

REPORT ON ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE ISSUES

PRESENTATION TO THE PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES - 28 OCTOBER 2014



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forestry & fisheries

Department:
Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- List of Abbreviations;
- Report on the Performance of Veterinary Services;
- Current Diseases' Status;
- Progress Report on the Performing Animals Protection Amendment Bill; and
- Progress Report on the Regulations relating to Compulsory Community Services for Veterinarians.



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AI	Avian Influenza
CCS	Compulsory Community Service
ESEID	Economic Sectors, Employment and Infrastructure Development
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
HPAI	Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza
LPAI	Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza
OIE	World Organization for Animal Health
PVS	Performance of Veterinary Services
RMIF	Red Meat Industry Forum
TB	Tuberculosis
VS	Veterinary Services



PERFORMANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES (PVS) REPORT



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OIE PERFORMANCE OF VETERINARY SERVICES (PVS) EVALUATION: INTRODUCTION

- ❑ South Africa invited the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) to evaluate the performance of its veterinary services following numerous complaints by the Red Meat Industry Forum (RMIF); and
- ❑ The mission took place in October 2012 and was conducted by 4 experts.



PVS: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS - HUMAN, PHYSICAL AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

- ❑ Adequate and regularly provided;
 - ❑ There is a lack of veterinarians in regular contact with farms and animals resulting in reduced credibility and the sensitivity of passive surveillance and early detection;
 - ❑ Lack of veterinarians in regular contact with animal processing facilities; and
 - ❑ Break in chain of command between national and provincial governments.
- ❑ The Veterinary Service (VS) should establish clear strategy, policy and supportive measures to develop a more comprehensive network of veterinarians in the field with regular contact with farms and animals; and
 - ❑ Considering the diverse epidemiological, geographical, political and socio-economical contexts of South Africa, the optimal strategy is to restore the national chain of command for all aspects of the VS.



PVS: FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS – TECHNICAL AUTHORITY AND CAPABILITY

- Good laboratory network;
 - No dedicated risk analysis unit;
 - Lack in technical independence particularly at abattoirs;
 - The registration, audit and on-sight inspection of facilities producing for the local market; and
 - Individual animal identification.
- All provincial laboratories should receive adequate resources;
 - The VS should appoint staff dedicated to risk analysis at central and provincial levels; and
 - Technical independence should be re-established for food safety.



PVS: FINDINGS - INTERACTION WITH INTERESTED PARTIES

- ❑ Communication with interested parties is well supported but does not address small holders and communal farmers with any specific material; and
- ❑ Official representation of the VS in OIE and other international institutions is regular though there is insufficient consultation with the relevant parties.
- ❑ Specific communication tools should be established to target all categories of interested parties; and
- ❑ Joint programmes should be developed for important diseases.



PVS: FINDINGS - ACCESS TO MARKETS

- Internal and external quality of legislation and regulations is satisfactory, although there are not enough dedicated legal staff to update regulations regularly; and
- The lack of veterinarians in regular contact with farms and animals will limit the capacity of the VS to certify products or activities.
- The VS should recruit legal staff to adequately update its legislation; and
- International certification and transparency should be improved by increasing the number of field veterinarians.



PVS: THE CAUTION FROM OIE EXPERTS

- ❑ The VS of South Africa, which are generally still of a very high standard, but they, are at the cross-roads between a bright future or a rapid decline;
- ❑ The “bright future” requires restoration of the chain of command with unity of the different veterinary domains and the development of a comprehensive VS system including official delegation to private veterinarians. It will be necessary to develop improved interaction with all stakeholders and consumers, with priority given to addressing public good; and
- ❑ The “rapid decline” will result from continued fragmentation of the VS by local authorities or by function, activities will be market-driven by private interests, double standards will persist in animal and veterinary public health, and there will be a failure to address public good.



PROGRESS MADE ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PVS REPORT

- Stakeholder consultations 4 and 5 June 2014;
- Gap analysis 17- 26 June 2014;
- Preliminary discussions with provinces at MinTech (VWG);
- Preliminary Draft of actions that need to be conducted;
- Receipt of preliminary Gap report analysis report 20 October 2014; and
- Preliminary draft on the animal disease management plan.

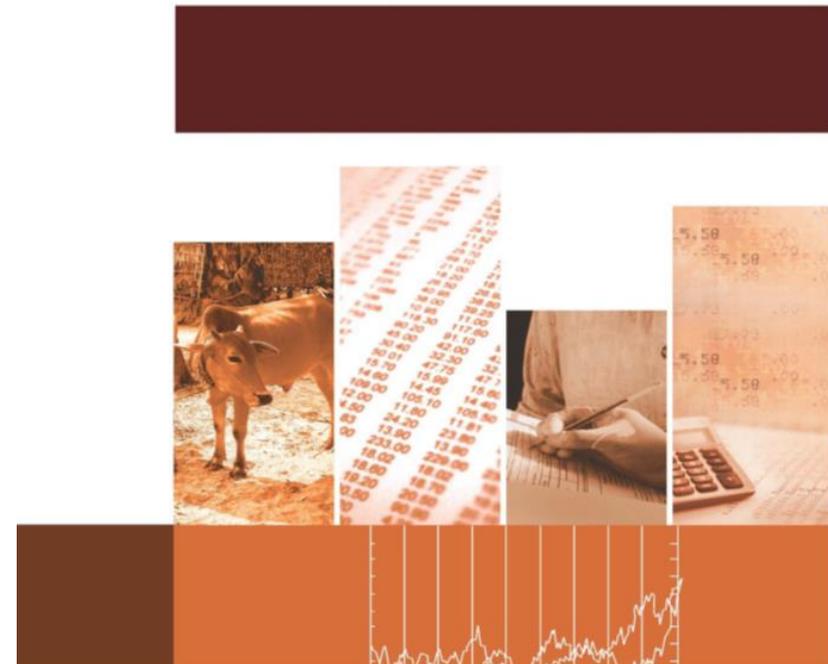
Organisation
Mondiale
de la Santé
Animale

