Swine Health Information Center

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CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Swine Disease Global Surveillance Report

Worldwide pork production is highly interconnected by trade between countries and markets which could increase the risk of introduction of foreign pathogens into the US.

PROJECT

The aim of these reports is to have a system for near real-time identification of hazards that will contribute to the mission of assessing risks to the industry and ultimately, facilitate early detection and identification, or prevent occurrence of events, in partnership with official agencies, and with our international network of collaborators.

Monthly reports are generated through a systematic process that involves screening various official data sources, including government and international organization websites, as well as softer sources such as blogs, newspapers, and unstructured electronic information from around the world. These data are then curated to create a raw repository.

Subsequently, a multi-criteria rubric is applied to evaluate each event. This rubric assesses factors like novelty and the potential direct and indirect financial impacts on the US market. The outcome of this rubric application is a final score assigned to each event.

These final scores, along with an epidemiological interpretation of the event's context, are published.

The interpretation encompasses details like the credibility of the information, the scale and speed of the outbreak, its connectedness to other factors, and the local capacity to respond.

These communications and the information contained therein are for general informational and educational purposes only and are not to be construed as recommending or advocating a specific course of action.

CENTER FOR ANIMAL HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Swine Disease Global Surveillance Report

Tuesday, January 2, 2024, to Monday, February 5, 2024

Report Highlights

- **African swine fever keeps spreading in Europe:** Montenegro has become the 27th European country to report the disease for the first time in wild boars.
- **ASF in Italy**: The European Commission has officially declared the resolved status of the outbreak genotype II in Sardinia and characterized it as *"occasional" and "imported*"- remaining confined to the province of Nuoro.
- **ASF in South Korea**: First report of ASF in domestic pigs in Gyeonggi-do province since April 2021 - 2,448 pigs culled on site.
- **Foot-and-Mouth Disease in Africa**: Six countries reported outbreaks in January - limited information regarding the responsible viral strains is available; for only two of those, serotype O has been confirmed.

Surveillance at Points of Entry

- **Port of Dover, UK**: Unprecedented volumes of illegally imported meat have been detected by port authorities, raising concerns about the risk of ASF.
- **Naples, Italy**: Traces of ASFV detected in Chinese salamis falsely labeled as vegetarian.

JANUARY 2024 - OUTBREAKS BRIEF

R	Location	Report Date	Dx	Impact
2	**Kovaci village, 500 meters from the border with Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro**	1/12	ASF	Detected in two dead wild boars
2	**Asti province, Piedmont region, Italy**	1/15	ASF	12th province that reports the first case of ASF in wild boar
1	**Northern region, Greece**	1/15	ASF	Eighth outbreak in a farm - 174 pigs affected
1	**Hong Kong, China**	1/1-13	ASF	Four new outbreaks - 4,070 pigs affected
1	**East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia**	Jan	ASF	24 new cases
1	**Multiple locations, South Korea**	1/16-18	ASF	Two new outbreaks in domestic pigs - over 2,500 pigs affected
1	**Multiple provinces (Cordoba, Santa Fe), Argentina**	Nov - Jan	PRV	Eleven outbreaks - among those, two commercial farms with over 6.000 pigs

Outbreaks described in the table above are colored according to an assigned significance score. The score is based on the identified hazard and potential to affect 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.

African Swine Fever

Regional Highlights

EUROPE

In January (01/04/2024 - 01/27/2024), five European (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Romania, Serbia, and Ukraine) countries reported 26 outbreaks in domestic pigs. While Sweden successfully managed the situation, Montenegro has now become the 27th European country to report the disease for the first time (Figure 1).

In the initial month of the year, 704 ASF outbreaks were reported within the wild boar population across 18 countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Ukraine), marking a significant reduction of the number of cases compared to the corresponding period of the previous year (n=1213). The majority of outbreaks were reported in Bulgaria (n=172), Poland (n=151), and Italy (n=117) (Figure 2).

