



FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK STANDSTILL

A national livestock standstill means all movement of farm stock that is susceptible to foot-and-mouth disease (see below) must stop as quickly as possible. This is needed in the early stages of a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak to reduce the spread of the disease and make it easier to manage.

Overseas experience with FMD outbreaks shows that getting a national livestock standstill in place as quickly as possible is crucial to the effectiveness of the response. In the case of a New Zealand outbreak, we would need to receive “country freedom” status from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) to restart international trade in animal products once the outbreak had been resolved. To grant this status, the OIE requires evidence of “rapid and structured” movement controls.

AFFECTED ANIMALS

A national livestock standstill applies to all movements of livestock that are susceptible to FMD. Susceptible animals include all wild and domestic cloven-hoofed animals, including:

- » **Cattle** (*Bos indicus* and *Bos Taurus*), **buffalo, sheep, goats** and other members of the family Bovidae.
- » **Deer** and other members of the family Cervidae.
- » **Pigs** and other members of the family Suidae.
- » All wild ruminants.

A national livestock standstill also applies to germplasm (livestock semen and other genetic material). Across the country, milk and milk product movements will continue, although there will be restrictions on the movement of milk in High Risk Controlled Areas.

AREA AFFECTED BY NATIONAL LIVESTOCK STANDSTILL

A national livestock standstill applies to **all of New Zealand** (excluding the Ross Dependency and other determined territories).

It affects **movements of susceptible livestock outside the boundaries of single continuous properties and all livestock in vehicles.**

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR LIVESTOCK

During a national livestock standstill, anyone responsible for livestock susceptible to FMD must comply with the following legal directives:

- » No movement of livestock is permitted outside the boundaries of a single continuous property without a permit from MPI.
- » All livestock movements already underway when a national livestock standstill is declared must be completed using a direct route without picking up or dropping off stock until the destination is reached.
- » Livestock movement logs must be collated by the operator and be available for MPI scrutiny within 24 hours of the movement.
- » Vehicles used for the transport of livestock must remain at the destination until disinfected under MPI direction.
- » Where possible, offloaded livestock should be isolated from existing stock on the destination property.
- » Any animal(s) must be made available for inspection and/or the collection of samples when directed by an inspector or authorised person appointed under the Biosecurity Act 1993.

DEALING WITH LIVESTOCK IN TRANSIT

In general, livestock transporters who are mid-journey when a national livestock standstill is declared should go directly to the intended destination without picking up or unloading stock. The following directions apply to transporters in specific situations:

IF...	THEN...
The movement is to slaughter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proceed to the intended plant by a direct route without stopping and picking up or dropping off stock.
The movement is to a Cook Strait ferry terminal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop at the ferry terminal port of departure Phone the MPI helpline (below) Do not proceed until direction is given
The animals are on board a Cook Strait ferry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop at the ferry terminal on arrival Phone the MPI helpline Do not proceed until direction is given
The movement is to a saleyard or show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to property of origin – if all animals are from one source property. Continue to saleyard or show if the animals are a mixed consignment.
The movement is from a saleyard or show	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Return to the saleyard or show venue. Phone MPI helpline.
The movement cannot be completed without creating work safety or animal welfare issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stop at a safe location Phone the MPI helpline Do not proceed until direction is given
An entire consignment is from one property of origin and that property is much closer than the destination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The driver may return to place of origin. The movement must be by direct route without picking up or dropping off stock.

In an outbreak, if you are unsure of what action to take, contact company management (transporters) or ring the MPI Hotline 0800 80 99 66.

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE FACTS

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is caused by a virus and is one of the most contagious animal diseases. It can affect a very large number of animals – all cloven-hoofed animals are susceptible. This includes cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and deer. Common symptoms of the disease include blisters and sores in the mouth and on the feet, and lameness.

While it is not often fatal, it can have significant effects on production, particularly decreasing dairy production.

Foot-and-mouth disease has the potential to spread rapidly and can affect large geographical areas in very short timeframes. The virus can be transmitted by direct contact between animals and also on objects (such as hands, footwear, clothing or vehicles). It can also be carried by wind, leading to other outbreaks. Calves and pigs drinking contaminated milk or pigs eating contaminated untreated meat are other ways animals can become infected. During a national livestock standstill, raw milk shouldn't be fed to calves and pigs from another farm. By the time FMD is confirmed, animals have usually been infected for several days and the virus may already be widely spread.

The expected impact of FMD on our animal production and related sectors is dramatic with a halt on exports of meat, dairy products and other animal by-products.



**For further information, go to the MPI website www.mpi.govt.nz
MPI Pest and Disease Hotline 0800 80 99 66.**