

# Livestock markets close due to disease

IBANDA

By Lawrence Mucunguzi

Following the recent outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Kinoni and Burunga sub-counties in Kiruhura district, the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries, has written to Ibanda district authorities, informing them about the closure of Kanyarugiri livestock market and other livestock selling points in the district.

According to the letter written by the commissioner for animal health in the agriculture ministry, Dr Rose Ademun, to the Ibanda district chief administrative officer, the move is intended to prevent the possible entry and spread of the disease.

Located in Nyamarebe sub-county on the border of Ibanda and Kiruhura districts,

## ON THE GROUND

■ Amon Mwijukye, the Ibanda district vice-chairperson, while addressing a district council meeting on Wednesday said: "We have decided to temporarily open up a loading site in the nearby area to let farmers load the already purchased livestock."

Kanyarugiri is one of the biggest livestock markets in western Uganda.

Ademun ordered the stopping of the sale and purchase of cattle, goats, sheep, pigs, beef, milk and other animal products, from Kiruhura in Ibanda, until further notice.

There have been reports

that farmers and traders are smuggling livestock from Kiruhura into Ibanda livestock markets, which risks spreading the disease.

The Ibanda district vice-chairperson, Amon Mwijukye, while addressing a district council meeting on Wednesday, said the district veterinary office had opened up a loading site locally known as "ekipakiriro" in the nearby Bihanga village, to provide an alternative emergency point of sale for cattle.

"The biggest percentage of locally generated revenue for Ibanda district comes from Kanyarugiri market. For this reason, we have decided to temporarily open up a loading site in the nearby area to let farmers load the already purchased livestock so as to keep revenue coming in the district," Mwijukye noted.



## Two arrested in Stanbic Bank fraud

● The Police in Ibanda last week arrested Joseph Boyam and Bernard Seka in Ibanda Stanbic banking hall. It is alleged that the duo have been defrauding banks using counterfeit dollars. They were found in possession of fake \$685,000. A Police case file SD REF 17/31/08/2017 against the two, has been opened as investigations into the matter continue.