

## Swine Disease Global Surveillance Report

Wednesday, September 1, 2020 – Tuesday, October 6, 2020

### Report Highlights

- **First ASF report in Germany:** On September 10, Germany confirmed the first case of African swine fever (ASF) in a wild boar (WB) found near the Polish border. Since then, another 48 cases have been reported in WB.
- **CSF in Japan:** CSF was reported for the first time in a pig farm in Gunma prefecture. On September 3, Japan officially lost its disease-free status for CSF. Previously (September 2018), the OIE had given Japan a two-year suspension status, after confirming the first CSF outbreak in 26 years in a pig farm in Gifu prefecture.

### SEPTEMBER OUTBREAKS BRIEF

R	Location	Date	Disease	Impact
3	Germany - Brandenburg state	9/10	ASF	49 cases have been reported in wild boar
2	Japan - Takasaki City, Gunma	09/25	CSF	First outbreak in domestic pigs in the country in about half a year - 5390 pigs affected. <i>Summary below</i>
1	Romania - multiple locations	09/30	ASF	156 official outbreaks were reported in September. <i>An alarming steady tendency after the August record report of 165 cases in domestic pigs.</i>
1	Brazil - Parnaiba, Piaui	10/2	CSF	First case reported in backyard farm since 11/12/2019 in the non-free region.

*The outbreaks described in the table above are colored according to an assigned significance score. The score is based on the identified hazard and potential it has to the US swine industry. Rank(R) Blue: 1 - no change in status; Red: 2 - needs extra attention as the situation is dynamic; Black: 3 - requires consideration or change in practices to reduce exposure to the US swine industry.*

## FOCUS ON - Special report

### AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN GERMANY

On September 10, Europe's biggest pork exporter reported ASF for the first time in a WB carcass found in the eastern state of Brandenburg, according to [The Friedrich-Loeffler-Institute](#). The animal was found just 6 km from the Polish border and only 30 km (18.6 miles) from the last confirmed case of ASF in Poland. The report stated that disease introduction was likely due to WB movements, although the route of contaminated food carried by humans cannot be ruled out.

#### Chronicle of a turning-point foretold

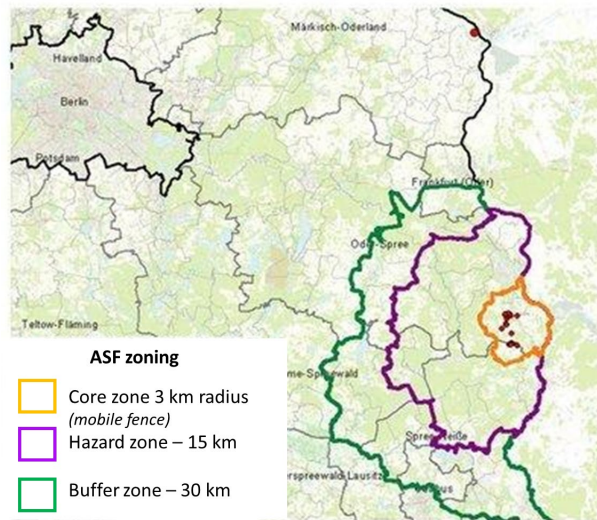


Figure 1. Current control – adapted. Source: The Friedrich Loeffler Institute (FLI)

The country has been on high alert for ASF, and was considered at high risk of infection, ever since a spate of cases emerged in wild boar in western Poland, in some cases as close as 10 km from the German border (timeline, Figure 2).

[According to the new report](#), the virus has also traveled north in western Poland. The recent case was discovered near the hamlet Bleyen, in Märkisch-Oderland district, which is close to the Polish border and about 60 km (37.3 miles) north of the first infection zone. There have not been any known reports of infected WB on the other side of the Polish border at this latitude.

February 2014: First cases of ASF were detected in WBs in the northeast region of Poland, less than 1 km from the border with Belarus

*Between 2014 and 2019, more than 3000 and 200 cases were reported in Poland in WBs and domestic pigs, respectively.*

June 2017: First detection of ASF in two WBs in Czech Republic (Zlin district).

*From 2017 to 2018: 212 ASF cases were reported in Czech Republic. None of them in domestic pigs.*

February 2018: Last report of ASF in WB in Czech Republic.

