

Foot and mouth disease (FMD)

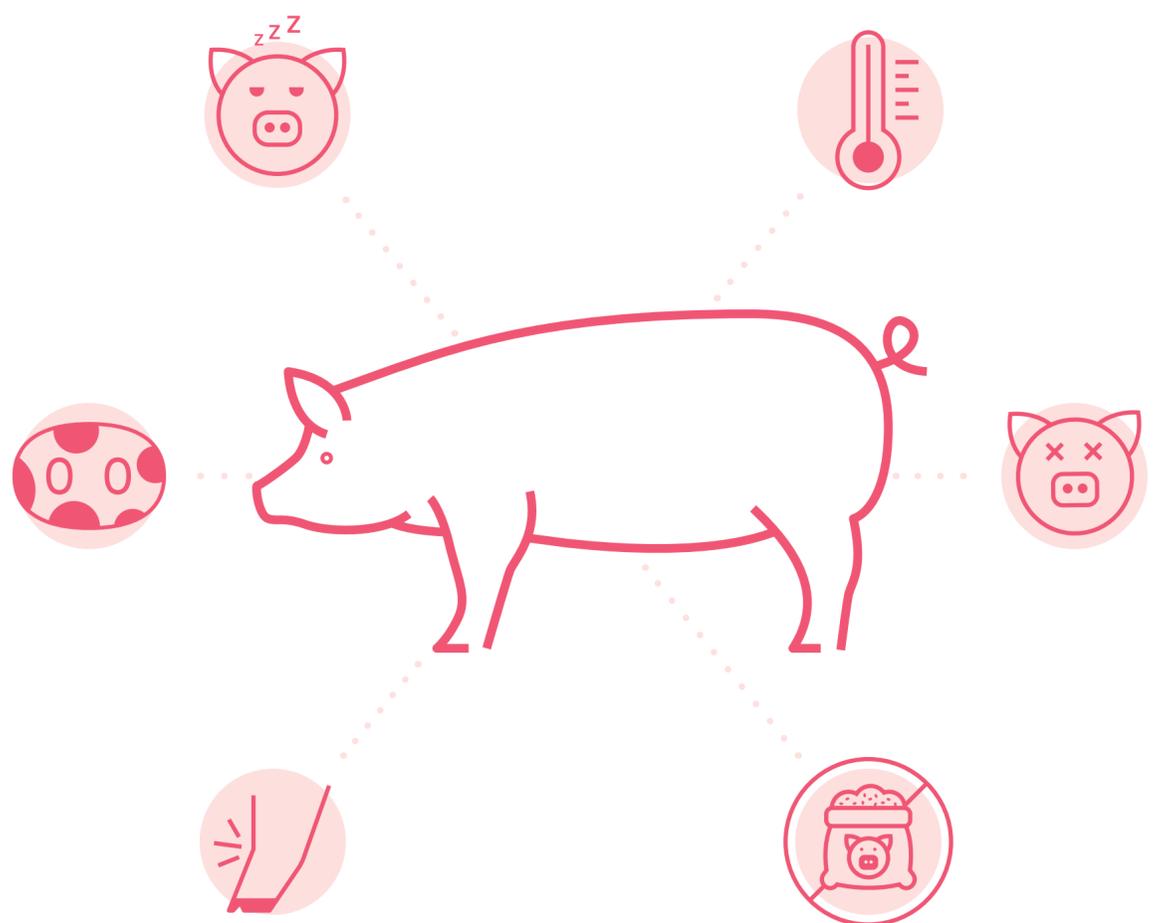
Foot and mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious disease which affects pigs and other cloven-hoofed animals including cattle, sheep, goats, camelids, and deer. It causes lesions and lameness in affected pigs, and while there are vaccines against it, they will not be made available until or unless FMD arrives in Australia.



AUSTRALIAN
Pork

It cannot infect humans, and is not the same as hand, foot, and mouth disease which is common in children. As such, FMD is not a human health or food safety risk.

It can be spread directly from affected animal to affected animal through fluids (including saliva, faeces, urine, semen, milk, and fluid from ruptured blisters). It can also be spread by the consumption of infected meat (swill feeding), contaminated syringes, and through contaminated feed, water, clothing, footwear, vehicles, equipment, and soil. Additionally, virus in an infected animal's exhaled air can be spread over several kilometres if it becomes windborne.



**EMERGENCY ANIMAL
DISEASE WATCH HOTLINE
1800 675 888**

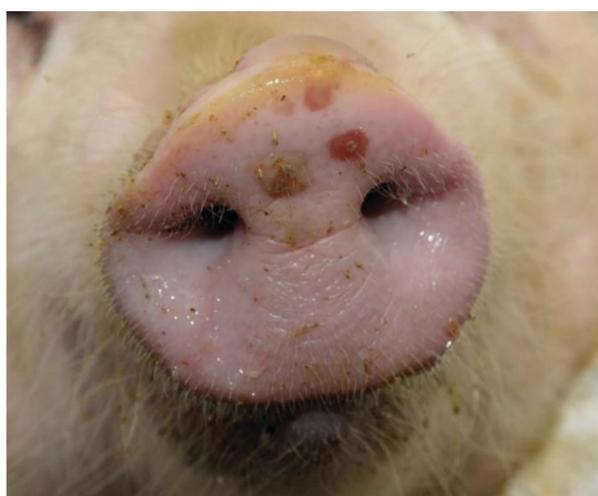
EAD Hotline

If you observe signs in your pigs, which could be related to an emergency animal disease like FMD, or are resulting in lots of deaths, then you should call your vet or the emergency animal disease watch hotline on **1800 675 888**.

A quick response to a disease incursion gives the industry the best chance to minimise its spread and impact.

Signs of FMD include:

- Blistering of the tongue, mouth, snout, hooves, or teats of recently-farrowed sows
- Lameness or reluctance to move
- Fever
- Abortion (in sows)
- Drooling
- Lack of appetite
- In severe cases - death



If FMD was detected in pigs in Australia, it would trigger an emergency animal disease response, which is outlined in the AUSVETPLAN.

The response – designed to stop further spread of the disease – may involve a stock standstill, restricted access for feed trucks and other vehicles, and the destruction of pigs.