

How can you contribute?

Pig farmer associations

- Perform surveillance
- Ensure transparent and prompt reporting of suspicions
- Contribute to and monitor awareness campaigns
- Apply biosecurity measures between visits (bio-hygienic Hunters measures)
- Ensure and advice to enhance biosecurity in holdings

Hunters

- Collaborate with the competent authority in the finding and reporting of wild boar carcasses
- Clean and disinfect equipment, clothes, vehicle and trophies on site and always before leaving the area
- Eviscerate shot wild boar in the designated dressing area of the hunting ground
- Contribute to the gradual reduction of the wild boar density in the areas not yet affected by the disease, including targeted hunting of adult and sub-adult females
- Do not feed wild boar throughout the whole year

General public

(travellers and transporters of feeds/foods)

- Do not introduce live pigs or pigs' products (fresh pork, refrigerated or frozen pork, sausages, ham salt-cured meat, pig fat) from extra EU territories
- Only move pork and other pig products from ASF restricted areas only if it is labelled with the EU oval stamp
- Do not leave food in area accessible to wild boar



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African Swine Fever

Brochure on biosecurity



African Swine Fever

Questions & Answers

• What is African swine fever?

African swine fever (ASF) is an infectious disease affecting pigs, ultimately resulting in the death of the animal.

• Can it be transmitted to humans?

It does not affect humans, nor does it affect other animal species, only pigs and wild boars. It is mainly transmitted via direct animal contact or by meat products used as feeding for pigs.

• Prevention

In disease free countries, this can be done using biosecurity methods.

On a trade level, all animals and meat must come from disease free areas and all trucks must have a disinfection control before loading. Preventative measures via the management of wild boar populations are also being examined to help prevent the disease from occurring.

• Control measures

All the pigs in an infected herd are scarified in the herd and sent to a rendering plant. After, the herd must be cleaned, disinfected and implement a sanitary void. Around the infected area two more areas must be defined to control the animals' transit and to avoid the disease spread.

• Vaccines

No vaccine exists to combat this virus in pigs. However, the EU has allocated substantial amount of money for research on vaccines for ASF through the sixth and seventh framework research projects and future projects.

• Where have outbreaks occurred?

Cases of the infectious pig disease ASF have so far been detected in wild boar and domestic pigs in Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania. It was also detected in wild boars in the Czech Republic and Hungary. It is also endemic in parts of Africa and Asia.

• What is the economic impact of the disease?

The disease can have a devastating economic impact on farmers livelihoods, on export

markets and ultimately on the economies of rural areas. Although farmers on infected holdings are directly compensated for the loss of the animal, it does not make up for the fact that they then have to re-start their business from scratch. Main EU trade partners in Asia do not accept our regionalization system. For this reason the EU can lose its export market which can provoke huge losses and high market disturbance.

• Prices

Pigmeat prices have already dropped by nearly 15% in some cases since 2017. Pig farmers already suffered enormously after Russia banned EU pork exports for political reasons. Nowadays, very low prices in China are affecting the prices in EU.

• Who are the main pigmeat producers in the EU?

Germany is the largest pigmeat producer accounting for 23% in 2017 of EU production (5 455 000 t) followed by Spain with 18% of production (4 249 000 t); France with 9% (2 177 000 t); Poland with 9% (1 990 000 t); Denmark with 7% (1 530 000 t); Italy with 6% (1 467 000 t); Netherlands with 6% (1 456 000 t); Belgium with 5% (1 045 000 t). The remaining countries account for 17% of production.

• Who are the main producers of pigmeat in the world?

China is by far the largest producer of pigmeat accounting in 2016 for 46% of production (55 041 000 t); followed by the EU with 20% of production (23 618 000 t); the USA with 10% (11, 320 000 t); Vietnam with 3% of production (53 665 000 t); Brazil with 3% of production (3514 000 t); the Russian Federation with 3% of production (3 368 000 t); Canada with 2% of production (2048 000 t). The remaining countries account for 13% of global production (15 595 000 t).

• Trade

China is by far the biggest importer of EU pigmeat, with around 40% of EU pigmeat exports currently going to China. This is followed by Japan, South Korea, Hong Kong, the Philippines, USA.

African Swine Fever

Biosecurity measures

Pig Farmers:

Comply with all the legislation on African Swine Fever (PSA)¹, including the following guidelines:

1. Equip your exploitation with sanitary measures proposed by your Member State and/or region and European Commission (biosecurity):
 - Study and understand biosecurity standards concerned;
 - Transmit biosecurity standards to its employees and ensure its compliance;
2. The owner (or the person in charge of the pigs) should take appropriate biohygienic measures such as change clothes and boots on entering the stable and leaving the stable:
 - Disinfection should be performed at the entrance of the holding and the stable;
 - No hunting activity should be carried out 48h prior being in contact with pigs;
3. Do not accept any type of transport in the premises that does not contain proof that it has been washed and disinfected (records to be kept);
4. No contact between the pig(s) of the Non-commercial farms, pigs from other holdings and feral pigs or wild boar;
5. No contact to any part of feral pigs, including hunted or dead wild boar/meat/byproducts.
6. Any animal that does not respect the norms enforced in the region should not be moved;
7. Make sure that all leftover food is put in sealed waste containers and not feed to domestic and feral pigs.
8. Inform the authorities immediately if any abnormal animal behaviour was observed on the holding;
9. Home slaughtering only under veterinary supervision.

¹ Council Directive 2002/60/EC
Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2014/709
Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/745