*From 2017 to 2018: 212 ASF cases were reported in Czech Republic. None of them in domestic pigs.*

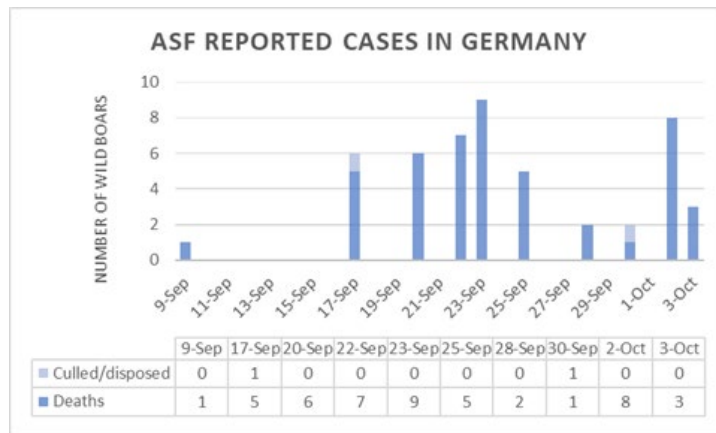
November 2019: First report of ASF in WBs in Western Poland – 65 km from the German border

*Over 1100 ASF cases in WBs reported in Western Poland*

March 2020: First case in a farm in Western Poland.

*Another 12 outbreaks in domestic pigs, were reported in farms in Western Poland near the German border*

September 2020: Germany confirms its first case of ASF in Berlin-Brandenburg State, just 6 km from the Polish border.



And by Monday, October 5, the country has confirmed 49 WB cases (Table 1).

The European Union has laid down prevention and control measures to be applied where ASF is suspected or confirmed. These include information measures and measures to prevent and eradicate the disease. ([Council Directive 2002/60/EC of 27 June 2002](#)). In this framework, the latest specific regionalization measures taken with respect to evolution of the ASF situation in the EU are included in several updates brought up since 2014. The latest, the [Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2020/1391](#) of October 2, 2020, concerning certain interim protective measures relating to ASF in Germany. The [MAP](#) summarizing the current regionalization can be accessed through the EU website, as well as an [interactive tool](#) displaying the EU regionalization for ASF. It is an indicative representation of the areas covered by the latest amended of October 5, 2020.