World
Organisation
for Animal
Health

Organización
Mundial
de Sanidad
Animal



PVS Gap Analysis Experts' Manual



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CURRENT DISEASE STATUS



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FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD)

- ❑ South Africa received OIE recognised FMD freedom status for the Free zone in February 2014 and was endorsed at the May 2014 OIE Annual General Meeting;
- ❑ South Africa has therefore regained its status after losing it due to the 2011 outbreak of FMD in KwaZulu-Natal; and
- ❑ Certain restrictions on imports by some trading partners have been lifted.



....FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE

- ❑ The OIE has set certain conditions for South Africa to maintain its free zone status, namely:
 - Improved inspection of cattle in the Protection zone;
 - A fence between the Free Zone and the Protection zone in KwaZulu-Natal;
 - Individual identification of cattle in the Protection zone; and
 - Signs on the roads between the Free zone and Protection zone.

- ❑ The Directorate Animal Health and the Provincial Veterinary Services are currently implementing these measures;

- ❑ The OIE intends to carry out a follow-up mission in December 2014; and

- ❑ The outbreak of FMD in the Protection zone (not part of the recognised free zone) in Mpumalanga is continuing, with two more outbreaks being reported in June 2014.



FMD outbreaks in Mpumalanga (Aug 2013 up to 10 June 2014)



Legend

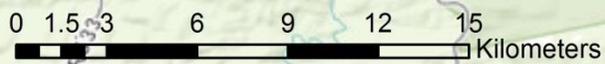
DATE

- ★ June 2014
- Febr 2014
- Dec 2013
- Oct 2013
- Aug 2013

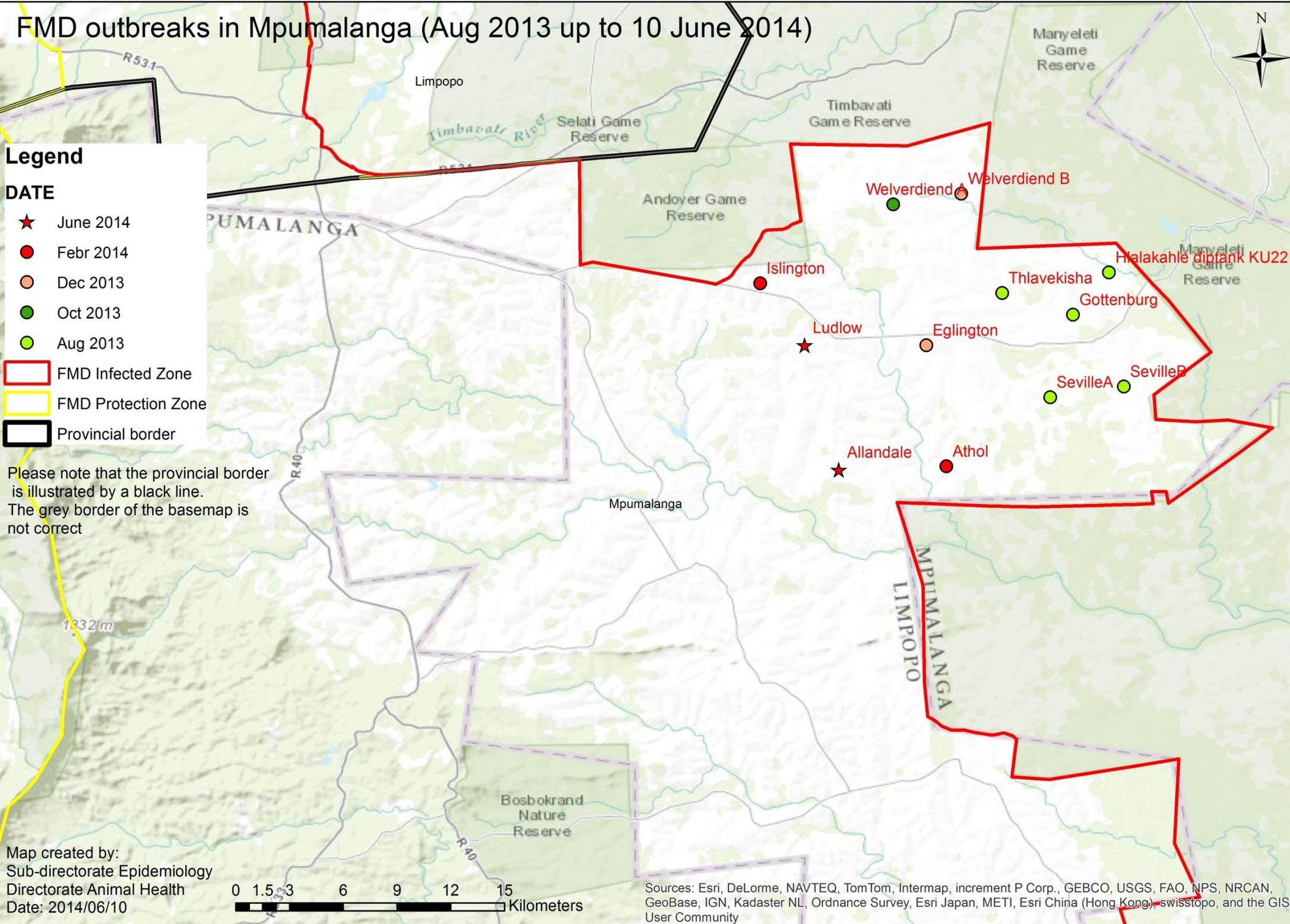
- ▭ FMD Infected Zone
- ▭ FMD Protection Zone
- ▭ Provincial border

