

What Should You Do?

If you should see any of these lesions or signs, call your veterinarian or county agricultural commissioner right away!

There are quite a few other illnesses or conditions that can look like foot and mouth disease, such as foot rot, grass awns or a relatively common disease called vesicular stomatitis. Only special testing done by government veterinarians can tell if it is truly FMD.

Important Phone Numbers

Veterinarian

Cooperative Extension Farm Advisor

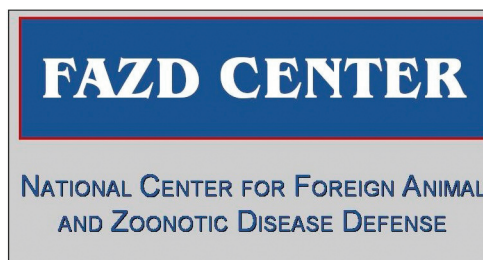
County Agricultural Commissioner

For more information about FMD visit the Veterinary Medicine Extension Web site:

www.vetmed.ucdavis.edu/vetext/home.html

For additional pictures of FMD lesions in all major species:

www.defra.gov.uk/footandmouth/pdf/ageing-lesions.pdf



How You Can Protect American Agriculture...

Foot and Mouth Disease Watch



What Is Foot and Mouth Disease?

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious disease of livestock that affects animals with cloven hooves such as pigs, cattle, sheep and goats. It does not affect horses or donkeys. It is not contagious to people.

Foot and mouth disease has not been seen in North America since the 1920s. However, there is great concern that it could appear again, either by being brought into the country accidentally or on purpose by those who would like to harm the United States.

Why Does It Matter?

Foot and mouth disease is so contagious that if an outbreak were not immediately stamped out, it would quickly spread from county to county and from state to state.

This would result in tremendous problems not only at the county level, but for our entire country. All movement of livestock and animal products would cease due to quarantine. Local and regional markets as well as support industries would be affected, resulting in the failure of some businesses. Large numbers of animals would have to be destroyed and disposed of.

In addition, the United States would not be able to market its beef, lamb or pork products to its international trading partners until it could be proven that the disease was completely stamped out. The economic impact would be devastating.

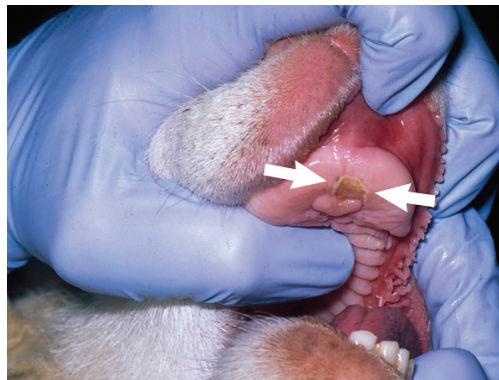
Can FMD be Prevented?

The best way to prevent a foot and mouth disease epidemic is for everyone to know what the early signs look like and call the proper authorities if they suspect the disease is present in their animals.

Signs of FMD

Foot and mouth disease makes both the feet and mouths of livestock painful.

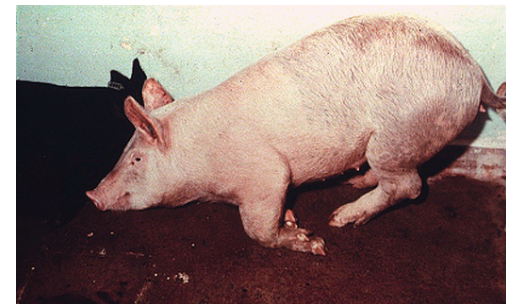
However, the amount of discomfort depends on which type of animal is affected. Swine and cattle rapidly become very painful, whereas sheep and goats may show very few signs of illness. In fact, the disease in sheep or goats can be easily overlooked unless you look at your animals very carefully.



Sore in sheep's mouth

Sheep and Goats

- May not show any signs of being sick at all
- Might have a fever or look dull
- Might show mild lameness or be reluctant to get up
- Nursing lambs may die without showing any signs of being sick



Pig with sore feet

Swine

- Fever, loss of appetite
- Don't want to move, or squeal when forced to move
- Young piglets may die without showing any signs of being sick

Cattle

- Fever, dullness, shivering, loss of appetite
- Drooling or slobbering, runny nose
- Lameness or kicking the feet
- Young calves may die without showing any signs of being sick



Drooling cow