



GOVERNMENT OF SIERRA LEONE
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

PRESS RELEASE

THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SANITATION HEREBY REPORTS AN OUTBREAK OF ANTHRAX DISEASE AMONG ANIMALS IN PORT LOKO DISTRICT IN THE NORTH-WESTERN REGION OF SIERRA LEONE.

ANTHRAX IS A SERIOUS INFECTIOUS DISEASE THAT COMMONLY AFFECTS FARM, DOMESTIC AND WILD ANIMALS.

PEOPLE CAN GET SICK WITH ANTHRAX IF THEY COME IN CONTACT WITH INFECTED ANIMALS OR CONTAMINATED ANIMAL PRODUCTS. ANTHRAX CAN CAUSE SEVERE ILLNESS IN BOTH HUMANS AND ANIMALS. HOWEVER, IT IS A TREATABLE CONDITION.

IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, GOVERNMENT IS EVALUATING ITS OPTIONS TO INSTITUTE RESTRICTIONS ON THE PRODUCTION, PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS, MAINLY CATTLE, SHEEP AND GOATS.

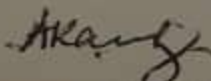
WHILE THAT COMPREHENSIVE SET OF RESTRICTIONS IS BEING CONSIDERED, THE MINISTRIES OF AGRICULTURE AND HEALTH AND SANITATION WOULD ADVISE MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO REPORT TO OFFICIALS OF THOSE TWO MINISTRIES ANY CASE OF SICK CATTLE, SHEEP AND GOATS IN THEIR HOUSEHOLD, NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY. AS OF NOW NO HUMAN CASE HAS BEEN CONFIRMED.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE WISH TO ADVISE ALL NOT TO TRY AND ADMINISTER TREATMENT ON THE SICK ANIMALS ON YOUR OWN OR EAT THEM OR THEIR PRODUCTS.

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AMB. ABU BAKARR KARIM
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

16TH MAY, 2022

END