

What Should You Do?

If you see any of these signs, tell your parents, and have them call your veterinarian right away! He or she will examine your animal and will decide whether or not it looks like FMD. There are quite a few other illnesses or conditions that can look like FMD, such as *foot rot or *grass awns. Only special testing done by a government veterinarian can tell if it is truly FMD.

Phone Number of My Veterinarian

Glossary:

- * **Contagious:** One animal can easily catch the disease from another animal.
- * **Viral:** any of a large group of submicroscopic organisms that reproduce only in living cells and are disease-producing in humans, animals, and plants.
- * **Cloven:** two toes, split hoof.
- * **Grass awns:** grass seeds that can get into the skin of an animal's foot or mouth and make them sore.
- * **Foot rot:** bacterial foot infection.

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



**Veterinary
Medicine
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**NATIONAL CENTER FOR FOREIGN ANIMAL
AND ZOOLOGIC DISEASE DEFENSE**



High School Producer

You Can Help

**Foot and Mouth
Disease Watch**



What Is Foot and Mouth Disease?

Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a very *contagious viral disease of farm animals. It is called "foot and mouth disease" because it causes painful sores on the feet and in the mouths of cattle, pigs, sheep, goats and other *cloven hoofed animals. It does not affect horses, donkeys, dogs, cats or people.

FMD has not been seen in North America for many years. But, many people are worried that it might appear again, either by being brought into the country accidentally or on purpose.

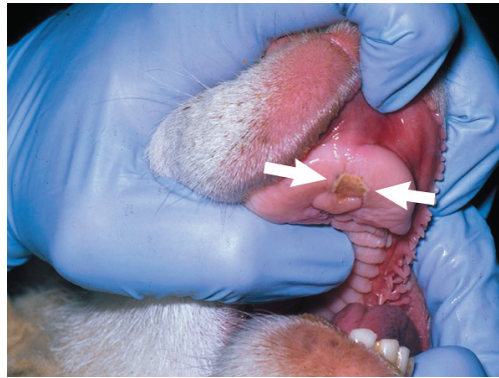
Why Does It Matter?

FMD is very *contagious! If it infects someone's animals and is not stopped right away, it could quickly spread from farm to farm—even state to state. This would cause many problems for your area and the whole country. Many animals would have to be destroyed, and some farms would go out of business. The United States could not sell its meat, milk or cheese to any other country until we could prove that FMD was completely gone.

Can FMD be Prevented?

The best way to keep the disease from spreading fast is for everyone to know what the early signs look like in their own animals. FMD makes both the feet and mouths of livestock sore, but the amount of soreness depends on which kind of animal is affected. Pigs and cattle get very sore, but sheep and goats may hardly be sore at all. In fact, people might not even notice that a sheep or goat is affected. They would have to look at their animals very carefully.

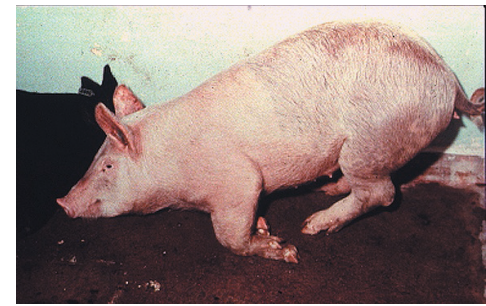
Signs of FMD



Sore in sheep's mouth

Sheep and Goats

- May not look sick
- Might have a fever or look dull
- Might show mild lameness or be unwilling to get up
- Nursing lambs may die without acting sick



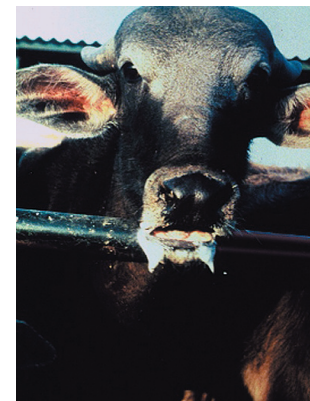
Pig with sore feet

Swine

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

Cattle

- Fever, dullness, shivering, loss of appetite
- Drooling or slobbering, runny nose
- Lameness or kicking the feet
- Young calves may die without looking or acting sick



Drooling cow