Please note that the provincial border is illustrated by a black line. The grey border of the basemap is not correct

Map created by:
Sub-directorate Epidemiology
Directorate Animal Health
Date: 2014/06/10



Sources: Esri, DeLorme, NAVTEQ, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, and the GIS User Community



AVIAN INFLUENZA (AI)

AI H5N2

- An outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) was reported in 2011;
- This resulted in the suspension of all exports of fresh poultry products;
- The outbreak was resolved in 2013 with the slaughter out of the last affected farm; however
- South Africa has not been able to declare freedom of HPAI to regain its trade status because of the ongoing outbreaks of H5N2, not all of which can be proven to be Low Pathogenic.

LPAI H5N2

- During 2014, 3 ostrich farms tested positive for Low Pathogenic Avian Influenza (LPAI) H5N2;
- 2 of these farms are within the Hessequa Local Municipality and the other within the George Local Municipality; and
- By the end of June 2014 there were 4 ostrich farms reported as part of the ongoing LPAI H5N2 outbreak.



...AVIAN INFLUENZA

LPAI H7N1

- The outbreak started on 20 October 2013 in the Eastern Cape Province;
- A total of 3 ostrich farms within the Blue Crane Route Local Municipality in the Eastern Cape Province tested positive for LPAI H7N1;
- On 22 May 2014 the outbreak on one of the ostrich farms were resolved; and
- As at the end of June 2014 there were still 2 ostrich farms where the outbreaks were still to be resolved.



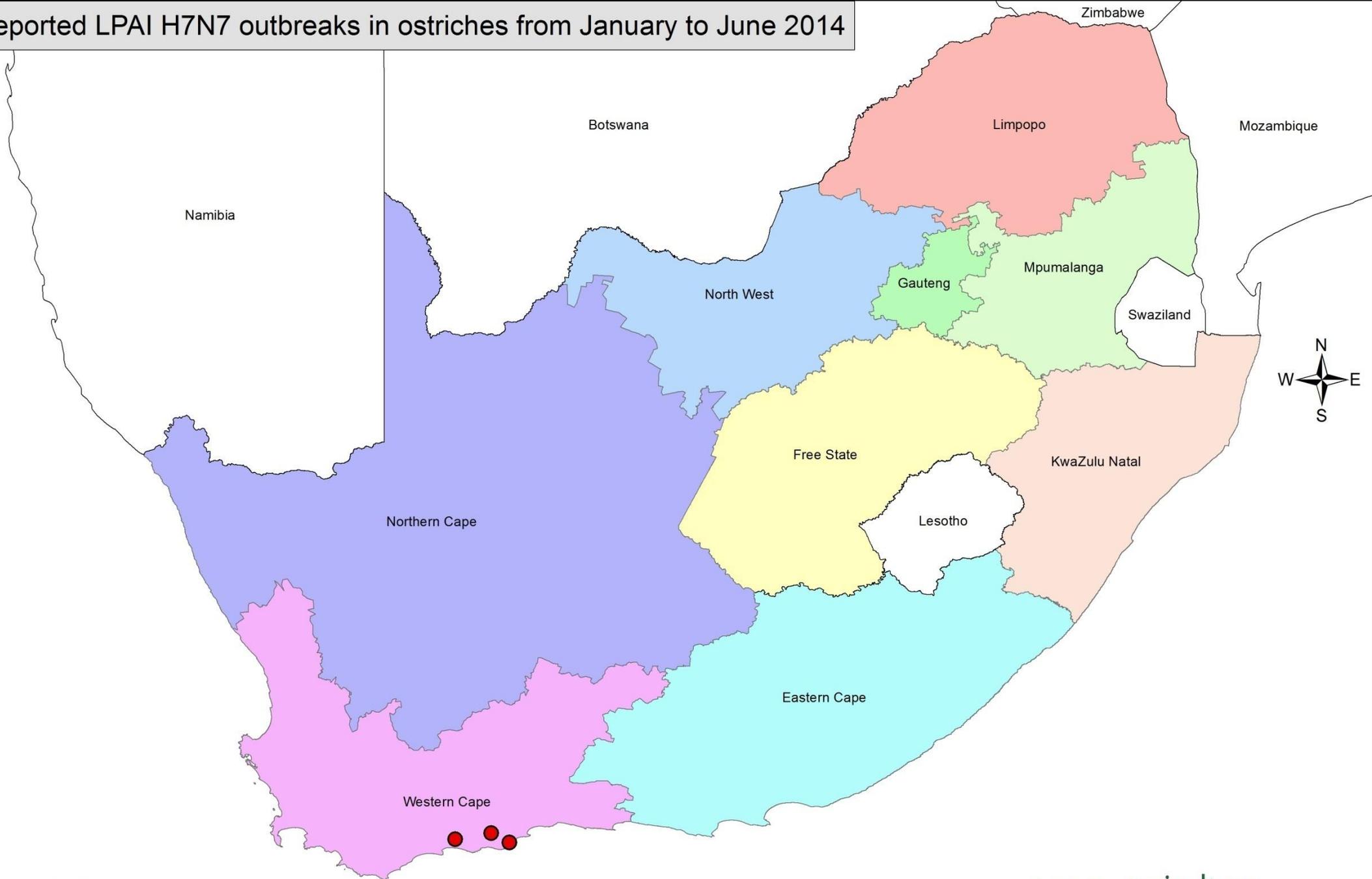
...AVIAN INFLUENZA

LPAI H7N7

- On 31 January 2014 a low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) H7N7 outbreak was reported to the OIE;
- Since then 2 further ostrich farms tested positive for LPAI H7N7 with the 1 farm being in the Hessequa local municipality and the other farm in the Mossel Bay local municipality;
- A total of 3 farms within the Western Cape Province therefore tested positive for LPAI H7N7;
- On 13 May 2014 the outbreak 1 out of the 3 farms were resolved; and
- By end of June 2014 there were still 2 ostrich farms where the outbreaks were not resolved.



