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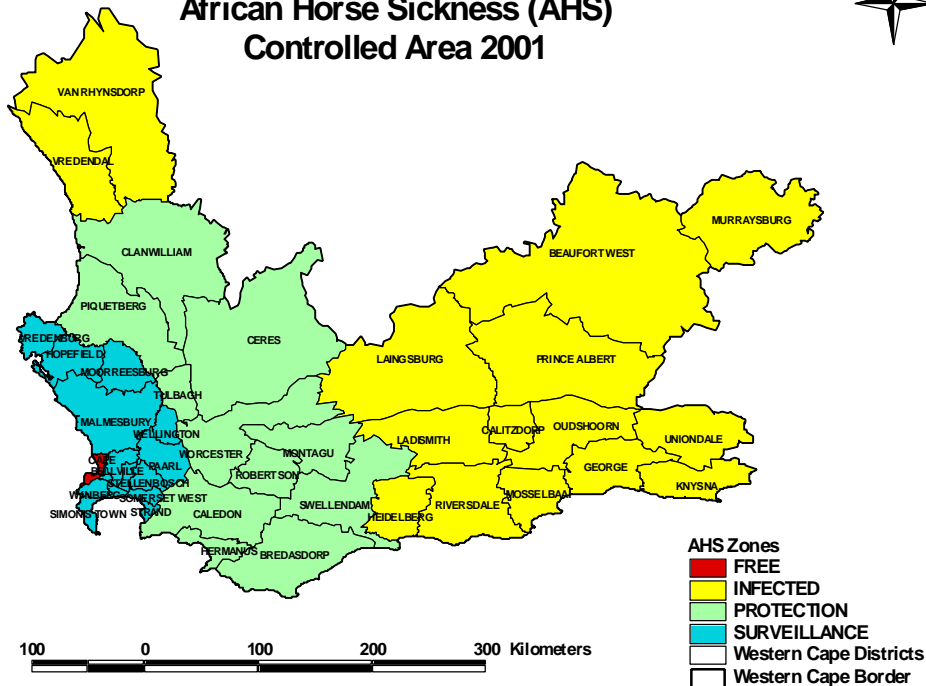
Telephone: Office - 021 808 5253

Reference: 14/2/7/B

Date : 2003/09/01

NB : Please direct enquiries to the relevant persons as listed on the letterhead.

South Africa African Horse Sickness (AHS) Controlled Area 2001



African Horse Sickness (AHS) Control Policy

The policy regulating AHS control and control over the movement of equines (horses, donkeys and mules as per definition) and zebra into and within the AHS Controlled Area of the Western Cape Province (WCP), has been revised. This was necessitated in part by the recent changes in the boundaries of the AHS Protection Zone (EU Decision 2001/622/EC of 27th July 2001 and Animal Diseases Regulations No. R885 of 21st September 2001) and amendments to the :-

A. Vaccination protocol :

1. All registered equines in the Republic of South Africa wanting to enter the AHS Control Areas must be vaccinated by a **Veterinarian or**
2. A specifically authorized **Animal Health Technician (AHT)** in the employ of the Veterinary Authority, under direct supervision of the **State Veterinarian** concerned.
3. Vaccination must be done **annually** with **AHS I** and **AHS II** vaccine.
4. There must be a minimum of **3 weeks** between I and II and the horse may **not** move into the AHS Control Area **less than 60 days** after the second vaccination.
5. All horses must be registered and identified by means of a **passport**. If not a competing horse, then a certificate of identification acceptable to the State Veterinarian Boland may be considered following consultation with this office .

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B. The requirements for moving equines have also been modified :

1. **Health Certification** by a Veterinarian (in passport or separate certificate) and ,
2. **Pre-notification** of the movement to State Veterinarian Boland **within 48 hours** prior to movement ;
3. In addition to the above, the owner/conveyor must obtain an **official Movement Permit** from the local State Veterinarian (SV) in the area of origin ;
4. The SV will only issue such a permit if the **risk** is deemed by him/her to be **acceptable**, taking into consideration the prevalence and incidence of AHS in the area, the locality, density and composition of the equine and zebra populations, the time of year, reigning weather conditions, midge numbers, etc.
5. This **permit** is **valid** for **14 days**, and can be recalled at any stage should there be a change in the AHS disease situation.
6. The **Movement Permit** will **only** be **valid** if **accompanied by** a valid AHS **Health Certificate** issued by a Veterinarian **within 48 hours** preceding a movement to the AHS Control Area.
7. Faxed copies of the Movement Permit, showing the SV office's fax number, would be acceptable.
8. **Please Note** : a total embargo is usually placed on all horse movements into the AHS Control areas from as early as **March** (at latest April) **through June every year** due to the high incidence of AHS throughout the infected zone (rest of SA) and the **risk** it poses to maintaining our **AHS free status** for export purposes .
9. **Please make allowance for this when planning movements , exports, shows, etc.** as it usually entails a minimum of **3 weeks quarantine** in the Protection Zone.

C. Boundary changes :

1. Implies that the following magisterial districts of the WCP are now **excluded from the AHS Protection Zone**, thus allowing free movement of equines to- and from these districts and the rest of the RSA (Infected Zone) : Vanrhynsdorp; Vredendal; Heidelberg; Riversdale; Calitzdorp; Mossel Bay; George; Knysna; Uniondale; Oudtshoorn; Laingsburg; Ladismith; Beaufort West; Prince Albert; Murraysburg.
The above districts are now part of the **Infected Zone**.
2. The **new**, smaller, AHS **Protection Zone**, now comprises the following magisterial districts:
Clanwilliam; Piketberg; Ceres; Tulbagh; Worcester; Robertson; Montagu; Caledon; Hermanus; Bredasdorp and Swellendam.
This corresponds to the jurisdictional areas of the Overberg and Boland District Municipalities and the Clanwilliam and Piketberg districts of the West Coast District Municipality.

