

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: FMD outbreak in Jordan

Country: Jordan

Post: Amman

Report Category: Pest/Disease Occurrences

Prepared By: Mohammed Khraishy, Agricultural Specialist and Elizabeth Mello, Senior Agricultural Attaché

Approved By: Kurt Seifarth, Regional Agricultural Counselor

Report Highlights:

On February 15, the Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) announced the presence of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) in the country.

The Ministry of Agriculture (MOA) announced an official outbreak of FMD in the country. No incidences so far have been recorded in the dairy-producing area of Dhulail valley (center of dairy farms in NE Jordan 32.132982093618, 36.300415072593076).

United Nations OIE experts are still working in southern Jordan to evaluate MoA procedures and identify the source of the outbreak. Livestock markets are expected to open in 48 hours, after 3 weeks of precautionary closure.

Although MoA vaccinated over 4 million heads of dairy cattle and sheep last year, a new strain of FMD virus took the country by surprise. Jordan imported 63,000 vaccines for the new strain from the UK, and 53,000 animals were vaccinated due to their proximity to Dhulail, the center of the FMD outbreak.

An immediate impact of FMD has been the cost of fresh meat prices, especially imported meat, which mostly comes from South Africa, Colombia, and Australia, but is also imported from the U.S. for use in the HRI sector and some high-end supermarkets. The outbreak has also created opportunities for U.S. live cattle exports, due to the extremely low inventories in the region. There are currently not enough cattle in the US or Europe to meet needs. Shortages of milk are also beginning to take place and producing an increased demand for U.S. powdered milk. FAS/Amman has been working in recent years in the prevention of FMD. USDA assisted Jordan to develop two meat laboratories: one located at the Jordan Food and Drug Administration, and the other at animal welfare department of the MoA.

In June 2022, FAS/Amman attended the soft opening of a key Livestock quarantine project funded by USDA's Food for Progress program. USDA donated \$3 million to support the local economy in Mafraq, northeast of Amman, an area particularly hard hit by the effects of drought and with an increasing number of refugees of Syria. Since then, Jordan exported 700 head of high value Awasi sheep which is highly coved in the region and the key ingredient of the regional Mansaf dish.





Attachments:

No Attachments.