

## **KZN** dairy farmers and Agriculture Department join forces to tackle foot-and-mouth disease outbreak

https://iol.co.za/news/south-africa/kwazulu-natal/2025-07-21-kzn-dairy-farmers-and-agriculture-department-join-forces-to-tackle-foot-and-mouth-disease-outbreak/



KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development MEC Thembeni kaMadlopha-Mthethwa and Orange Grove Dairy CEO Dave Durham at Orange Grove Dairy in Dundee.

The KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) is forging relationships with dairy farmers during the foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak.

Similarly, to beef farmers, dairy farmers are equally concerned about the department's disease investigations for dairy cases that were recently reported in an uMzinyathi vaccinated herd and in uThukela.

KZN is one of South Africa's leading milk producers, thanks to its 16 major dairy factories, including Clover Industries Limited. This represents about 30% of all total raw milk produced in the country.

DARD MEC Thembeni kaMadlopha-Mthethwa held a solution-finding meeting with dairy producers at Orange Grove Dairy in Dundee.

Currently, the department is investigating FMD cases in three dairy farms in the uThukela and uMzinyathi districts. FMD clinical signs were seen on farms.

The 2021 FMD outbreak significantly impacted both communal and commercial beef farmers. Dairy farms had been spared FMD infections until recently in these districts. Veterinary services are conducting investigations following clinical signs of the disease.