

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

# GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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## Japan

**Post:** Tokyo

### Japan FMD Outbreak Situation Update

**Report Categories:**

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Livestock and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

On April 20, the government of Japan (GOJ) announced that it had found an animal infected with FMD (Foot and Mouth Disease) at a cattle farm in *Miyazaki* prefecture. As of May 13, GOJ has identified 76 cases of infected livestock farms and depopulated 78,800 thousand animals.

## **General Information:**

### **Author Defined:**

Status of the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Outbreak in Japan

On April 20, 2010, the government of Japan (GOJ) announced that it had found an animal infected with FMD (Foot and Mouth Disease) at a cattle farm in *Miyazaki* prefecture, one of the major cattle and hog producing areas in Japan (see table 1).

About 10 years ago, GOJ reported a brief period of FMD outbreaks that occurred in *Miyazaki* and *Hokkaido*. The current Miyazaki outbreak is quite alarming in its scale. As of today, GOJ has confirmed 76 cases of FMD at farms within the prefecture (May 12).

So far, the most affected areas have been limited to two specific locations within *Miyazaki* as detailed below. GOJ has identified 76 cases of infected livestock farms (45 cattle farms and 31 pig farms) and 78,800 thousand animals (6,272 head of cattle including 42 heads of buffalo and 72,528 head of pigs) that have been depopulated/or are about to be depopulated (buried and disinfected) in Miyazaki. The numbers are expected to increase further as GOJ continues to identify more infected farms within the area. There is a possibility that there will be cases identified outside the current area.

Currently the area where cases of FMD have been identified includes:

- *Kawaminami* city and the surrounding area (Central East): 73 cases reported. Kawaminami is about 80 – 100 kilometers away from *Kagoshima*, another major livestock producing prefecture).
- *Ebino* city (Central west): 3 cases reported. Ebino is fairly close to the prefectural border with *Kumamoto*, another major livestock producing prefecture.

Since the finding of the first case, strict quarantine measures have been put in place in the affected area. Movement of the livestock within a 10 kilometer radius from the infected farms has been strictly prohibited. Also, a shipment of livestock within a 10 – 20 kilometer radius of the infected farms has been restricted while the slaughter and the shipment of meat produced within the restricted area is still allowed under a certain conditions. At the same time, authorities are conducting various monitoring

and surveillance procedures along with epidemiological studies to trace the possible root of infection.

Both the national government and the prefectural government are reportedly collaborating to provide compensation in various forms to help affected farmers cover their losses in animals and income. Compensation includes direct compensation, extension of low interest loans (or preferential loans) to restart the business, and other measures. Some additional financial support schemes are reportedly being added in response to increased calls for financial assistance from the local livestock industry.

At the present point in time, the impact of Miyazaki's outbreak on the national meat supply appears limited, but it is hard to assess as the outbreaks are said to be persisting. Post will continue to monitor and report any new developments on the disease situation in Miyazaki.

Table 1.

<b>Number of Cattle and Pigs Raised as of February 2009</b>				
	<b>Beef Cattle</b>	<b>Pigs</b>	<b>Dairy Cattle</b>	
<b>All Japan</b>	<b>2,923</b>	<b>9,899</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1000 heads</b>
<b>Miyazaki Prefecture</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>915</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>1000 heads</b>
<b>Miyazaki Share</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Kumamoto Prefecture	147	289	43	1000 heads
Kumamoto Share	5%	3%	3%	Percent
Kagoshima Prefecture	376	1,340	17	1000 heads
Kagoshima Share	13%	14%	1%	Percent
<b>Number of Cattle and Pig Farms as of February 2009</b>				
	<b>Beef Cattle</b>	<b>Pigs</b>	<b>Dairy Cattle</b>	
<b>All Japan</b>	<b>77.3</b>	<b>6.9</b>	<b>23.1</b>	<b>1000 farms</b>
<b>Miyazaki Prefecture</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>0.6</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1000 farms</b>
<b>Miyazaki Share</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Kumamoto Prefecture	3.6	0.3	0.8	1000 farms
Kumamoto Share	5%	4%	3%	Percent
Kagoshima Prefecture	13.5	0.8	0.3	1000 farms
Kagoshima Share	17%	12%	1%	Percent
Source: Livestock Statistics, MAFF				