



Livestock & Meat Advisory Council

Exhibition Park, Samora Machel Ave West, P O Box BE 209, Belvedere, Harare

Phone: 756 600, 772 915, 777 391 **Fax:** 774 800 **Email:** admin@lit.co.zw

LivestockZimbabwe Update: 2nd February 2018

OVERVIEW

The livestock and meat industry share the concerns of government about the rising consumer prices for basic food commodities relative to household income.

The sector contributes to the food basket through a variety of animal protein foods – beef, pork, goat, sheep, chicken and fish, eggs and dairy products. Most of these products are highly perishable and producers strive to deliver the right quantity of meat, milk and eggs to the consumer at affordable and competitive prices.

The cost competitiveness of Zimbabwean livestock and meat industries relative to other countries is affected by the macroeconomic environment as well as sector-specific policies and regulations.

The sector continues to engage government to address the macroeconomic fiscal and monetary policy imbalances and an under-performing financial sector which are driving the shortages of cash and foreign currency.

Stakeholders in the livestock sector met last Thursday to review the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in Mashonaland East and West provinces. The Area Veterinary Extension Worker reported a suspected outbreak in Chegutu on 17th January and a full inspection was carried out. Cattle had already been moved to sale pens in Harare and Macheke and after further investigation, an outbreak of FMD has been confirmed in Macheke. The sale pens in Harare are disease free.

To contain the outbreak, it was suggested that if an animal is not branded, no movement permit will be issued, and it cannot therefore be sold. A 30-day embargo should apply following introduction of animals onto a property before they can be moved. Registration of sale yards, show grounds and commercial feedlots was also discussed as well as the destruction of animals that have been illegally moved without compensation.

Schedule of forthcoming meetings and events: February

Wednesday 14th

Livestock Business Forum

Enclosures

- Position Paper on Price Stabilisation. January 2018
- Presentation to the Stakeholders Meeting to Discuss the Outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease
- Forthcoming Courses, Dorper Sheep Society