Reported LPAI H7N7 outbreaks in ostriches from January to June 2014



Map created by:
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Directorate Animal Health

Date: 2014/10/22



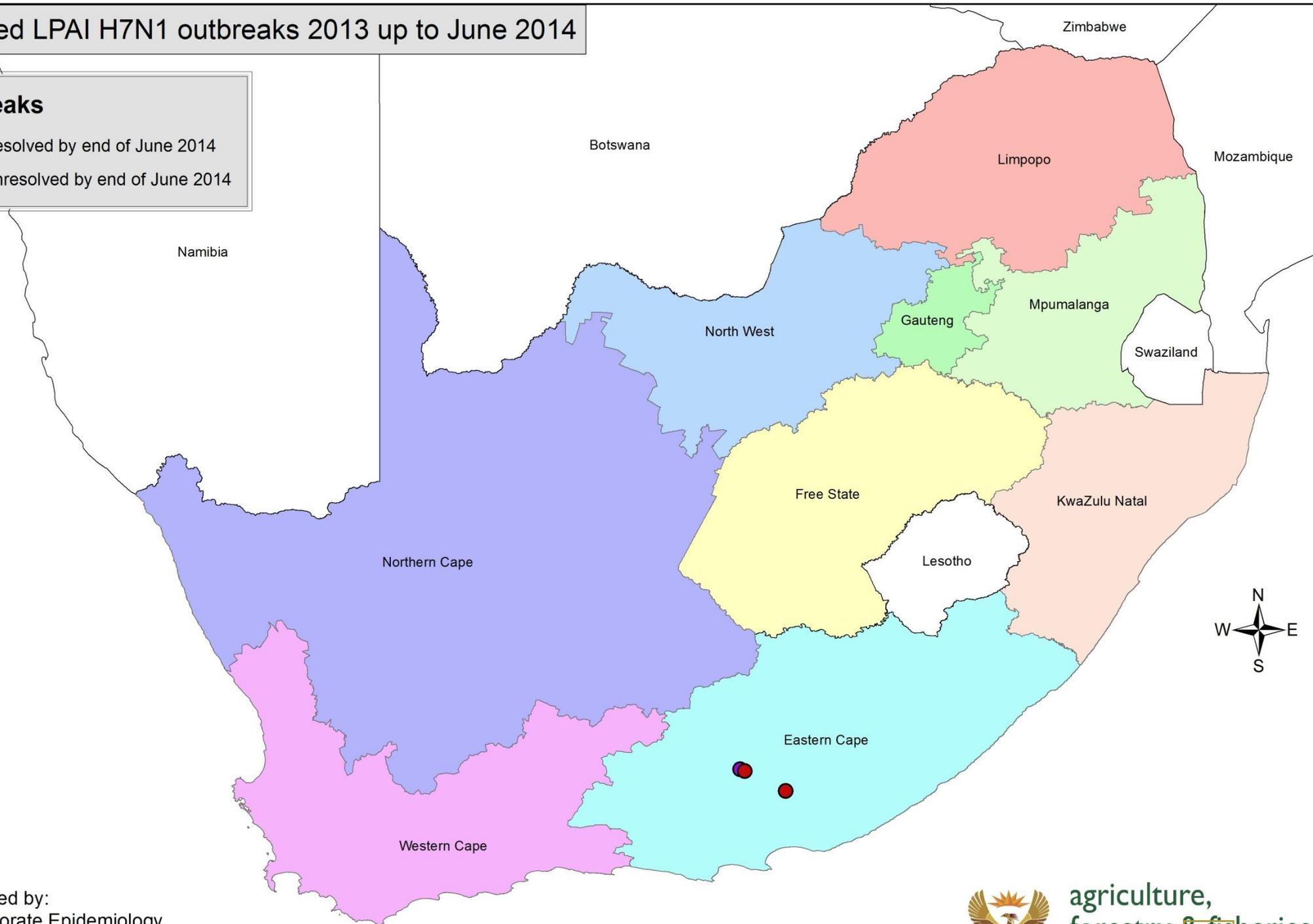
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Reported LPAI H7N1 outbreaks 2013 up to June 2014

