

PARLIAMENT OF THE PROVINCE OF THE WESTERN CAPE

QUESTION PAPER

WRITTEN REPLY

Note: * Indicates translated version.

FRIDAY, 30 MAY 2025

11. Mr N P Masipa to ask Dr I H Meyer, Minister of Agriculture, Economic Development and Tourism:

- (1) (a) How many cloven-hoofed animals are currently raised as livestock in the province broken down by (i) sheep, (ii) cattle, (iii) pigs and (iv) goats, (b) what is the estimated total market value of each livestock type and (c) what proportion of these animals are estimated for (i) domestic and (ii) export markets;
- (2) whether his Department observed any changes or disruptions in the marketability or export clearance of cloven-hoofed livestock or related products as a result of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreaks in other provinces; if so, (a) what are the relevant details and (b) what sectors or products have been most affected;
- (3) (a) what surveillance or early-detection measures are currently in place in the province to monitor FMD among cloven-hoofed livestock and (b) how frequently are inspections or testing conducted?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

1. (a) (i); (ii); (iii); (iv)

Species	Estimated numbers	Domestic slaughter
Sheep	2 311 221	1 449 439 (sheep/goats)
Cattle	672 257	125 874
Pigs	203 457	673 825
Goats	211 404	

- (b) In the first quarter of 2025, the WC recorded:

Species	Estimated Market Value
Sheep	R 400 039 000
Cattle	R70 700 000
Goats	R 70 012 000

- (c) (i) it is 92% for goats ; 95% for sheep and 87% for cattle
(ii) it is 8% for goats ; 5% for sheep and 13% for cattle

2. Yes, the Department has observed significant changes and disruptions in the marketability and export clearance of cloven-hoofed livestock and related products as a result of the Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) outbreaks in other provinces.

(a) The primary impacts have been:

- A closure of several key markets for fresh meat exports, as importing countries have imposed bans or enhanced restrictions on South African products from affected zones, in accordance with the WOA (World Organisation on Animal Health) Terrestrial Animal Health Code.
- A notable increase in the requirements for animal feed exports, with many importing markets now requiring detailed certification to confirm the absence of FMD and compliance with biosecurity standards.
- An overall increase in verification processes, with a surge in the number of certificates issued for control purposes. This has placed significant strain on the capacity of the veterinary services, particularly as verification now needs to extend to farm level. Unfortunately, South Africa's current traceability systems for animals are still under development and are not yet operational or comprehensive enough to fully address traceability and biosecurity compliance needs, which are crucial under international trade regulations.

(b) The sectors most affected have been:

- Fresh meat exports, due to outright market closures and new certification requirements.
- Animal feed exports, which now face stricter controls and enhanced certification demands.

Furthermore, importing countries have raised concerns about the competence and integrity of South Africa's Veterinary Services due to the FMD outbreaks and perceived inadequacies in disease control and traceability systems. This has led to a broader questioning of the reliability of South Africa's Veterinary Certification System, which is essential for maintaining market access and trade in animal products.

- (3) (a) The Department is currently implementing FMD active targeted surveillance which is a National Surveillance Programme aimed towards recommending some

area of South Africa to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) as declared FMD free zones.

The Department has implemented several surveillance and early-detection measures for Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) in cloven-hoofed livestock, consistent with the national guidelines issued by the Department of Agriculture (DoA) and aligned with WOAH standards. This includes an undertaking that animals will be isolated on the farm of destination for at least 28 days before being introduced to the main herd. In addition to national measures, the Western Cape has introduced a notification system for all movements of cloven-hoofed animals into the province, which is publicly accessible via the Department's website. This allows for improved risk profiling and targeted surveillance at entry points.

Furthermore, biosecurity officers are deployed at all livestock auctions within the province, in line with national guidelines, to oversee compliance with biosecurity protocols and monitor for signs of FMD and other transboundary animal diseases as scheduled in Biosecurity Rules for Livestock Agents and set out under section 10(b) of the Agricultural Produce Agents Act, 1992, (Act No. 12 of 1992) ("the Act"). The role of Auction Biosecurity Offices is anchored by regular presence of Animal Health Technicians at the auctions.

Animal Health officials continue with monitoring livestock transporters at the main entry points and weighbridges.

- (b) All registered abattoirs in the province operate under independent meat inspection assignees, with every animal undergoing individual ante-mortem inspection, which includes checks for clinical signs consistent with FMD. These inspections are conducted by trained personnel under the supervision of State Veterinarians, in accordance with the Meat Safety Act.

