BFDA/MoH/8.17/24-25/ ༩༤༢

17/02/25

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION

In reference to the notification MoAL/SEC-7/2024-2025/51 dated 09/02/2025 issued by the Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, the Bhutan Food and Drug Authority (BFDA) hereby informs the general public of a confirmed outbreak of African Swine Fever (ASF) in Zangkhaphug village, Tsento Gewog, Paro Dzongkhag on 8th February 2025.

The investigation team found out that the outbreak occurred due to feeding kitchen waste and food scraps collected from hotels and restaurants at Paro. Similarly, some of the previous outbreaks have also been linked to feeding kitchen waste to the pigs.

In line with these investigation findings, and in accordance with the section 81 of the Livestock Rules and Regulations of Bhutan 2017, the Authority hereby issues a mandatory directive to all pig farmers to immediately stop the feeding of kitchen waste or food scraps to their pigs. Additionally, Hoteliers, Resorts, and Restaurants are strongly urged to refrain from distributing kitchen waste and food scraps to livestock farmers. Such wastes must be properly disposed of.

As such, the livestock farmers and the Hoteliers, Resorts, Restaurants and other food businesses alike are requested to extend full cooperation in complying with this notification.

Non-compliance to this notification shall be dealt with in accordance with the Livestock Rules and Regulations of Bhutan 2017. The general public is requested to report any instances of non-compliances to the nearest BFDA office or toll-free number 1555 (BFDA).

This notification is issued for public awareness and strict compliance to prevent further ASF outbreaks.

DIRECTOR,
BFDA, MoH