



## **Livestock & Meat Advisory Council**

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### **Livestock Zimbabwe Update: 6<sup>th</sup> July 2018**

#### **OVERVIEW**

On 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the Department of Livestock and Veterinary Services (DLVS) submitted a report to the World Animal Health (OIE) of a fresh outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease in the district of Rushinga, Mashonaland Central (see attached report, web access address: [http://www.oie.int/wahis\\_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page\\_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=27084](http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=27084), copy attached).

For your information, DLVS also submitted Follow Up Report No 3 on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2018 on the outbreak of 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017, highlighting spread of the disease in the Midlands and Masvingo provinces (see attached, web address: [http://www.oie.int/wahis\\_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page\\_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=24570](http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=24570), copy attached).

The Zimbabwe Association of Dairy Farmers (ZADF) and Zimbabwe Dairy Industry Trust (ZDIT) lead the drive to restore national milk self-sufficiency by 2020, with increased local production also translating into a significant foreign currency saving for the country. The 2018 Annual General Meeting of ZADF this week recorded a significant increase in milk production over the last four years, from 37 million litres in 2014 to 68 million in 2017. This translates into a corresponding two-thirds saving in foreign currency expenditure on imported dairy products from US\$22 million in 2014 to US\$7 million in 2017. Value chain development has also seen the export of milk products increasing over the same period.

The proudly Zimbabwean dairy industry has been commended for sustaining an average 10% year-on-year increase in national milk production since 2014, as the industry works to restore sufficiency in dairy products. This increase in national milk production has come mainly from small-scale dairy farmers who constitute the production base of the dairy industry.

Ghana has reported an outbreak of Avian Influenza (AI) in poultry, which has also continued to spread in South Africa over the last fourteen months. The Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) advises poultry producers to practice stringent biosecurity. There is evidence that AI, transmissible by water fowl, can mutate in poultry species. DVS surveillance has found no

evidence of AI in water fowl in Zimbabwe.

### **Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe – Pig Symposium**

The annual 2018 PPAZ Pig Symposium held at the Agricultural Research Farm attracted large and small pig producers, including a contingent of farmers in the Goromonzi pig pilot project, which was transported to the event. The broad-ranging programme covered key aspects of pig production, updated the local industry on new findings in porcine gut health, and included valuable discussion sessions after each presentation.

The Pig Forum provided:

- On-farm feed formulation: a cost-effective technology in pig feeds and feeding management.
- A new perspective on biosecurity from Kemin South Africa, in a talk entitled *Gut Health as a Supplement to Biosecurity*. This highlighted the scope for manipulating gut health to advantage as a first-line of defence in pig health and disease resistance.
- An overview of microbiology, serology and feed analysis and the services offered to the pig industry by an ISO 18000 accredited laboratory in Zimbabwe.
- A comprehensive talk on phased pig feeding for optimal nutrition and animal growth - from weaner to market.
- A valuable management guide on enhancing viability in a piggery in the current challenging production landscape, by reducing losses and wastage in pig production, from the Pig Industry Board.
- The importance of adequate and pig-friendly housing to pig welfare and production with simple, low-cost innovations to improve existing housing.
- A punchy presentation on the importance of upholding standards right down the production line from the Standards Association of Zimbabwe.

### **Annual General Meeting of the Pig Producers' Association of Zimbabwe**

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) recorded concern about the high number of pig producers in the country whose African Swine Fever (ASF) compliance inspections are not up to date. The national pig producer association called on all pig farmers to ensure that their operations are annually certified for ASF-compliance, as the industry works to expand pig production. PPAZ welcomes the stipulation that only ASF-compliant pig producers are eligible to participate in the Command Livestock programme.

In his Chairman's report to the AGM, George Mudanga noted the continuing progress in establishing pilot smallholder pig production clubs under the PPAZ and Pig Industry Board

mentorship programme. There has been positive response to this initiative from participating pig producers, also evident by their attendance at the Symposium.

**Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events:**

<b><i>July 13<sup>th</sup></i></b>	Meeting of the Meat Processors' Association of Zimbabwe
<b><i>July 18<sup>th</sup></i></b>	Meeting of the Zimbabwe Association of Abattoirs
<b><i>July 19<sup>th</sup></i></b>	Meeting of the Zimbabwe Poultry Association
	Meeting of the Pig Producers' Association of Zimbabwe
<b><i>July 25<sup>h</sup></i></b>	Zimbabwe Herd Book 50 <sup>th</sup> National Breed Sale

**Enclosures**

- Foot and Mouth Disease report, 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 Rushinga, Mashonaland Central
- Foot and Mouth Disease Follow-up Report No. 3
- Nurture Education Trust Press Release