Surveillance and inspection frequency is generally risk-based, but constrained by the broader limitations in staffing and traceability infrastructure. South Africa's National Livestock Identification and Traceability System (NLITS) is still under development and not yet implemented at scale. This continues to pose a challenge for comprehensive disease surveillance, rapid response, and certification for export.

In summary, while the Western Cape has taken proactive steps to enhance disease detection and control, including additional movement controls and biosecurity enforcement, the overall capacity to detect and respond to FMD outbreaks is still limited by the absence of a fully functional national traceability system and movement control, and the compliance with standard biosecurity measures. This

impacts both internal disease management and the confidence of export markets in veterinary certification and compliance.

Vrydag, 30 Mei 2025]

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No 9 - 2025] TWEEDE SESSIE, SEWENDE PARLEMENT

**PARLEMENT VAN DIE
PROVINSIE VAN DIE
WES-KAAP**

VRAELYS

SKRIFTELIKE BEANTWOORDING

Nota: * Dui vertaalde weergawe aan.

VRYPDAG, 30 MEI 2025

***11. Mnr N P Masipa vra dr I H Meyer, Minister van Landbou, Ekonomiese Ontwikkeling en Toerisme:**

- (4) (a) Hoeveel spleethoewige diere tans as vee in die provinsie geteel word, ingedeel volgens (i) skape, (ii) beeste, (iii) varke en (iv) bokke, (b) wat die beraamde totale markwaarde vir elke veesoort is en (c) watter proporsie van hierdie diere vir (i) plaaslike en (ii) uitvoermarkte beraam word;
- (5) of sy Departement enige veranderings of onderbrekings in die bemarkbaarheid of uitvoergoedkeuring van spleethoewige vee of verwante produkte as gevolg van die uitbreking van bek-en-klouseer (BK) in ander provinsies opgemerk het; so ja, (a) wat die tersaaklike besonderhede is en (b) watter sektore of produkte die meeste geraak is;
- (6) (a) watter waarnemings- of vroeëopsporingsmaatreëls tans in die provinsie in plek is om BK onder spleethoewige vee te monitor en (b) hoe gereeld inspeksies of toetse gedoen word?

MINISTER VAN LANDBOU, EKONOMIESE ONTWIKKELING EN TOERISME:

1. (a) (i); (ii); (iii); (iv)

Species	Estimated numbers	Domestic slaughter
Sheep	2 311 221	1 449 439 (sheep/goats)
Cattle	672 257	125 874

Pigs	203 457	673 825
Goats	211 404	

(b) in die eerste kwartaal van 2025, het die volgende record.

Species	Estimated Value	Market
Sheep	R 400 039 000	
Cattle	R70 700 000	
Goats	R 70 012 000	

(c) (i) dit is 92% vir bokke ; 95% vir skape en 87% for beeste

(ii) dit is 8% vir bokke; 5% vir skape en 13% vir beeste

- (2) (a) Ja, die Departement het beduidende veranderinge en ontwrigtings in die bemarkbaarheid en uitvoerklaring van gesplete hoofvee en verwante produkte waargeneem as gevolg van die bek-en-klouseer (BKS)-uitbrake in ander provinsies.

Die primêre impakte was:

- 'n Sluiting van verskeie sleutelmarkte vir die uitvoer van vars vleis, aangesien invoerlande verbod of verhoogde beperkings op Suid-Afrikaanse produkte uit geaffekteerde sones ingestel het, in ooreenstemming met die WOA (Wêreldorganisasie vir Diergesondheid) se Gesondheidskode vir Terrestriale Diere.
 - 'n Merkbare toename in die vereistes vir die uitvoer van dierevoer, met baie invoermarkte wat nou gedetailleerde sertifisering vereis om die afwesigheid van bek-en-klouseer en voldoening aan biosekuriteitstandaarde te bevestig.
 - 'n Algehele toename in verifikasieprosesse, met 'n toename in die aantal sertifikate wat vir beheerdoeleindes uitgereik word. Dit het aansienlike druk op die kapasiteit van die veeartsenykundige dienste geplaas, veral omdat verifikasie nou tot op plaasvlak moet uitbrei. Ongelukkig is Suid-Afrika se huidige naspeurbaarheidstelsels vir diere steeds onder ontwikkeling en is dit nog nie operasioneel of omvattend genoeg om ten volle aan die naspeurbaarheids- en biosekuriteitsnakomingsbehoefte te voldoen nie, wat van kritieke belang is onder internasionale handelsregulasies.
- (b) • Vars vleisuitvoere, as gevolg van algehele marksluitings en nuwe sertifiseringsvereistes.
- Uitvoere van dierevoer, wat nou strenger beheermaatreëls en verhoogde sertifiseringsvereistes in die gesig staar.