Outbreaks

- Resolved by end of June 2014
- Unresolved by end of June 2014



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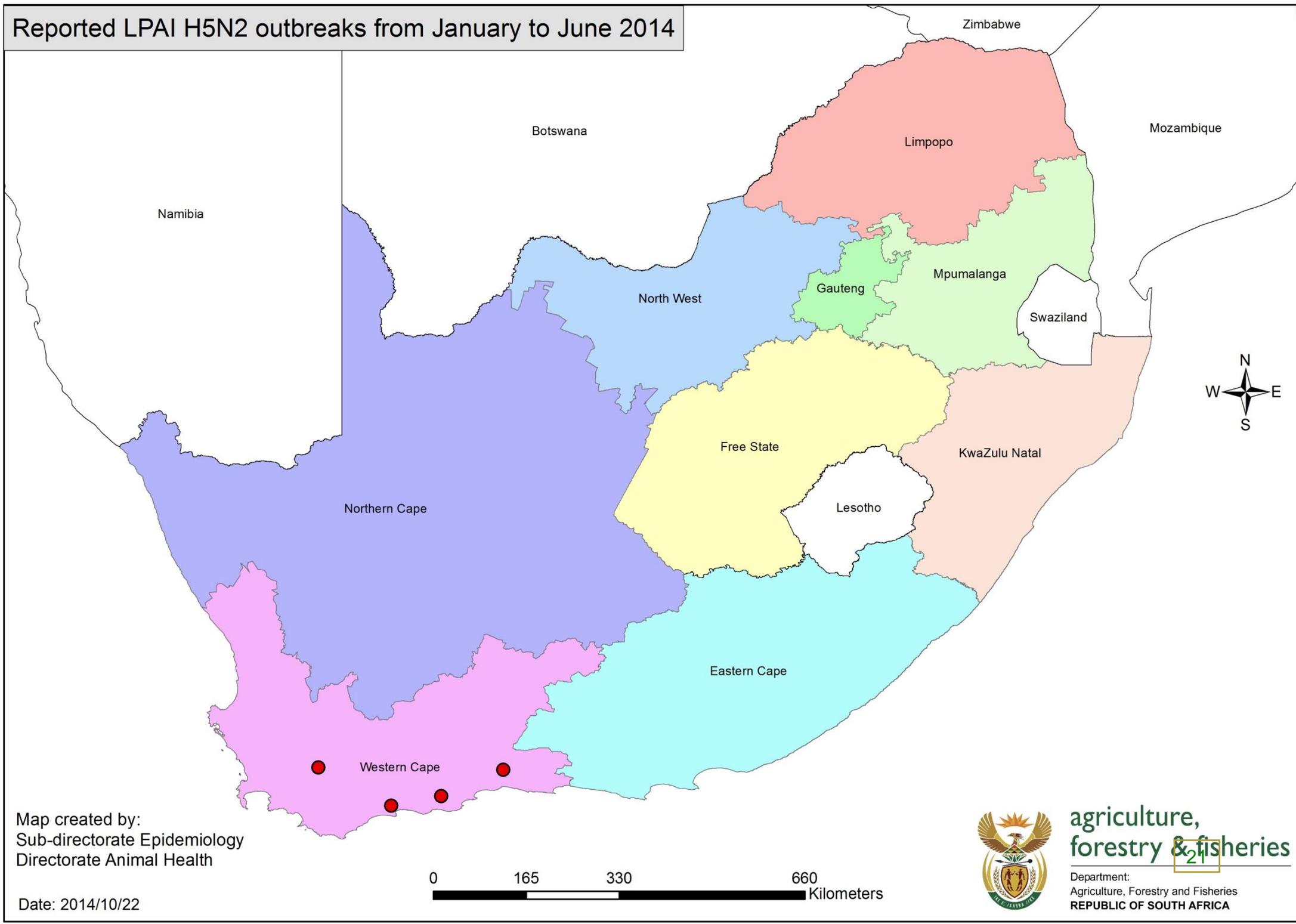
0 165 330 660 Kilometers



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Reported LPAI H5N2 outbreaks from January to June 2014



