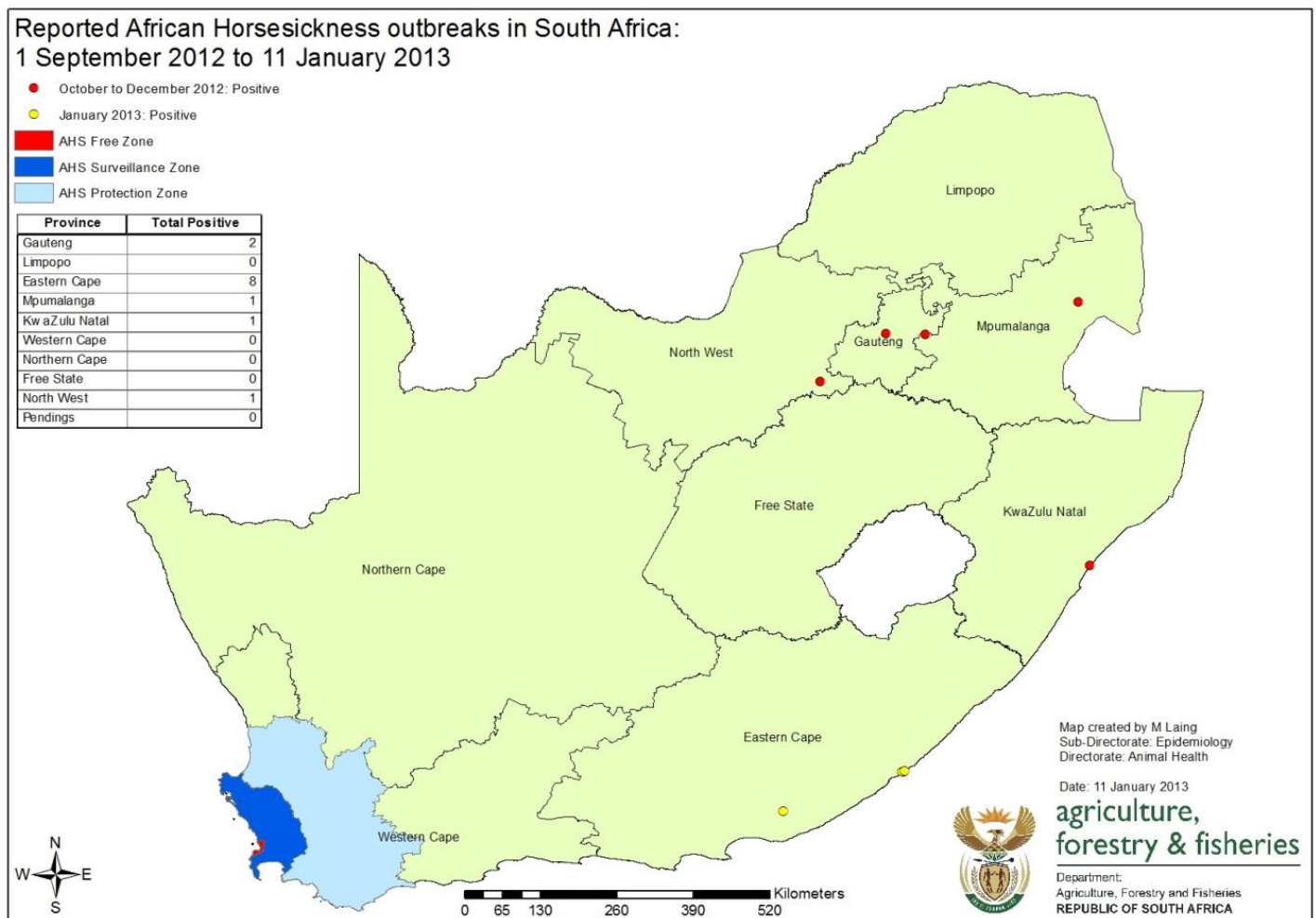


## 2013 African Horse Sickness outbreaks: update no 1

African Horse Sickness outbreaks are recorded from 1 September to 31 August of each year. Thirteen (13) African Horse Sickness (AHS) outbreaks were reported since the start of the 2013 AHS cycle on 1 September 2012.

The first outbreak of the season started in North West Province. Test conducted on the samples collected on 2 October 2012, confirmed the outbreak. The second outbreak occurred in the Randfontein area of Gauteng. This outbreak was confirmed by tests done on samples collected on 25 November 2012 and the virus was confirmed as a serotype 2. Serotype 2 AHS virus was also detected in samples that were collected on 31 December 2012, from the area north of Durban. The first outbreak in the Eastern Cape Province (ECP) was confirmed on samples that were collected on 31 December 2012. Since then, a further 7 outbreaks were reported in the ECP, as can be seen on the included map. All of these outbreaks in the ECP were confirmed to be caused by serotype 6. All the serotypes mentioned, were determined by RT-PCR at the Equine Research Centre, University of Pretoria (Test not DAFF approved).



**Figure 1: Reported AHS Sickness outbreaks: 1 September 2012 to 11 January 2013**

Reporting of AHS outbreaks to State Veterinary Services is compulsory according to the Animal Disease Act, 1984 (Act 35 of 1984). The local State Veterinarian will advise on the AHS status of the relevant areas. Please contact the relevant Provincial Director, Veterinary Services, if the contact details of the State Veterinarian are unknown.

(<http://www.daff.gov.za/vetweb/Contacts/Contact%20list%20Provincial%20Directors.htm>)