

Foot and Mouth Disease

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious and sometimes fatal viral disease of cloven-hoofed animals, including cattle, sheep, goats and pigs. Other species that may be affected include, bison, elk, deer, alpacas, and llamas.



Signs and Symptoms

- Sores, ulcers and blisters on feet, snout, tongue, nose, lips, teats and in the mouth
- Excessive salivation and smacking of lips
- Tender and sore feet with vesicles and ulcers where the hoof joins the skin

Report any unusual signs to your veterinarian immediately.

Biosecurity Measures

- Restrict visitor access to animals, especially those that may have recently travelled overseas
- Record movement of people, animals and equipment on and off farms and ranches
- Isolate new animals and replacements for at least 14 days before introducing them into the herd
- Anyone leaving a farm to attend another farm or an event where livestock are present should, as a matter of routine, ensure that footwear and clothing they wear has been properly cleaned and disinfected prior to departure and prior to returning home
- Ensure staff - particularly those hired on a seasonal basis - are familiar with principles of biosecurity and protocols in place on the farm or ranch

Foot and Mouth Disease can devastate an industry.

Early detection and response are key to minimizing economic impact.

For More Information

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