

# PROTECTING AGAINST FMD

If Foot-and-Mouth Disease enters Australia, there will be severe consequences for animal health and the trade of Australian meat and livestock.



Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) could enter Australia through meat, dairy products, contaminated soil, untreated hides, and on vehicles and equipment that have been in contact with infected animals. This includes contaminated material on clothing and footwear.

## WHAT CAN I DO TO PROTECT AGAINST FMD?

Good farm biosecurity is a critical layer of defence. All Australian livestock owners should know how to protect their livestock and properties from the disease, the signs and symptoms of FMD, and how to report it.

- Familiarise yourself and staff with the signs of FMD relevant to the class of livestock on your property. Note that the clinical signs vary between species.
- Review and maintain strong biosecurity measures, including keeping accurate records of all visitors.
- Update your farm biosecurity plan and ensure all staff are aware and compliant.
- Avoid unnecessary livestock movements and keep accurate records to improve traceability.
- Prevent visitors or staff from FMD-infected countries to enter the property for at least 7 days.
- Ensure all footwear, clothing and equipment of any staff or visitors is clean and free from mud, manure or animal secretions. Implement decontamination protocols on entry/exit to and from the property.
- Continue to avoid the illegal feeding of meat, animal products or imported dairy goods to livestock

### References:

<https://www.dairyaustralia.com.au/issues-and-emergencies/emergency-animal-disease-preparedness>

<https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/animal/fmd>

**If your livestock are showing signs of Foot-and-Mouth Disease, immediately call the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 (free call within Australia)**