

MEDIA RELEASE

AFMA REAFFIRMS ITS ROLE IN SUPPORTING A SAFE AND RESILIENT FEED SUPPLY CHAIN AMID DISEASE OUTBREAKS

2 February 2026

The Animal Feed Manufacturers' Association (AFMA) acknowledges the significant pressure that the current outbreaks of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) and African Swine Fever (ASF) are placing on producers and the broader animal production value chain in South Africa.

While AFMA is not directly involved in on-farm disease management or veterinary control measures, the Association plays a critical role in supporting the industry through the promotion of a safe, responsible, and reliable animal feed supply chain.

"Disease outbreaks such as Foot-and-Mouth Disease and African Swine Fever affect the entire feed-to-food value chain," said Liesl Breytenbach, Executive Director of AFMA. "While AFMA is not involved in on-farm disease control, we have a direct responsibility to ensure that the feed manufacturing sector operates responsibly, with strong biosecurity and safety practices, and that we continue to support industry stability during challenging periods."

AFMA works closely with its members to promote strict biosecurity practices at feed manufacturing facilities, including the responsible handling of raw materials, controlled access to production sites, and the use of approved and vetted transport service providers, alongside adherence to food and feed safety standards. A well-managed feed supply chain is essential to maintaining continuity of production and limiting unnecessary risk during disease outbreaks.

The Association also supports ongoing collaboration across the value chain and with relevant authorities, recognising that effective disease control and industry resilience depend on coordinated action between producers, processors, regulators, and service providers.

AFMA stands in solidarity with affected producers and reaffirms its commitment to supporting the sustainability and stability of South Africa's animal feed and livestock sectors during this challenging period.

About AFMA

AFMA's vision is to be the dynamic animal feed thought leader, influencing food security through partnerships with all stakeholders. AFMA is the official representative of the formal animal feed manufacturing industry in South Africa, accounting for approximately 58% of national feed production. It plays a central role in regulatory development, feed safety oversight and training with a focus on creating a feed sector that is safe, smart, and sustainable.

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