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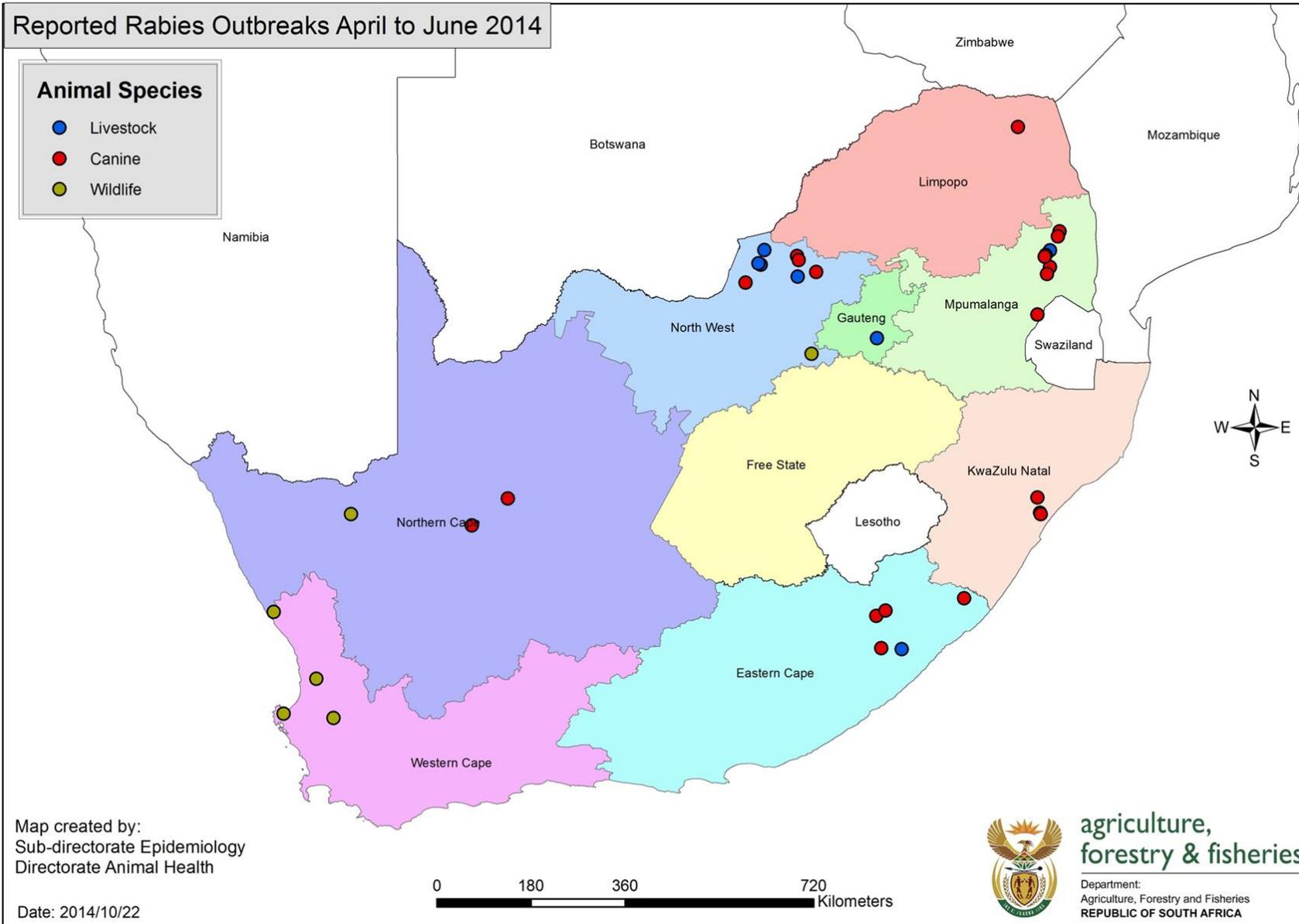
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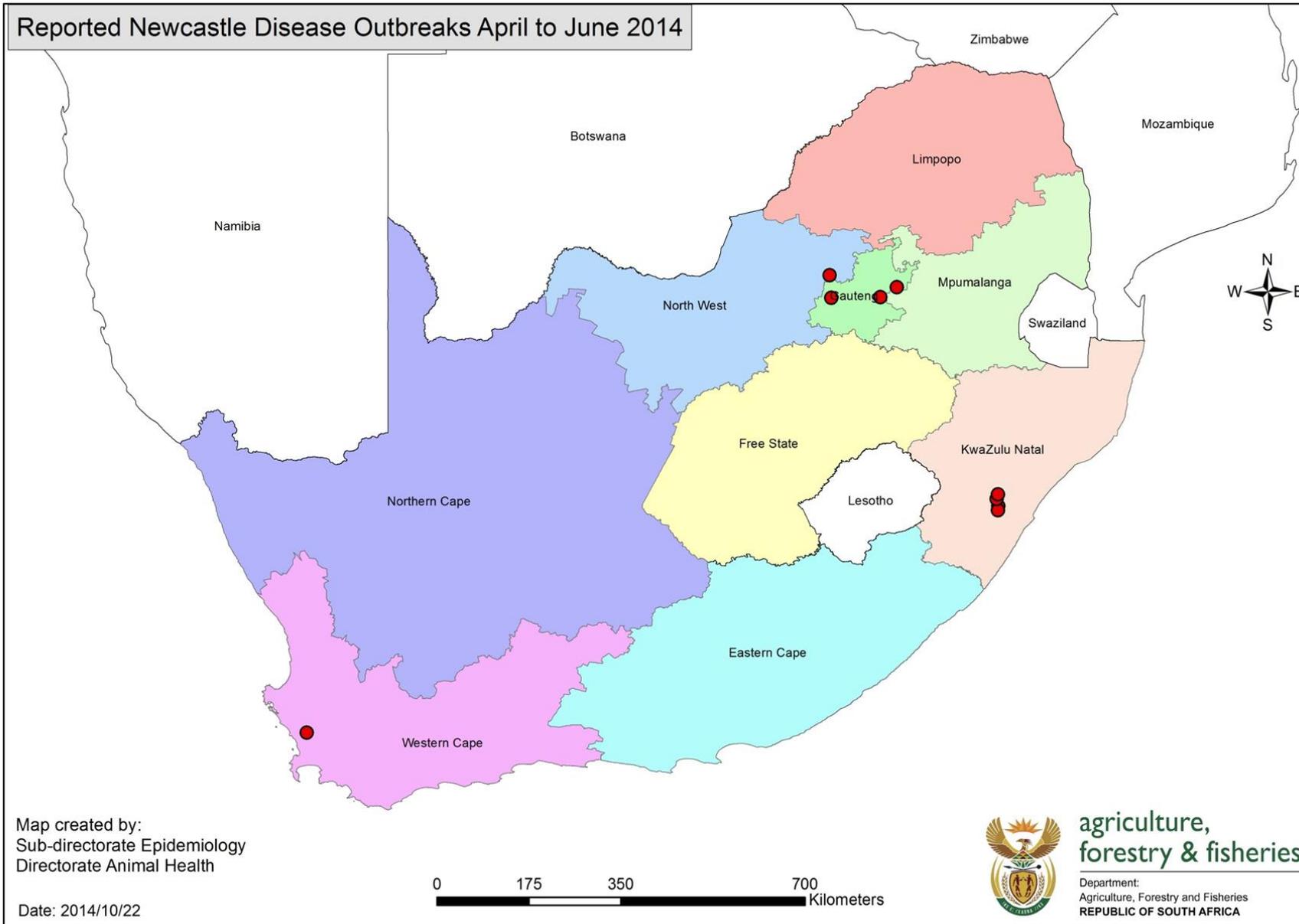
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RABIES



NEWCASTLE DISEASE



RIFT VALLEY FEVER

- ❑ Botswana reported a Rift Valley Fever outbreak in July 2014 in the northern part of Botswana; and
- ❑ This is a concern for South Africa, because if the environmental conditions are favourable (high rainfall) during summer, the disease might spread to South Africa.