The new **entry/exit points** on the main routes are:

N7	Between Clanwilliam and Klawer at Trawal
N1	Between Touwsriver and Matjiesfontein
N2	Between Swellendam and Heidelberg

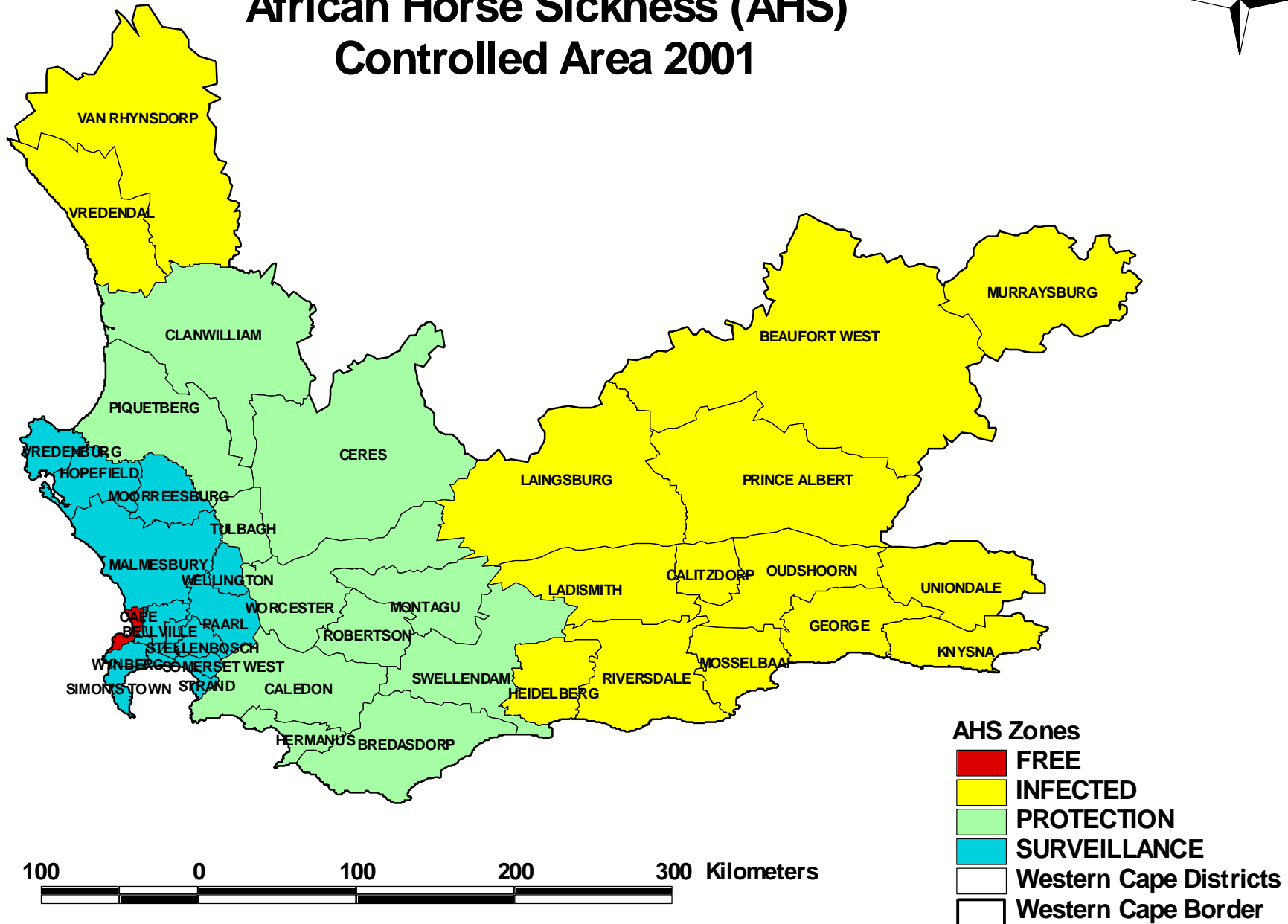
All of the following movements of equines and zebra are subject to movement control:

Infected Zone	--> Protection , Surveillance or Free Zones
Protection Zone	--> Surveillance or Free Zones
Surveillance Zone	--> Free Zone

Movements that could previously take place without any requirements, eg. **within** the previous Protection Zone, now require certification and permits.



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VAN RHYNSDORP

VREDENDAL

CLANWILLIAM

PIQUETBERG

VREDENBURG

HOPEFIELD

MOORREESBURG

TULBAGH

MALMESBURY

WELLINGTON

CAPE

BELLVILLE

STELLENBOSCH

WYNBERG

OMERSET WEST

SIMONSTOWN STRAND

WORCESTER

MONTAGU

ROBERTSON

SWELLENDAAM

HERMANUS

BREDASDORP

CERES

LAINGSBURG

LADISMITH

HEIDELBERG

RIVERSDALE

MOSELBAAI

PRINCE ALBERT

CALITZDORP

GEORGE

MOSSELBAAI

OUDSHOORN

UNIONDALE

BEAUFORT WEST

MURRAYSBURG

AHS Zones

FREE

INFECTED

PROTECTION

SURVEILLANCE

Western Cape Districts

Western Cape Border