Verder het invoerlande kommer uitgespreek oor die bevoegdheid en integriteit van Suid-Afrika se Veeartsenykundige Dienste as gevolg van die bek-en-klouseer-uitbrake en vermeende tekortkominge in siektebeheer- en naspeurbaarheidstelsels. Dit het gelei tot 'n breër bevraagtekening van die betroubaarheid van Suid-Afrika se

Veeartsenykundige Sertifiseringstelsel, wat noodsaaklik is vir die handhawing van marktoegang en handel in diereprodukte.

- (3)(a) • Die Departement implementeer tans aktiewe, geteikende toesig teen Bek-en-Klouseer, wat 'n nasionale toesigprogram is wat daarop gemik is om 'n sekere gebied van Suid-Afrika by die Wêreldorganisasie vir Dieregesondheid (WOAH) aan te beveel as verklaarde bek-en-klouseer-vrye sones.
- Die Departement het verskeie toesig- en vroeë opsporingsmaatreëls vir Bek-en-Klouseer (BKS) in gesplete hoefdiere geïmplementeer, in ooreenstemming met die nasionale riglyne wat deur die Nasionale Departement van Landbou (NDA) uitgereik is en in lyn is met WOAHS-standaarde. Dit sluit 'n onderneming in dat diere vir ten minste 28 dae op die plaas van bestemming geïsoleer sal word voordat hulle by die hoofkudde ingebring word. Benewens nasionale maatreëls, het die Wes-Kaap 'n kennisgewingstelsel ingestel vir alle bewegings van gesplete hoefdiere na die provinsie, wat publiek toeganklik is via die Departement se webwerf. Dit maak voorsiening vir verbeterde risikoprofilering en geteikende toesig by toegangspunte.

Verder word biosekuriteitsbeamptes by alle veeveilings binne die Provinsie ontplooi, in ooreenstemming met nasionale riglyne, om toesig te hou oor die nakoming van biosekuriteitsprotokolle en te monitor vir tekens van Bek-en-Klouseer en ander grensverspreidende diersiektes soos geskeduleer in die Biosekuriteitsreëls vir Vee-agente en uiteengesit kragtens artikel 10(b) van die Wet op Landbouprodukte-agente, 1992, (Wet Nr. 12 van 1992) (“die Wet”). Die rol van veilingsbiosekuriteitskantore word geanker deur die gereelde teenwoordigheid van Dieregesondheidstegnici by die veilings.

- Dieregesondheidsbeamptes gaan voort met die monitering van veevervoerders by die hooftoegangspunte en weegbrûe.
- (b) Die vleisinspeksiespanne by elke abattoir in die Wes-Kaap provinsie is ingelig en opletterend om enige verdagte letsels vir bek-en-klouseer op te spoor tydens beide anti-mortem- en post-mortem-vleisinspeksies. Dit dien as uitgebreide, provinsiale toesig vir enige bek-en-klouseer-uitbrake wat moontlik onopgespoor word by lewende diere.

Alle geregistreerde slagpale in die provinsie werk onder onafhanklike vleisinspeksie-opdragte, met elke dier wat individuele voordoodse inspeksie ondergaan, wat kontroles vir kliniese tekens insluit wat ooreenstem met bek-en-klouseer. Hierdie inspeksies word uitgevoer deur opgeleide personeel onder toesig van staatsveeartsenykundiges, in ooreenstemming met die Wet op Vleisveiligheid.

Die frekwensie van toesig en inspeksies is oor die algemeen risikogebaseerd, maar word beperk deur die breër beperkings in personeel- en

naspeurbaarheidsinfrastruktuur. Suid-Afrika se Nasionale Vee-identifikasie- en naspeurbaarheidstelsel (NLITS) is steeds onder ontwikkeling en nog nie op skaal geïmplementeer nie. Dit bly 'n uitdaging vir omvattende siektemonitoring, vinnige reaksie en sertifisering vir uitvoer.

Kortliks, terwyl die Wes-Kaap proaktiewe stappe geneem het om siekteopsporing en -beheer te verbeter, insluitend bykomende bewegingsbeheer en biosekuriteitsafdwinging, word die algehele kapasiteit om Bek-en-Klouseer-uitbrake op te spoor en daarop te reageer steeds beperk deur die afwesigheid van 'n ten volle funksionele nasionale naspeurbaarheidstelsel en bewegingsbeheer, en die nakoming van standaard biosekuriteitsmaatreëls. Dit beïnvloed beide interne siektebestuur en die vertroue van uitvoermarkte in veeartsenykundige sertifisering en nakoming.