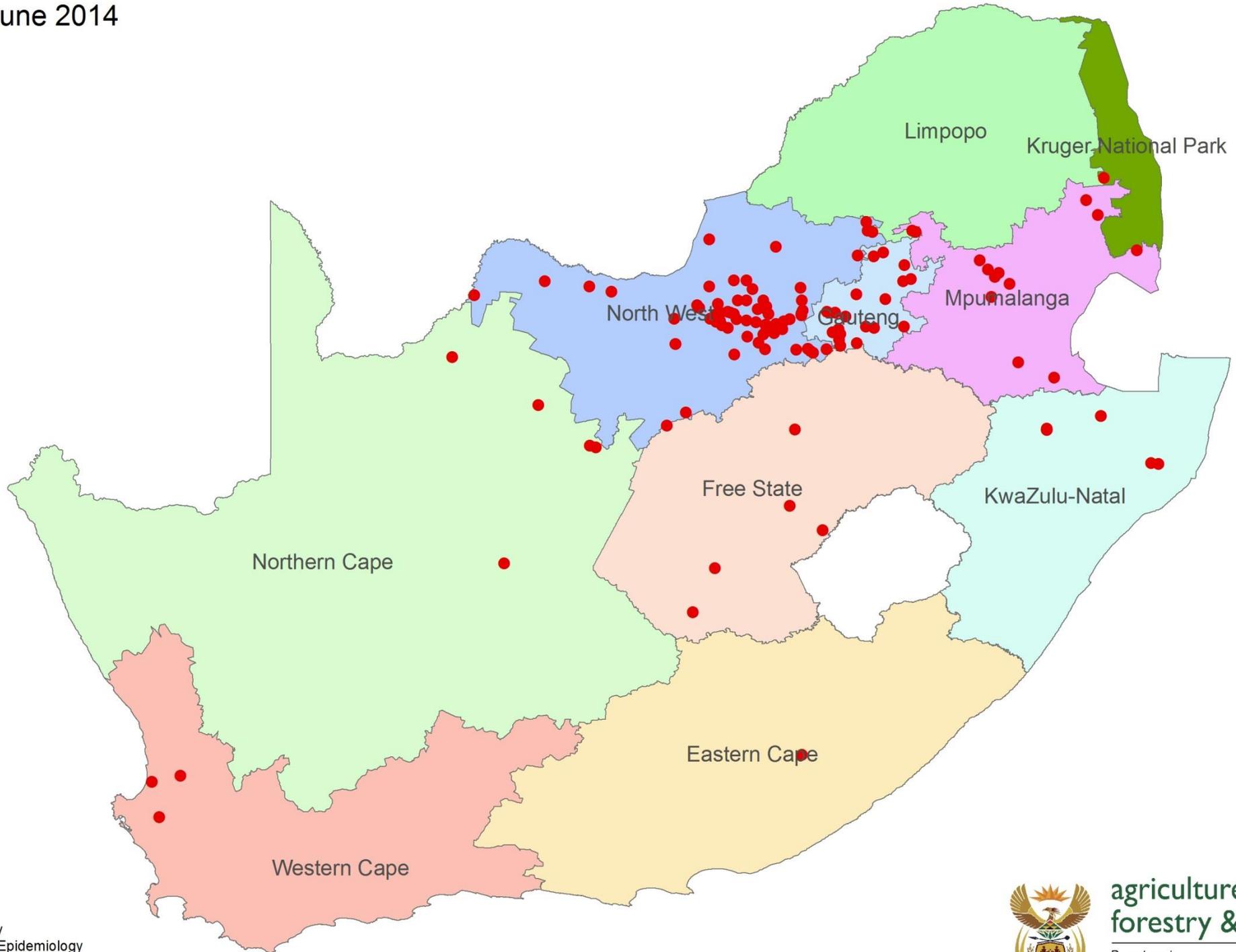


BOVINE BRUCELLOSIS

- The number of Brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*) outbreaks seems to be increasing;
- Brucellosis is a zoonotic disease (people can become infected) and can affect wildlife;
- It causes severe economic losses, because of affecting the fertility of cattle; and
- The Directorate Animal Health, in cooperation with the Provincial Veterinary Services, have established a working group to review the control measures for brucellosis.



Reported Brucellosis outbreaks April to June 2014



Map produced by
Sub-Directorate Epidemiology
Directorate Animal Health
Date: 22/10/2014

