Foot and mouth: restrictions on fresh beef from Botswana

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Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2026/451 as regards the entries for Botswana in the list of third countries or territories, or zones thereof authorised for the entry into the Union of consignments of fresh meat of certain ungulates

What is changing and why?

An outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) was confirmed in Botswana's Maitengwe region (Control zone 3c) on 13 February 2026. The European Union (EU) has suspended the possibility of exporting beef slaughtered and certified after 29 January 2026 from Botswana's Maitengwe zone to the EU, to protect the EU from the potential spread of FMD.

Actions

Botswana is not authorised to export beef from the Maitengwe zone (zone 3c) that has been certified after 29 January 2026. To be re-authorised, Botswana will need to demonstrate that FMD is eradicated in that zone. There are still four zones of Botswana that can continue to export beef to the EU.

Timeline

No consignments of fresh beef slaughtered and certified after **29 January 2026** will be accepted from this zone.

Consignments certified before 29 January 2026 are permitted onto the EU market until 29 April 2026.

For more information see the full record on the AGRINFO website – where you can also view the latest AGRINFO Update newsletters and search the database.

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