PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

QUESTION NO: 1151

TO BE ASKED ON: Thursday 16th August, 2012

TO BE ASKED BY: Mr F. J. Ramsden, (Maun East)

QUESTION:

To ask the Minister of Agriculture:

(i) whether the newly manufactured and improved Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) vaccine has ever been used in all FMD vaccination campaigns undertaken in Ngamiland since they were manufactured; if not, why; and

(ii) where else in Botswana has this vaccine been used.

RESPONSE:

Madam Speaker,

(i) Botswana Vaccine Institute manufactures two improved vaccines for FMD control. These are the purified FMD vaccine and the Ngamiland FMD vaccine (this vaccine contains the virus strain adapted from the current Ngamiland outbreaks). The purified vaccine is best used where the FMD control will lead to freedom from FMD with or without vaccination. This could be considered in the case of the protection zone once completed. Ngamiland FMD vaccine is used now to control the outbreaks, this vaccine matches the virus strain circulating in Ngamiland.
Madam Speaker

(ii) The purified vaccine was first used in Botswana last year in Zone 7 FMD outbreak control. This was to enable the possible differentiation of FMD vaccinated cattle from infected cattle. The availability of purified vaccine makes it possible for building emergency vaccine banks for use in future outbreaks in the green zones in the region.

I thank you.