
STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

2013 No. 244

**The African Horse Sickness
Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013**

PART V

NON-CAPTIVE HORSES

Suspicion relating to non-captive horses

15.—(1) This regulation applies where a veterinary inspector suspects that a non-captive horse may be infected with African horse sickness virus.

(2) A veterinary inspector shall take all reasonable steps to establish whether or not that suspicion is correct.

(3) Where a veterinary inspector concludes that African horse sickness virus is likely to be present in such a horse the Department shall take such steps as the Department considers appropriate (which may include the declaration of an infection zone under regulation 18) to reduce the risk of that virus spreading to other horses.

(4) For the purposes of paragraph (3), a veterinary inspector may by notice served on the occupier of the premises impose restrictions on the movement of horses or impose such other measures in relation to those premises that the Department considers necessary.

(5) The steps referred to in paragraph (2) or (3) need not be taken if the Department is satisfied that taking those steps is not likely to reduce the risk of African horse sickness virus spreading.

(6) A veterinary inspector and, when acting under the direction of a veterinary inspector, an inspector, another officer of the Department or any other person with the necessary expertise may enter any premises (except any premises used wholly or mainly as a private dwelling house) to—

- (a) undertake surveillance of non-captive horses;
- (b) capture and detain them;
- (c) vaccinate them;
- (d) take samples from them;
- (e) kill them if the Department is satisfied that it is necessary for the control of African horse sickness, and in particular if—
 - (i) it is not reasonably practicable to take samples from them without killing them;
 - (ii) it is not reasonably practicable to detain them pending the results of any testing or sampling;
 - (iii) they are spreading or may spread African horse sickness virus or are at risk of acquiring African horse sickness virus.

Changes to legislation: There are currently no known outstanding effects for the The African Horse Sickness Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2013, Section 15. (See end of Document for details)

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Commencement Information

II [Reg. 15](#) in operation at 18.11.2013, see [reg. 1](#)

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