG-ITCF) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is among those diseases of major concern.

### 1 Disease Report

Botswana has reported an outbreak of FMD serotype SAT1 in cattle in Maun, North West Botswana that started on 9 October 2007 and was confirmed on 16 October 2007. This outbreak occurred after floods destroyed the disease control fencing in the areas. Control measures and movement restrictions on the area are in place. Cattle in the area are vaccinated twice a year with trivalent vaccine effective against FMD serotypes SAT 1, SAT 2 and SAT 3 (OIE, 2007).

### 2 Situation assessment and commentary

Botswana has sporadic outbreaks of FMD. The latest outbreaks being in 2005 and June 2006. Botswana has been divided into a number of FMD disease control zones, some of

which are allowed to export meat to the European Union (and UK). The current outbreak is not within one of the FMD-free EU export zones.

A check of the European Commission electronic database (TRACES) system shows that the only fresh or frozen meat imports from Botswana since at least 1 August 2007 originated from Lobatse. This is in an EU approved export zone. Meat products are subject to EU rules that require treatment prior to export to destroy the FMD virus.

### 3 Conclusions

Based on the disease report and situation assessment, the likelihood of the introduction of FMD by legal trade before and after this outbreak is considered negligible. Currently, IAHD does not intend to carry out and publish a full risk assessment on this outbreak and will continue to monitor the situation.



### 4 References

OIE. 2007. Foot and mouth disease, Botswana. BWA 17-10-07 OIE Alert Message – Received by e-mail Wednesday 17/10/2007.