

**TITLE/SUBJECT:**

Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and other livestock diseases

**Type:** Biosecurity Hazard

**LOCATION**

Any proposed entry to non-ARTC farmland.

While relevant to all ARTC staff and contractors, the advice in this Safety and Environment Flash is particularly relevant for any returning travellers from Indonesia.

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION**

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a serious and highly contagious animal disease that affects all cloven-hoofed animals including cattle, sheep, goats, camelids, deer and pigs. FMD does not affect humans and cannot be transmitted to humans by eating affected meat.

FMD virus is carried by live animals and in meat and dairy products, as well as in soil, bones, untreated hides, vehicles and equipment used with these animals. It can also be carried on people's clothing and footwear and survive in frozen, chilled and freeze-dried foods (Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, 2022).

In May 2022, an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) was reported in Indonesia. Spread of this outbreak into Bali was confirmed in July 2022 and is the closest the disease has come to Australian shores.

The potential spread of FMD and other livestock diseases (such as Lumpy Skin Disease) in Australia poses a risk to many livestock producers within close proximity to the ARTC network. The Australian Government has advised producers to have biosecurity plans in place to minimise risk of disease incursion on their farms and ARTC have an environmental and social responsibility to assist in the prevention of the spread of livestock diseases.



## ACTION REQUIRED

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- Prior to entering farmland for any reason, contact should be made with the landowner or land manager to find out whether a biosecurity plan is in place for their property. Contact with landowners should be made through existing ARTC access request processes only (e.g., through the local Property team).
- Note: For Hunter Valley - Community Alerts in ARTC Map can provide further direction.
- All relevant aspects of biosecurity plans for neighbouring farmland should be implemented by ARTC staff or contractors when accessing these areas to prevent the spread of disease to property and livestock.
- Any signage put up by a neighbouring landholder that relates to biosecurity directions should be followed.
- Any ARTC staff or contractors that have recently travelled to Indonesia should inform their ARTC manager.
- It is recommended that people who have been in contact with FMD-infected animals or infected areas DO NOT visit Australian farms, livestock facilities, or handle livestock for at least 7 days after returning to Australia (NSW Department of Primary Industries, May 2022; Agriculture Victoria, 2022).

ARTC continues to review internal processes based on Government advice. Any changes to ARTC processes will be communicated when available and supported by your local Environment & Community team.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your local Environment & Community team member.

## RESOURCES

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- [Foot-and-mouth disease - DAFF \(agriculture.gov.au\)](https://agriculture.gov.au)
- [Foot and mouth disease \(nsw.gov.au\)](https://nsw.gov.au)
- [Foot-and-mouth disease and lumpy skin disease detected in Indonesia – Biosecurity advisory | Foot-and-mouth disease | Animal diseases | Biosecurity | Agriculture Victoria](#)
- [Foot and mouth disease - PIRSA](#)
- [Foot-and-mouth disease: prevention and preparedness | Agriculture and Food](#)