- **Sweden | January 9: No new cases have been reported in wild boar since November 2023.** Authorities believe the situation is under control, as no active ASF cases are currently identified, and the winter conditions are expected to limit any remaining virus contamination. Culling operations continue to ensure the current wild boar population in the fenced area is eliminated. Sweden aims to be declared ASF-free by late September or early October 2024, following a systematic and collaborative approach to managing the outbreak.

Reminder: ASF in Sweden

In a surprising turn of events in September 2023, ASF emerged in a wild boar population in a forested area near Fagersta, Västmanland county, approximately 90 miles (145 km) northwest of the country's capital - Stockholm. During a three-month search (Oct-Dec), the authorities identified 62 outbreak locations within a fenced core zone of roughly 100 km². Encouragingly, by late 2023, the officially recognized infected zone showed signs of reduction, indicating a potential outbreak containment.

The **likely origin of the outbreak is traced to a garbage dump** found at the outbreak's epicenter, which attracted wild boars. Approximately 15 years ago, the local boar population surged due to the dump serving as a food source. Although the virus was sequenced, it couldn't definitively pinpoint its origin. Still, it's presumed to have entered through contaminated pork, possibly from Europe or Asia, ending up in the garbage dump and exposing wild boars to ASF genotype 2.

The country's response to the outbreak has been characterized by effective collaboration among key stakeholders, including authorities, hunting associations, hunters, and local communities. Swift actions, such as deploying hundreds of local hunters to search for carcasses within a week of detection and promptly erecting fences, have contributed to the favorable outcome. Additionally, the limited wild boar population in the affected area, coupled with the less favorable habitat of boreal forests and fortuitously timed seasonal factors, likely played crucial roles in preventing further spread.

Still, since the last detection of ASF was in November 2023, and temperatures are expected to drop to -4°F (-20°C) and based on estimated half-life values, tissues are predicted to remain infectious for 353 to 713 days at −20°C (LINK to publication), and carcasses may take longer to rot. Once temperatures begin to rise again, wild boars may become exposed to preserved infected carcasses.

- **Montenegro | January 12: The country becomes 27th in Europe to report ASF.** Montenegro has confirmed its first case of ASF in wild boars, with two dead boars found close to the village Kovaci in the Nikšić region, just 500 m from the border with Bosnia & Herzegovina, testing positive for the virus. As per a statement from the agriculture ministry, there have been no reported cases of the disease at local pig farms.
  Thus, ASF, detected in Europe for the first time in 2007, continues its relentless spread across the continent, affecting both domestic and wild pigs. In neighboring countries, it initially surfaced in Serbia in 2019, followed by North Macedonia in 2022, and subsequently in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Kosovo in 2023. As of now, nearly every Eastern European country has documented this disease in either wild boar or domestic pig populations, with Albania and Slovenia being the only exceptions that have not reported any outbreaks thus far.

