



Authorities confirm African swine fever in FS

African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreak have emerged in Bloemfontein and Botshabelo. PHOTO DUMELANGMEDIA

BLOEMFONTEIN - New confirmed cases of African Swine Fever outbreak have emerged in Bloemfontein and Botshabelo. This follows the outbreak of African Swine Fever from a farm in Koffiefontein, last month.

Test samples conducted by veterinary services have come out positive in areas such as Kagisanong, Mangaung, Nelisview and Botshabelo. In these areas not more than 500 pigs have died as a result ASF. Majority of these farms reported that they bought pigs from auctions held weekly in Bloemfontein.

The province recorded the first case of African Swine Fever on June 9, emanating from a farm

in Koffiefontein. Immediate disease control interventions were deployed. The farm was quarantined to restrict the movement of pigs and on neighbouring farms. As part of enhancing control measures, auction sites were instructed not to auction/sell pigs until further notice to prevent spread of disease.

A report of dead pigs in Philippolis town was received and will also be investigated. The department of Agriculture and Rural Development is working with other relevant departments such as Department of Small business development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs who will assist in spotting and shooting live pigs as

well as locating any carcasses in the river area.

All pigs sold at the auctions in the last 3 months will be traced and follow up investigations will be made.

Feeding of swill as prohibited by the Animal Diseases Act unless it is cooked to kill viruses that may be transmitted to pigs, has also been identified as possible route of infection where pigs were not introduced.

The department is urging pig owners to be very vigilant, particularly in areas surrounding the affected areas. Contact between wild pigs and domestic pigs should be avoided as the disease transmits between infected pigs.



CRIMEWATCH



Man in dock for shooting dad



BLOEMFONTEIN - The case of a 31-year-old man who was alleged to have shot his 54-year-old father at their home in Fauna, Bloemfontein, last Friday has been postponed. The accused appeared at the Bloemfontein Magistrate Court on Monday.

According to the police spokesperson Wendy Nkabe, the accused was arrested last Friday night in Bochabela, Bloemfontein by the Tactical Response Team (TRT).

Nkabe said that the accused allegedly shot his father on Friday morning after arguing with his father over his girlfriend. A heated confrontation between the accused and his father apparently ensued.

The alleged perpetrator has accused his father of having a romantic relationship with his girlfriend. Police said he fired four shots at their home and fled the scene in his father's van. Nkabe said the van was later found abandoned at a friend's house where he allegedly further fled on foot. Nkabe said that the suspect's gun was confiscated by police upon arrest and the accused then faced charges of attempted murder.

The accused's mother and girlfriend, who were at home when the incident happened, were not injured. Police said the suspect's father was rushed to Rosepark Hospital after he was grazed by a bullet on his head. The accused will re-appear on 18 July 2016.

Heater causes shack fire fatality

ROUXVILLE - The family of 25-year-old Mongezi Ncanani from Roeleleathunya in the Xhariep District are still grief stricken after their son burned to death in his shack in the early hours of the chilly morning of Saturday, 3 July.

The young man's cousin, Sisana Sello, said that the pain of the blow of such a loss was still fresh. "Its a very painful thing because although he was the last born, he was a breadwinner," she said.

Sello explained that the family was awoken by neighbours who broke windows and doors of the RDP in order to alert them to the inferno that had

engulfed the shack. "Unfortunately there was nothing that could be done to save his life," said the distraught Sello. Ward 4 councillor, Agnes Shasha, said that the municipality would assist with fixing the broken windows and doors.

"When we heard of the terrible misfortune we immediately went to see the family and will be assisting wherever necessary," she said.

According to police spokesperson, Colonel Roelfse, an inquest has been opened. "It is believed that the fire was caused by an electric heater that was not switched off," she said.



Mongezi Ncanani (25) lost his life when his shack went up in flames. PHOTO SUPPLIED



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