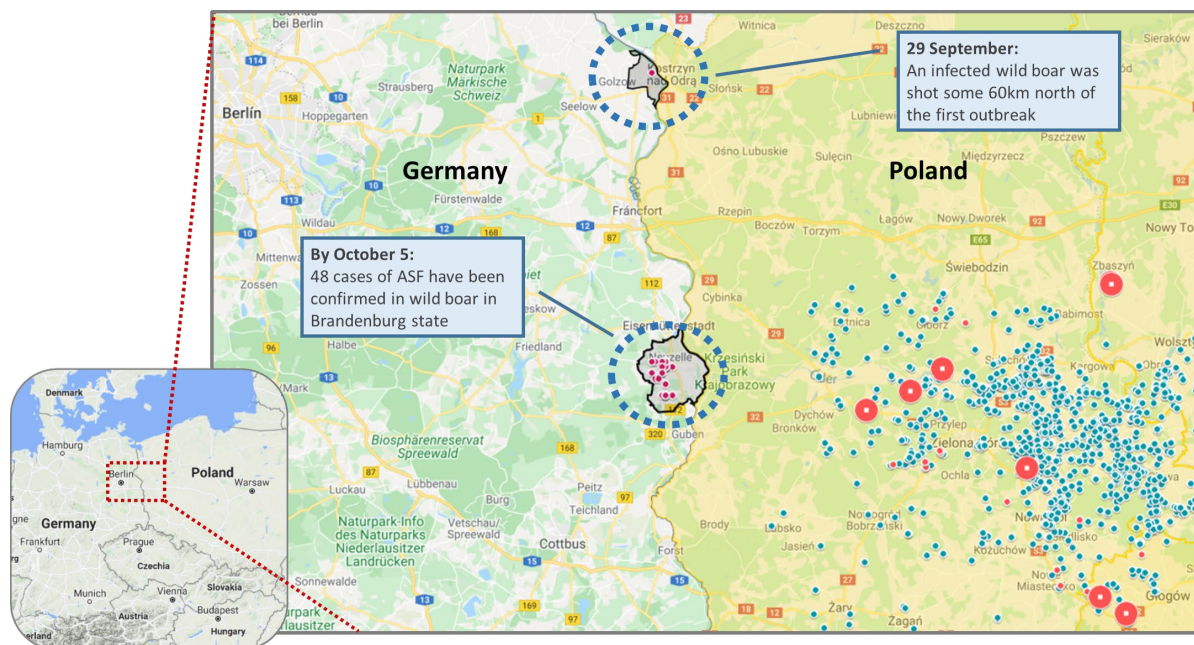


Figure 3. Current distribution of ASF outbreaks in Germany and Western Poland. Large red dots: ASF cases reported in farms in Western Poland; Small blue dots: ASF cases detected in WBs in Western Poland.

### Country's response/measures implemented

Following the confirmation of a case of infected WB, the German Ministry of Agriculture announced a series of strict measures to avoid any contaminations and the activation of a crisis management plan. Some of the measures in place/progress:

- Placing mobile fences, in a 15 km radius around this newly found places.
- Enhanced surveillance: bringing in search-dog teams, human chains, and deploying drones and helicopters with thermal-imaging technology to scour for boars.
- Rewarding: the state announced a reward for up to \$117- 176 (€ 100-150) for every dead WB found.
- Urging for a permanent, stable fence, from Uckermark - further up north even - until Spree-Neisse. The state announced to invest \$7 million.
- The government equipped the border rivers between Germany and Poland (the Oder and the Neisse) with electronic temporary fences to prevent the introduction of the disease into swine farms.
- Germany has informed the European Commission of the current ASF situation on its territory in accordance with Article 15 of Directive 2002/60/EC ([Commission Implementing Decision \(EU\) 2020/1270 of 11 September 2020](#)).
- German farmers' association DBV also urged the German government to continue talks with China about using a regional ban on imports involving only the local area in which an ASF case was found, rather than a blanket national import ban. A similar pre-emptive zoning agreement was reached between Australia and Singapore.

In the first quarter of 2020, in the entire European Union, 4,085 infected WB were found. This is roughly equal to the 60% that was found throughout 2019. And because of the sustained disease spread, it is likely that ASF would continue to move westwards through Germany and reach other western Europe countries. Thus, integrative work by European countries has paramount importance and it is a timely call.

### Global perspective: Why is the situation in Germany important?

Germany is the EU's largest pork producer and one of the world's largest pork exporters, shipping around 500,000 tons per year, including significant volume to China. ASF can become devastating for the country's pork industry, which is still dealing with disruptions caused by COVID-19.

Currently, numerous countries, including Japan, South Korea, China, Philippines, Brazil, Mexico, and Argentina have suspended imports of pork and live pigs from the country after the first case of ASF was confirmed, causing an excruciating loss of business.

EU countries, however, are still accepting German pork from regions not affected by the disease, a spokeswoman for the agriculture ministry said. The import bans would be a major hit for German producers and will push global prices for pork to new highs.

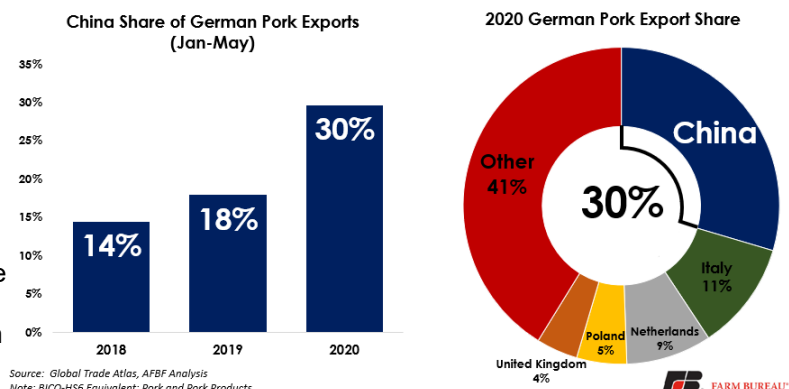


Fig 4. German Pork exports to China. Source: GlobalTrade Atlas, AFBF Analysis.



To show the magnitude of the problem in the swine industry, in February 2020, the [Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board](#) (AHDB) indicated in its forecasting report that EU prices could drop by 20-40% if ASF hits Germany. This price increase will also put pressure on importing countries, where meat supplies are tightening.