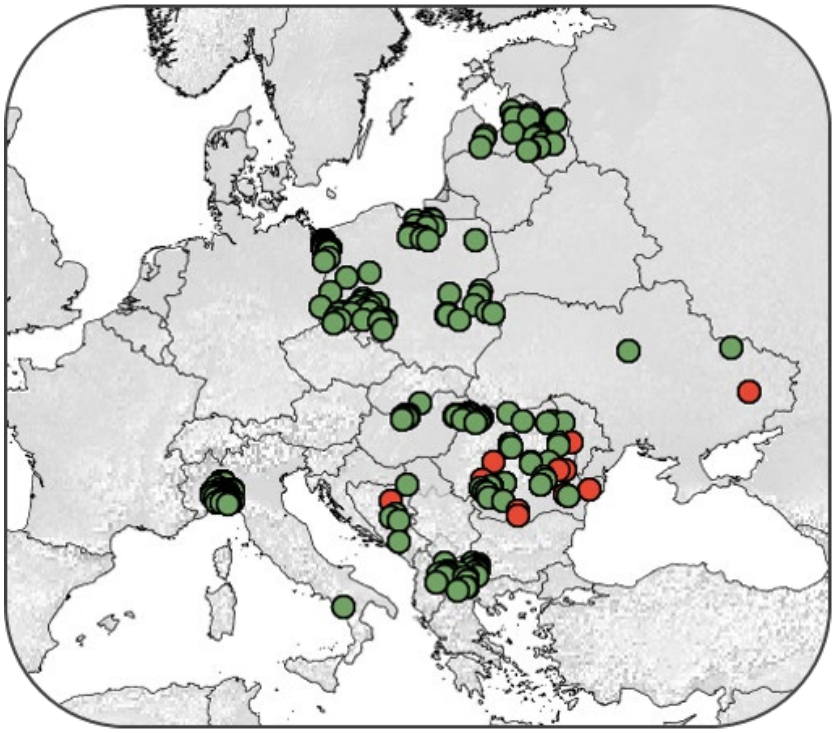

Figure 1. The distribution of African swine fever outbreaks in Europe (in green: wild boar; in red: domestic pigs) January 2, 2024 -February 5, 2024. (Source: FAO EMPRES-i).

- **Greece | January 15: ASF continues to impact smaller swine farms in northern Greece, with a recent outbreak leading to the closure of a farm with 174 pigs.** This incident marks the eighth farm in Greece to report the virus, with six cases documented in 2023 and one in 2020. It is also the second-largest farm in Greece to be affected by ASF (the largest farm, with 675 pigs on-site, was infected in April 2023) and the first to be hit in the region of Eastern Macedonia and Thrace, marking the country's first outbreak for six months. The outbreak near Pagoneri, close to the Bulgarian border, suggests a trend of the virus crossing from northern states.

  In 2023, 1,165 domestic pigs were culled in Greece to manage ASF, with the majority occurring since the beginning of that year. Wild boars in Greece have seen relatively few reported outbreaks compared to northern European regions - only two infected wild boars were found in January 2023.

- **Italy | January 15: ASF has spread to 12 provinces, and genotype II of the virus has been confirmed in Sardinia, alongside genotype I, considered endemic on the island.** The Sardinian outbreak in mid-September was officially reported to WOAH in January. It occurred on a closed-cycle farm with 13 pigs, where three pigs died, and the remaining ones

were culled. After extensive checks, including examining 200 farms within a 10 km radius, strengthening passive and active surveillance to monitor potential virus introduction into the surrounding environment, and testing 300 wild boar, all results were negative. The epidemiological investigation identified the entry of the virus into the regional territory on September 6. The source is attributed to meat products, possibly untreated food waste fed to the pigs. The European Commission has officially declared the resolved status of the outbreak and characterized it as "occasional" and "imported," remaining confined to the province of Nuoro. The confirmed absence of ASF in wild boars led to the European Commission's decision to certify the area as ASF-free in late October.

Another significant development is the first ASF case detected in the province of Asti, where a wild boar tested positive. The province, located in the Piedmont region, has become the 12th Italian province to acknowledge the presence of ASF in the last two years.

