

FOOT & MOUTH DISEASE

READINESS CHECKLIST FOR FARMS

1. FARM BIOSECURITY PREPAREDNESS

- Restrict entry to essential personnel only.
- Implement controlled entry with footbaths and wheel dips.
- Ensure visitors sign access registers and declare previous farm visits.
- Prohibit entry of vehicles/equipment from high-risk FMD zones unless disinfected.

2. LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT

- Avoid purchasing animals from auctions in or linked to FMD-affected areas.
- Quarantine all new arrivals for 21–30 days.
- Keep detailed movement records and comply with permit requirements.
- Conduct daily inspections for salivation, lameness, and lesions.

3. WATER & FEED BIOSECURITY

- Disinfect water troughs regularly.
- Prevent multiple herds from accessing shared water sources.
- Ensure feed delivery trucks follow disinfection protocol.
- Avoid contamination of feed storage areas.

4. SANITATION & DISINFECTION

- Disinfect handling equipment after each use.
- Clean and disinfect loading areas and crush pens.
- Maintain supplies of approved disinfectants.
- Apply wheel and undercarriage dips to all vehicles.

5. STAFF TRAINING & AWARENESS

- Train workers on early FMD symptom recognition.
- Conduct quarterly biosecurity refreshers.
- Provide dedicated on-farm clothing and footwear.
- Enforce hygiene and sanitation protocols.

6. EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

- Ensure staff know reporting protocols for suspected FMD.
- Display veterinary contact information.
- Prepare isolation areas for suspect animals.
- Activate movement bans when needed.

7. RECORD KEEPING & TRACEABILITY

- Maintain livestock ID inventories.
- Record all animal movements.
- Keep feed delivery and disinfection logs.
- Maintain vaccination and treatment records.

8. VACCINATION READINESS

- Register herd details for vaccination campaigns.
- Prepare handling facilities before vaccination teams arrive.
- Monitor government vaccination updates.
- Prioritise high-risk herds for vaccination.

9. COMMUNITY COORDINATION

- Maintain communication with neighbours.
- Establish shared grazing and access rules.
- Report suspicious livestock movements.
- Coordinate biosecurity with nearby farms.

10. FARM-SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT

- Assess proximity to outbreak zones.
- Review livestock density and movement frequency.
- Evaluate shared grazing or water points.
- Identify exposure to auctions or external animals.



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