0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Kilometers



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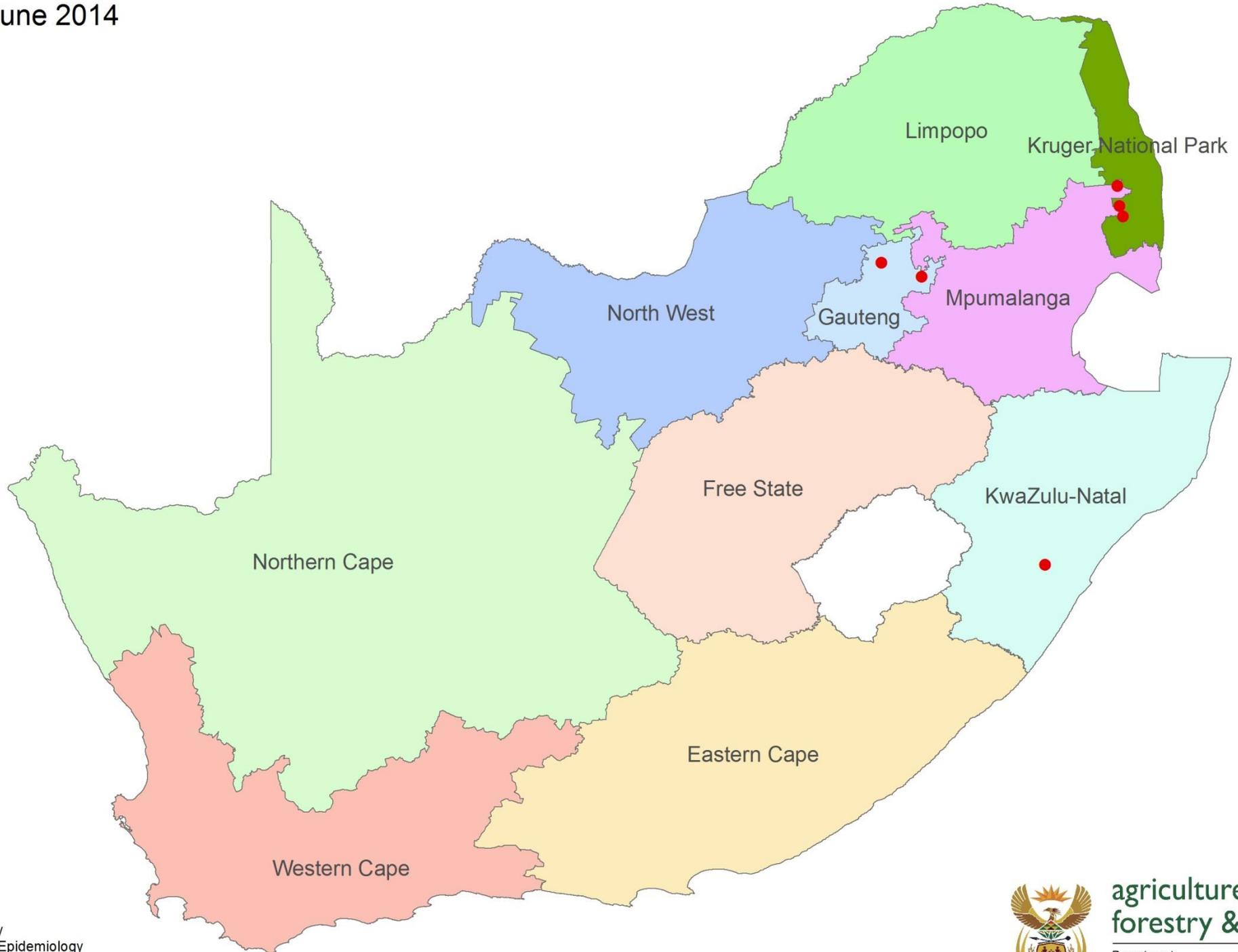


BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS

- A working group to review the Bovine Tuberculosis control measures has also been established;
- Bovine tuberculosis is an important disease due to its zoonotic potential (people can become infected) and its effect on wildlife;
- There may be under-reporting of outbreaks of TB; and
- The matter is being addressed through interactions with Provincial Departments.



Reported Tuberculosis outbreaks April to June 2014



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0 50 100 200 300 400 500 Kilometers



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PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PERFORMING ANIMALS AMENDMENT BILL



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PROGRESS REPORT ON PAPA

- ❑ The Bill was presented to the Economic Sectors, Employment and Infrastructure Development (ESEID) DG's Cluster on the 1st October 2014;
- ❑ The Cluster approved that the Bill be presented to Cabinet;
- ❑ A Cabinet memorandum has been drafted to be presented to Cabinet;
- ❑ At this moment it is not certain whether the next cabinet sitting will address the Bill; and
- ❑ The Department together with the Office of the Chief State Law Advisors in the Department of Justice has approached the Constitutional Court for purposes of extending the period of validity of section 2 and 3 of the Performing Animals Protection Act.



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From: Zulu Sunnyboy [<mailto:SZulu@justice.gov.za>]

Sent: 22 October 2014 11:38 AM

To: BarryB

Subject: RE: DEPT OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES / NSPCA

Good Morning

The above matter refers.

Kindly be advised that the Notice of Motion has been served and filed with constitutional court.

Plaintiff was given until the 29 October 2014 to indicate whether he oppose or not.

We will revert with further development as and when they arise herein.

Kind Regards

S. Zulu

Tel: (012) 309 1528

PROGRESS ON REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE (CCS) FOR VETERINARIANS



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PROGRESS ON REGULATIONS RELATING TO COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE (CCS) FOR VETERINARIANS



the doj & cd

Department:
Justice and Constitutional Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF STATE LAW ADVISER
Private Bag X81, PRETORIA, 0001, Tel (012) 315 1130, Fax (012) 315 1743, Momentum Centre East Tower 12th Floor,
Pretorius Street

Ref: 8/7/Medicine, Dentistry and Pharmacy/2013/82A&B
Enq: Adv M Naidoo
Tel: (012) 315 1106
e-mail: mnaidoo@justice.gov.za
website: <http://www.doi.gov.za>
Date: 14 May 2013

Mr L Zitha
Director-General
Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
Private Bag X250
PRETORIA
0001

Dear Mr Zitha
Attention: Mr H J B Beukes

VETERINARY AND PARA-VETERINARY PROFESSIONS ACT, 1982:
DRAFT REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE PERFORMANCE OF
COMPULSORY COMMUNITY SERVICE: YOUR 10.2.3.88/BB DATED 16
APRIL 2013



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- The regulations were finalised by the department but could not be certified by the Office of the State Law Advisor because of differences of opinion on section 43 and the newly inserted section 20A on the new Act;
- The Office of the State Law Advisor is of the opinion that that section is unconstitutional; and
- There was a proposal to redraft the regulations which the Department is currently addressing with the Office of the Chief State Law Advisor.