

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

Date: March 27, 2026

Report Number: KZ2026-0005

Report Name: Russian Veterinary Authorities Reportedly Respond to Cattle Disease Outbreak in Siberia

Country: Kazakhstan - Republic of

Post: Astana(Nur-Sultan)

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Dairy and Products, Livestock and Products, Pest/Disease Occurrences

Prepared By:

Approved By: Rishan Chaudhry

Report Highlights:

Recent media and regional reports indicate that Russian veterinary authorities are responding to outbreaks of pasteurellosis and rabies among cattle in Siberia's Novosibirsk region, implementing widespread culling, quarantine, and movement controls. Local sources and trade contacts suggest the scale of these measures may indicate an unconfirmed outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), with authorities reportedly halting livestock and related exports from affected regions. The response has led to significant protests from farmers over compensation and raised concerns about the adequacy of current vaccines and the potential impact on Russia's cattle trade.

Background

Recent media reporting indicates that Russian veterinary authorities are responding to an outbreak of pasteurellosis and rabies among cattle in Siberia, particularly in the Novosibirsk region. According to regional reporting, authorities have identified disease hotspots and implemented quarantine and sanitary controls. Veterinary officials report that infected animals are being culled and movement controls imposed to prevent spread, leading to widespread protests and pleas to the Russian government to appropriately compensate farmers and small shareholders for their losses. It is reported that the Russian government is providing 170 rubles (\$2.09) per kilogram of culled animals.

Separate reporting indicates that these measures have escalated into large-scale livestock seizures and culling in multiple areas. According to local news and social media posts, authorities have justified these actions by citing disease control measures, with one report noting that “outbreaks of pasteurellosis and suspected cases of rabies are cited as the official justification.” Local reporting suggests the scale of culling may be significant, with tens of thousands of animals reportedly removed from farms in early March as veterinary services attempt to contain the outbreak.

Rumors Swirl in Russia and the Region

FAS/Astana’s (Post) contacts, however, report that Russian authorities may actually be responding to an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) rather than pasteurellosis. These contacts claim Moscow has taken precautionary steps consistent with FMD containment, including halting exports of livestock, dairy products, feed, hides, and hunting trophies from several key regions to the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) and “third countries”. While these claims remain unconfirmed by official Russian sources, the scale of culling and reported movement restrictions appear atypical for routine pasteurellosis management, which would typically be dealt with through quarantine and medication administration.

In addition to Russia’s export restrictions, on February 11, 2026, Kazakhstan’s Veterinary Control and Supervision Committee imposed temporary restrictions on imports of live animals, meat, dairy products, raw materials and products of animal origin without heat treatment, and animal feed from several regions of Russia¹. The list of restricted Russian regions was expanded on February 24, 2026², and the overall import ban remains in place as of this report.

Monitoring and Evaluation

According to the World Organization for Animal Health, Russia has been FMD-free since 2025. Post has been monitoring regional outbreaks of FMD beginning summer 2025, however, in Turkiye,

¹ [Kazakhstan has imposed temporary restrictions on the import of agricultural products from several regions of Russia »](#)

² [Seven more regions of Russia were included in the prohibited list of Kazakhstan for the import of livestock and meat](#)

Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, and Cyprus. In 2024, USDA/APHIS conducted testing of Russian Anthrax vaccines sent to Kazakhstan and found them to be ineffective against the disease. Similarly, veterinarians in Russia that Post contacts have spoken with said that they believe that the FMD vaccines currently being used are also inadequate and perhaps even harmful to calves.

FAS/Astana will continue monitoring developments and coordinating with regional partners for additional information regarding potential trade implications and disease status in Russia. In 2025, Russia exported \$87 million in live cattle globally³, of which approximately \$7 million was sent to EAEU member states.

Attachments:

No Attachments

³ <https://interfax.com/newsroom/top-stories/116030/>