**In conclusion, the significance of the ASF report in Germany is much more important for international trade than the impact it has caused on the management of the disease in the EU, which remains approximately the same.**

## Classical Swine Fever

### ASIA

#### Japan

On September 26, the Japanese Agricultural Ministry confirmed that a classical swine fever (CSF) outbreak has been detected in a commercial farm in the city of Takasafi, Gunma Prefecture. This is the first outbreak in domestic pigs reported in almost six months since a case reported in Okinawa prefecture in March 2020. This is the first case in Gunma Prefecture since the current epidemic started in 2018 (Figure 5).

Based on the epidemiological investigation, the owner of Takasaki farm reported the event after detecting an increase in mortality and diarrhea in piglets since early September.

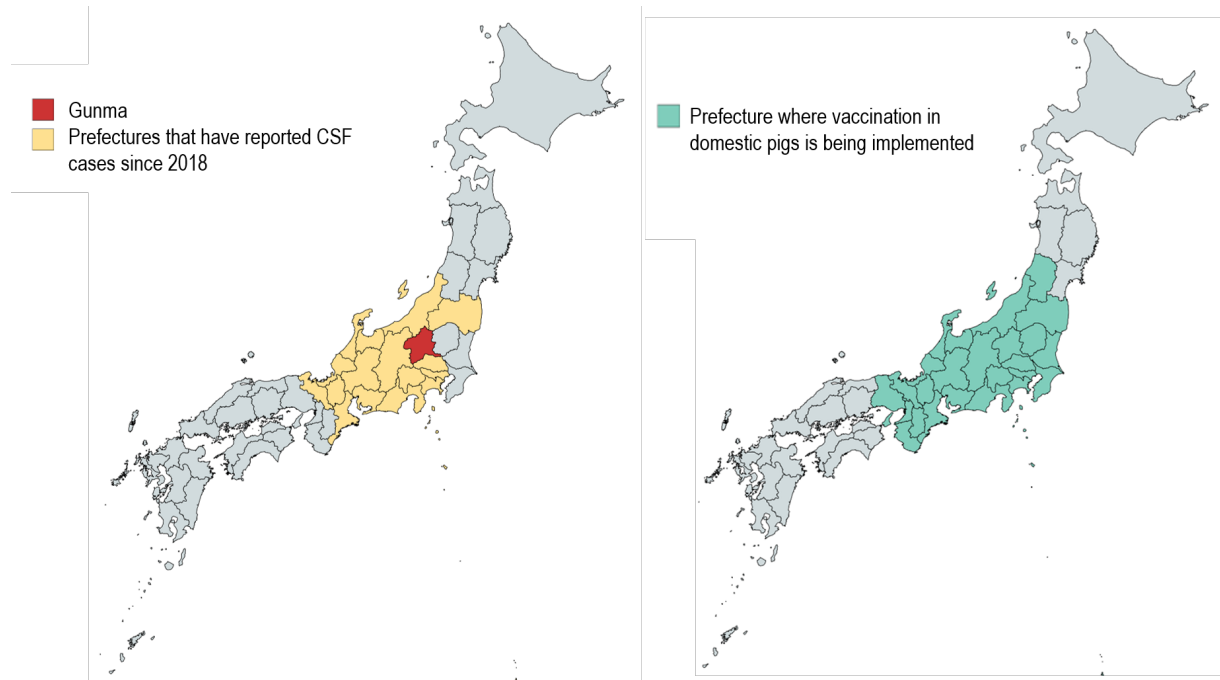


Figure 5. CSF in Japan. Left: Japanese prefectures that had reported outbreaks of CSF since September 2018. Right: Prefectures that have started vaccination in domestic pigs

Last October, local authorities started the implementation of vaccination campaigns on farms, after the discovery of an infected wild boar -- this makes a total of 26 prefectures that currently are practicing vaccination in domestic pigs as a control measure.

### *Japan Loses Disease-Free Status*

On September 3, Japan officially lost its disease-free status for CSF. The OIE gave Japan a two-year suspension status on September 3, 2018, after the confirmation of the first CSF outbreak in 26 years in a pig farm in Gifu prefecture.

In order to regain the disease-free status, in accordance with OIE codes, Japan will have to ensure that there are no reported cases for a year and that no vaccinations for the disease, in neither domestic or WB populations, are carried out during the same period.

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