

# Foot-and-mouth disease – pigs

Foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is a highly contagious disease which affects all cloven-hoofed animals including cattle, buffalo, pigs, sheep, deer, camelids (alpacas, llamas and camels) and goats. Australia is free from the disease.

## What are the signs of FMD?

Pigs affected by FMD may:

- show lameness (the main sign of FMD in pigs)
- lose their appetite
- have fever and depression
- have blisters along the top of the foot, on the heels and between the claws
- have sore feet (affected pigs prefer not to move)
- have blisters on the snout which rupture quickly
- have abortions (affected piglets usually die).

## How does FMD spread?

FMD spreads rapidly through close contact between animals as the virus is excreted in:

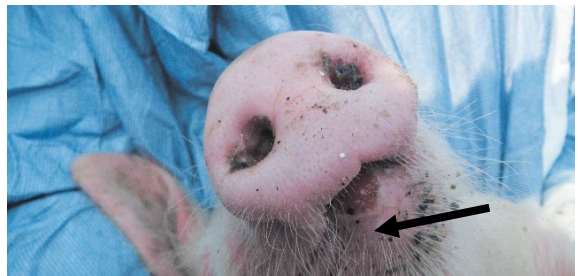
- breath
- saliva
- mucous
- milk
- faeces.

FMD virus can also spread through:

- animal products such as meat, bones, untreated hides and dairy products
- food scraps
- vehicles and equipment
- clothing and footwear
- wind.

## What do I do if I suspect FMD?

FMD is a notifiable disease. If you suspect the disease in your animals, you must report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888 or to your local vet.



Photos: European Commission for the Control of FMD and Department of Jobs, Skills, Industry and Regions (Victoria).