

# SHEEP AND GOATS

## WHAT IS FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE?

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious disease that affects sheep, goats, cattle and other cloven-hoofed animals. It is not the same as hand foot and mouth disease.

There are currently no cases of FMD in Australia. However, there have been recent outbreaks in Indonesia since May 2022. FMD is typically spread through close contact with infected animals or items that have been in close contact with the infected.

## WHAT DO I LOOK FOR?

The clinical signs of FMD in sheep and goats include

- A high fever
- Blisters inside the mouth that lead to excessive drooling and saliva
- Blisters on the feet which may cause lameness and reluctance to move
- Weight loss

If you see any of these signs in your sheep or goats, you should report it immediately to either your local veterinarian or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800675888.



Burst blisters inside the mouth. Photo: European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD)



**FURTHER INFORMATION**  
[WWW.ANIMALHEALTHAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/FOOT-AND-MOUTH-DISEASE](http://WWW.ANIMALHEALTHAUSTRALIA.COM.AU/FOOT-AND-MOUTH-DISEASE)

**EMERGENCY ANIMAL  
DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE**  
**1800 675 888**

## HOW DO I PREPARE MY FARM?

With FMD close to our borders, it's important to be prepared for a potential outbreak. Livestock owners should ensure that their farm biosecurity plan is up to date. The Farm Biosecurity Action Planner can guide you through this process.

[SCAN HERE TO ACCESS THE FARM BIOSECURITY ACTION PLANNER.](#)



You can also consider an online training course on FMD for further information on how to prepare for an outbreak.

[SCAN HERE TO ACCESS ONLINE TRAINING COURSES](#)



Blisters on the tongue. Photo: European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD)



Blisters above the hooves. Photo: European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD)

## WHAT ELSE SHOULD I BE AWARE OF?

In the event of an outbreak, a national livestock standstill would occur for at least 72 hours while authorities assess the situation. All animals susceptible to FMD cannot be moved off a property, unless the animals were already in transit, or a movement permit has been issued by the relevant authorities.

Australia has developed a response strategy to control and eradicate FMD should it occur in the country. These plans are reviewed and updated regularly based on the global situation and as new information becomes available.

Compensation for the death or destruction of property during an outbreak is determined by state/territory legislation and processes. Claims are assessed and paid for by the state or territory department of agriculture or primary industries.

[SCAN HERE TO ACCESS THE AUSVETPLAN RESPONSE STRATEGY FOR FMD](#)



## MORE INFORMATION

[NATIONAL LIVESTOCK STANDSTILL](#)



[COMPENSATION AND VALUATION](#)



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