

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

NO. 600

26 APRIL 2019

ANIMAL DISEASES ACT, 1984 (ACT NO 35 OF 1984)

Call for Public Comment on Proposed Amendments to the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) under the Animal Diseases Act, 1984 (Act No. 35 of 1984) with regard to African horse sickness.

I, Senzeni Zokwana, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries hereby

- (a) invite all interested institutions, organisations and individuals to submit written comments on the proposed amendments to the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) with regard to African horse sickness, and to do so within 90 days from the date of publication of this Public Consultation Notice to the following address:

The Director
Directorate: Animal Health
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Private Bag X138
PRETORIA
0001

E-mail: KerryL@daff.gov.za and PetuniaM@daff.gov.za

- (b) inform all that the proposed amendments to the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) with regard to African horse sickness can be accessed on the DAFF website <http://www.daff.gov.za/daffweb3/Branches/Agricultural-Production-Health-Food-Safety/Animal-Health/information/dahpolicy> or obtained from the Director:
Animal Health



MR. SENZENI ZOKWANA

Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries

PUBLIC CONSULTATION NOTICE:**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE ANIMAL DISEASES REGULATIONS (R. 2026 OF 1986) WITH REGARD TO AFRICAN HORSE SICKNESS**

Table 1 of the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) defines and describes controlled areas relating to particular controlled animal diseases, including African horse sickness (AHS). Currently in Table 1, the AHS surveillance and AHS protection zone are collectively termed the "AHS buffer zone". The reference to "buffer zone" is outdated and it is proposed that this reference be removed. There will be no changes to the boundaries of the control zones and no changes to the control measures applied in each zone.

Table 2 of the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) prescribes control measures relating to certain "controlled animal diseases". Changes to the column dealing with the controlled veterinary acts to be performed in respect of susceptible animals for AHS are proposed for Table 2 of the Regulations. Flexibility in the vaccination ages of young equines is introduced in light of the need to restrict vaccination periods to help prevent vaccine virus related outbreaks of AHS. It is further proposed that vaccination against AHS in the AHS protection, AHS surveillance and AHS free zone be conducted "as determined by the Director". This allows the Director to evaluate and align vaccination against AHS with local conditions, new vaccines and improved scientific knowledge.

Regulation 1 of the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) contains definitions relating to controlled animal diseases. The reference in this regulation to an "efficient remedy" is incorrect according to international convention and terminology and clearly stems from a translation error. It is therefore proposed that this is replaced with a new definition for "effective remedy" that correctly reflects the requirements for the registration of medicines.

Comments on the newly proposed amendments to the Animal Diseases Regulations (R. 2026 of 1986) with regard to AHS must be addressed in writing, before the end of the consultation period, to the Director: Animal Health at the above address or preferably via email to Kerryl@daff.gov.za and PetuniaM@daff.gov.za