

**DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK and VETERINARY SERVICES**  
**Weekly Highlights**  
**Week ending 3 November 2017**

**1. State of the livestock resource**

**1.1 Livestock Grazing and Water Situation.**

Temperatures rose at the end of the week with thunder showers recorded across the country. Following media reports in Chikomba district that some cattle died from cold weather, Veterinary and Livestock Production and Development staff are on the ground to establish the actual cause of deaths.

**1.2 Livestock Markets.**

**Public Cattle Auctions**

Place	No of animals sold	Average Price/Kg	Average grade
Mt.Hampden	211	2.38	Unselected
Beitbridge	134	1.80	FAQ

**National Average Producer Prices for Beef:**

Grade	Average Price/kg	
	Current	Previous
<b>Super (S)</b>	<b>\$4.50</b>	\$4.28
<b>Choice (O)</b>	<b>\$4.30</b>	\$3.96
<b>Commercial (B)</b>	<b>\$4.30</b>	\$3.96
<b>Economy (X)</b>	<b>\$4.15</b>	\$3.76
<b>Manufacturing (J)</b>	<b>\$3.05</b>	\$2.71

## **Comments**

Prices of all grades increased significantly as from last week and the prices are for RTGS and for cash they are a bit lower.

## **2. STATE OF ANIMAL HEALTH**

### **2.1 Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI)**

No new cases reported this week.

Clinical surveillance for the disease continues through the country but the serological surveillance program remains on hold due to absence of antigen for avian influenza testing at the CVL. The Division is still awaiting delivery of lab reagents from FAO.

### **2.2 Foot and mouth disease (FMD)**

#### ***Southeast outbreak cluster***

With the unavailability of FMD vaccine, the disease continues to spread with the risk of spread to other districts continuing to increase with each passing day. The division will be placing an order of almost 600 000 doses of vaccine from BVI following payment of the outstanding debt with the supplier and reopening of the credit facility. This vaccine will be deployed to areas with active infection to control and resolve all ongoing outbreaks.

#### ***Masvingo province***

New FMD infections reported in Mwenezi district where there were 334 cases from Maranda and Mateke areas. Chiredzi district reported 293 new cases as the outbreak continues to spread with risk of infection spilling over into Zaka district. Masvingo district also reported 3 new cases at Tadzembwa dip tank.

No new cases were reported in Zaka district following the reported cases last week. The district remains on high alert to prevent incursion from Chiredzi district, with 10 088 cattle having been inspected this week. Movement restriction have been put in place, however, vaccinations are needed to

complement movement restriction efforts, to curb further spread into Zaka and Masvingo districts.

#### Manicaland Province

No cases were reported in Chipinge district this week. There is, however, need to vaccinate the routine vaccination area to prevent another wave of outbreaks in the cattle/buffalo interface areas.

#### Midlands Province

The infection continues to spread across Mberengwa district with 1410 new cases reported from 11 dip tanks this week. The whole of mberengwa district needs vaccination to kill off the infection and prevent further spread to neighboring districts.

#### Matabeleland South Province

No cases of the disease were reported in the province.

#### ***Northwest outbreak cluster***

The situation in the northwest remains stable and quiet, but the risk remains high as separation of wild buffalo and livestock remains poor.

#### ***FMD Vaccinations and Testing***

A total of 1 209 vaccinations were carried out this week. There is need for more vaccinations to respond to current outbreaks as well as to vaccinate high risk areas.

There is currently no antigen for FMD SAT 3 serological testing.

### **2.3 Newcastle**

A total of 317 NCD cases were reported in Binga this week. All NCD cases were screened for HPAI with negative results. 99 611 birds were vaccinated countrywide this week.

### **2.4 Rabies**

This week there were four (4) reported rabies cases in dogs. Rabies vaccinations carried out throughout the country as follows; Matabeleland South (756), Matabeleland North (816), Masvingo (141), Mashonaland Central (109), Mashonaland East (900) and Manicaland (72).

## 2.5 Anthrax

No cases in were reported in livestock reported this week. There were 2 elephant cases reported Victoria Falls. The department is working together with National Parks and Ministry of Health to educate the local community on the disease and safe disposal carcasses.

## 2.6 Tick borne diseases

Acaricide supply remains stable. Tick-borne diseases reported were as follows: anaplasmosis (34 cases, 9 deaths), heartwater (42 cases, 11 deaths), and babesiosis (45 cases, 12 deaths). Weekly dipping in theileriosis areas is continuing.

## 2.7 Livestock identification

Last awareness meetings on cattle identification with Chiefs and Village Heads done on 31st October in Muzarabani. Awareness meetings with farmers continue. Registration of farmers and cattle has started on three dip tanks namely; Muringazuva, Kapembere and Utete 1. The targeted figures are indicated below while the final members of registered farmers and cattle will be provided next week.

<b>Dip Tank</b>	<b>Farmers registered</b>	<b>Cattle tagged</b>
Muringazuva	287	562
Kapembere	173	744
Utete 1	273	747
<b>Total</b>	<b>733</b>	<b>2053</b>