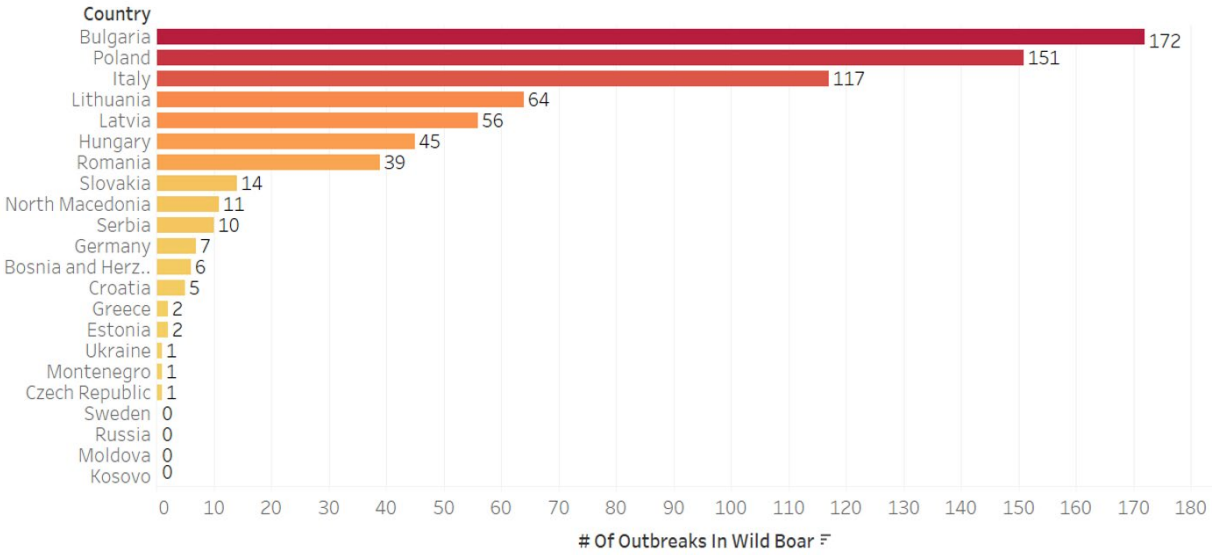

Figure 2. Distribution of African swine fever outbreaks in wild boar among European countries: January 2, 2024 - February 5, 2024. (Source: ADIS system).

ASIA

Five countries (Hong Kong (China), Vietnam, The Philippines, South Korea, and Indonesia) reported ASF outbreaks in domestic swine in January, while a suspected outbreak of ASF was reported in Tripura State, India. South Korea reported new ASF cases in wild boars.

Hong Kong (China) | January 1-13: Four ASF outbreaks were reported in licensed pig farms. Three of these outbreaks occurred in Sin Tin, Yuen Long, with 12 cases and 3581 susceptible pigs. Additionally, one outbreak was reported at a farm in North Kwu Tung, involving two cases and 489 susceptible pigs. All susceptible pigs in these outbreaks were culled and properly disposed of. These ASF outbreaks are part of a larger disease event that commenced on October 26, 2023, resulting in the culling of a cumulative total of 16,064 domestic swine from 10 outbreaks. The ASF virus from this outbreak has been identified as genotype 2, and there is an active ASF surveillance system for both domestic and wild pigs.

