

samples together with a report on all clinical findings shall be submitted to the laboratory for testing.²⁴

3.4.7 BIOSECURITY

Biosecurity is the prevention of disease causing agents entering or leaving a livestock premises or area. It involves a number of measures and protocols designed to prevent potential disease causing agents being spread from one area to another. Biosecurity measures include disinfection (at disease control fence gates) of vehicles and people travelling from FMD high risk areas (red zones) into the FMD free zones with no vaccination (green zones). Trucks, market places, and loading ramps – in or over which infected animals may have travelled are a disease risk and are therefore properly cleansed and disinfected. The DVS also carries out disinfection at ports of entry along the borders with countries with high risk as a precautionary measure to prevent FMD introduction into the country.²⁵

3.5 PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

The DVS regularly educates farmers and members of public on FMD control as well as on their responsibilities and measures to take during disease outbreaks. Such education is conducted through newspaper, radio and television broadcasts, kgotla meetings, workshops and seminars. FMD awareness campaign is also incorporated in the extension services provided by the Ministry of Agriculture. This education strives to encourage farmers to always remain alert and report suspected cases of FMD to the Veterinary Officers or the nearest Police Stations for immediate action.²⁶

²⁴ FMD Surveillance Plan for 2013

²⁵ FMD contingency Plans for Botswana

²⁶ Interviews with DVS Technical staff