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Taraba hit by foot disease as snakeb 27

By Charles Akpeji,
Jalingo | 01 June
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No fewer than 27 persons have been confirmed dead in Donga Local Government Council of Taraba State following the various degrees of injuries they sustained from snake bites ravaging the area.

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Apart from the death, hospitals and herbal homes, are treating several persons that are suffering from the attack.

This is coming as the state has recorded an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease, which is fast threatening the lives of cows. Also dermatophytosis, also known as Kirchi and dermatophytosis, called ringworm is also afflicting the cattles.

Cattle owners in Ngoroje area of Sardauna local government of the state, whose cattle are presently begging for attention following the outbreak of the disease which is popularly known as FMD are alleging that the state government has not been proactive in establishing veterinary clinics in areas where breeding and rearing of live stocks have been the major occupation.

Confirming the report, the Counselor representing Suntai Ward, Filibuster Sambo, said efforts to rescue the victims failed as both the traditional and orthodox medications are not helping matters.

Visibly dejected, he said:” So far, four people have died in Suntai, eight in Kadarko, nine in Tor-Damis Akate, four in Kumbo and two in Gayama, bringing the total to 27 persons that have so far died as a result of snake bites in our community.”

Dejected that anti-snake bite and traditional medicines have not been effective, the need for the relevant authority to as a matter of urgency come to the aid of the affected communities, he believed has become relevant.

Also speaking to The Guardian on the disaster, Chairman of Donga Local Government, Ibrahim Barnabas Pasoki said with the spread of the snakebites, the council has contacted the State Ministry of Health and the Taraba State government.

The situation, as gathered has compelled several

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people domiciling in the affected villages to seek for an alternative means of livelihood and relocating elsewhere.

Some medical personnel who are presently administering treatment too some of the victims, are of the opinion that the death toll would increase if urgent measures are not put in place to make the necessary drugs available to the communities.

A senior staff of the state Ministry of Health who also spoke to our reporter, confirmed that the Ministry is aware of the disaster but said “ we yet to be officially informed by the leadership of that council.”

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