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RESOLUTION OF OUTBREAK: AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS - CEDERBERG MUNICIPALITY

With reference to the notification of the outbreak of African horse sickness (AHS) made by this office on 15 April 2021, a total of 37 cases (including 20 deaths) of AHS were reported on four properties between 9 April and 25 May 2021 in the Cederberg Municipality in the AHS Protection zone of South Africa. An outbreak control zone was designated that controlled the movement of equids to curb the spread of infection. An active investigation zone was designated in which intensive surveillance was undertaken to establish local spread of infection.

It has now been more than 40 days since the last AHS case was confirmed. In conjunction with the onset of winter, the outbreak control and active investigation zones are hereby dissolved and movements of equids can resume if complying with the existing control measures pertaining to the movement of horses into and from the AHS Protection zone (please visit www.myhorse.org.za or email move@myhorse.org.za for more details).

We are grateful to all equid owners, managers and veterinarians for their compliance and assistance in resolving this outbreak – while the four affected properties were significantly affected, the outbreak was limited, and control measures prevented spread of the infection.

Dr Moses Mabunda
Acting Chief Director: Veterinary Services
Date: 6 July 2021