

EN

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Answer given by Mr Várhelyi
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.4.2026)

The Commission took the following necessary measures: monitor the foot and mouth disease (FMD); adopt immediate FMD regionalisation measures¹ and protect the EU internal market; ensure EU coordination²; after a request from Cyprus, the EU FMD antigen bank shipped vaccine doses to Cyprus³; provide support to all Member States, including training⁴ and dispatch the EU Veterinary Emergency Team⁵ on-site; regularly inform Member States and trading partners⁶ on the evolution of the epidemiological situation and maintain constant dialogue with trading partners to avoid unjustified trade bans.

EU co-financing of emergency veterinary measures is available under the Single Market Programme⁷. This includes costs related to the culling of animals on affected farms, compensating their owners, and cleaning and disinfecting the affected premises as well as the costs of purchase, storage and administration of vaccines⁸.

Under Article 73 of CAP Strategic Plans Regulation⁹, MS may support investments in restoration of agricultural production potential following animal disease outbreaks. Under Article 78a¹⁰, Member States may amend their plans to introduce crisis payments for farmers affected by animal diseases, subject to formal recognition of the outbreak and the applicable loss threshold. Cyprus implements an animal welfare intervention¹¹ which includes biosecurity measures in pig and ruminant holdings. The Commission may also adopt exceptional support measures to address trade restrictions arising from measures implemented to combat the spread of animal diseases.

¹ The Commission adopted Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2026/484 of 25 February 2026 concerning certain interim emergency measures relating to foot and mouth disease in Cyprus, http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec_impl/2026/484/oj.

² Through European Commission comitology as provided by the Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed: https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/committees/paff-committees_en.

³ https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/diseases-and-control-measures/foot-and-mouth-disease/support-cy_en.

⁴ Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) resources: <https://better-training-for-safer-food.ec.europa.eu/training/?lang=en>.

⁵ https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/veterinary-emergency-team_en.

⁶ https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/77095016-118f-4792-a0fc-4c89327c2d43_en?filename=ad_control-measures_fmd_chron-cyp.pdf.

⁷ <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/690/oj>.

⁸ https://food.ec.europa.eu/document/download/c1ed1748-1b55-4e7b-add0-b7eb41c65a3e_en?filename=cff_animal_emergency-measures_ah-ms-guidelines.pdf.

⁹ Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 2 December 2021 establishing rules on support for strategic plans to be drawn up by Member States under the common agricultural policy (CAP Strategic Plans) and financed by the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF) and by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2021/2115/oj>.

¹⁰ Regulation (EU) 2025/2649 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 December 2025 amending Regulation (EU) 2021/2115 and Regulation (EU) 2021/2116, <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/2649/oj>.

¹¹ In its CAP Strategic Plan 2023–2027, of a total public allocation of EUR 9.7 million.

These measures have been taken based on the current epidemiological situation and are regularly updated. Expected timeline for approval and disbursement will vary depending on the measures.