

MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

P.O.Box M37, Accra Digital Address: GA-110-2082

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PRESS RELEASE

CONFIRMED CASE OF ANTHRAX IN THE UPPER EAST REGION

The Ministry of Food and Agriculture is confirming an Anthrax case in the Upper East Region of Ghana, following the outcome of sample analysis at the laboratory of the Veterinary Services Directorate.

Anthrax is a disease caused by a bacteria in livestock, and is transferable from animals to humans. The current case is limited to the Binduri district in the Upper East Region, with a high possibility of spreading to other areas.

To forestall the spread of the disease, the Ministry is announcing the following measures for public safety:

- 1. restricting the movement of animals within, into and out of the Binduri district;
- 2. mass vaccination of animals in the affected areas;
- 3. ban on the consumption of animals found dead from the affected areas.

The public is further advised to observe vigilance, purchase meat from only certified abattoirs and promptly report animal deaths to the nearest veterinary unit or health facility in the affected area.

All are advised to contact the following officers of the Veterinary Services Directorate for professional guidance in all suspected cases on this matter.

- a. Dr. Patrick Abakeh, Director, Veterinary Services Directorate, 0208240734
- b. Mr. Rachman Adongo, District Veterinary Officer, 0245124150
- c. Dr. Nii Aryeh, Regional Veterinary Officer, 0244542397, and
- d. Dr. Benjamin K. Sassu, Deputy Head, National Food Safety Laboratory, 0553339667

The Ministry is assuring the general public, that, it is taking all the necessary steps to contain the disease.

BRYAN ACHEAMPONG (MP) PhD
MINISTER

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