

# MINISTRY OF AGRO INDUSTRY AND FOOD SECURITY

## Communiqué

### New Protocol for the movement of cattle from Rodrigues to Mauritius

Private companies involved in the sale and processing of meat and meat products, Butcher's associations and importers of cattle having appropriate holding isolation facilities, are hereby informed that as from **01 June 2024** and until further notice, they will be allowed to move cattle from Rodrigues to Mauritius subject to the following conditions:

#### In Rodrigues

- a) the animals should be identified by way of microchipping or tagging;
- b) all animals should be vaccinated against Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD);
- c) all animals should be bled by the Veterinary Officers of the Commission for Agriculture of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and blood samples tested against FMD;
- d) only animals which have been tested negative against FMD virus should be allowed to be moved unless deboning of carcasses is carried out at the abattoir of the Mauritius Meat Authority (MMA);
- e) the farms and animal breeders from which the animals originate should be indicated in the Veterinary certificate issued by the Veterinary services of Rodrigues;
- f) on the day of the shipment, the animals should be clinically healthy and should not show any signs of infectious diseases;
- g) the crates/containers carrying the animals should be disinfected with an approved disinfectant having virucidal effect and same should be mentioned in the Veterinary certificate;
- h) any female cattle, goat and sheep intended to be moved to Mauritius for slaughter should be tested non-pregnant; and
- i) the next movement permit would be issued only after the livestock moved to Mauritius under the previous one has been slaughtered by the MMA.

## Upon arrival in Mauritius

### 1) Live animals to be used to supply the market with fresh meat

- a) the animals should be transported directly from the port to the premises of the MMA;
- b) the animals should be slaughtered as soon as possible and the carcasses subject to maturation at a temperature ranging between +2 degrees Celsius and + 4 degrees Celsius for a minimum of 24 hours and a maximum of 48 hours;
- c) the major lymphatic nodes should be removed from the carcasses;
- d) the MMA should put in place adequate biosecurity measures to mitigate the risk of spread of FMD virus from its premises; and
- e) chilled rooms, other than the MMA, used for maturation of carcasses should be approved by the Livestock and Veterinary Division (LVD).

### 2) Live animals to be used for slaughter for religious festivals as specified in the Second Schedule of the National Agricultural Products Regulatory Office Act 2013

- a) the animals should be tested negative before being shipped;
- b) the animals should be isolated at isolation facilities approved by the LVD; and
- c) the animals should be slaughtered at designated places approved by the LVD.

All applications for above-mentioned purposes should be made on the prescribed form within the prescribed delay to the Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary and Trade Unit of the Livestock and Veterinary Division of the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security, Reduit.

The Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary and Trade Unit may be contacted on phone numbers *454 1016* and *454 1017*.

**Date: 31 May 2024**