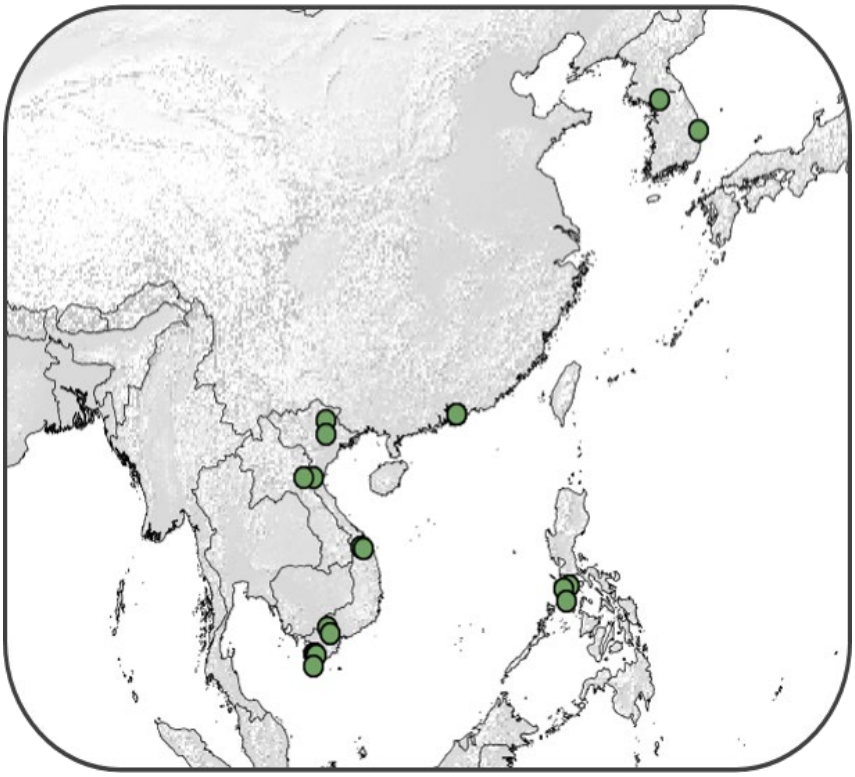

Figure 3. ASF outbreak distribution in domestic pigs in Asia (January 1 - February 2, 2024). (Source: FAO EMPRES-i - Data sources: Republic of Korea, Viet Nam: WAHIS and media information, The Philippines: WAHIS and government websites, Indonesia: official database "isikhnas,")

Indonesia | January: National authorities reported 24 new cases of ASF in domestic pigs through the National Animal Disease Situation Dashboard. These cases occurred in East Nusa Tenggara, a province with almost 60,000 pigs affected by ASF in 2023.

South Korea | January 16-18: On January 22, WOAH reported two new ASF outbreaks in domestic swine in South Korea. These outbreaks occurred on January 16 and 18, 2024, in Yeongdeok, Gyeongsangbuk-do, and Paju, Gyeonggi-do, respectively. In Gyeongsangbuk-do, 20 deaths, 27 cases, and 519 susceptible domestic pigs were reported, while in Gyeonggi-do, 19 deaths, 35 cases, and 2394 susceptible domestic pigs were reported. All at-risk pigs at both locations were culled and disposed of.

Notably, ASF was last reported in Paju, Gyeonggi-do, in April 2021, and the affected farm is approximately 4.6 miles (7.5 km) from the national border. To prevent the spread of ASF, an anti-epidemic team was deployed to the affected farm, and an epidemiological investigation team controlled the entry of outsiders, livestock, and vehicles. Additionally, efforts are underway to block pollution in the outbreak area by mobilizing disinfection resources for intensive disinfection of pig farms in Yeongdeok-gun and surrounding roads.

- ASF in wild boar has extended its reach to Busan, marking a further southern spread. Previously, cases of ASF in wild boar had been documented only as far south as Gyeongsangbuk-do. As of January 30, 3593 ASF cases have been confirmed in wild boars throughout South Korea.

The Philippines | January 15-27: Recent reports from local media have indicated ASF outbreaks in Cagayan, Occidental Mindoro, and Southern Leyte. In Cagayan, 24 pigs from four barangays succumbed to the disease, prompting immediate safe disposal (burial) and thorough disinfection in the area. Occidental Mindoro has recorded ASF cases in Santa Cruz (seven cases), San Jose (five

cases), and Rizal (two cases) as of January 17. Efforts are underway to contain the virus, including depopulation of infected hogs and preventive culling. Pig production in the nearby province of Oriental Mindoro is being closely monitored due to previous ASF cases. Meanwhile, in the coastal town of Malitbog, Southern Leyte, ASF has impacted the area for the first time, resulting in the culling of at least 150 hogs. ASF was initially detected in the village of San Vicente on January 15. ASF cases were also identified in the villages of Pasil (15 affected pigs) and Cadaruhan (55 affected pigs), all of which were culled and buried. One hundred fifty pigs were depopulated as part of the effort to contain the ASF spread in the town, consisting of 37 barangays. The local government promptly conducted orientation and information dissemination regarding ASF and its management strategies.

Unauthorized vaccine seizure raises concerns amidst ongoing efforts to combat ASF:
In a recent buy-bust operation in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, law enforcement officers recovered around 100 doses of unauthorized ASF vaccines from two suspects. The Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) worked with representatives from the Department of Agriculture (DA) to apprehend individuals selling vaccines that lack official approval for sale in the country.

ASF has caused significant damage to the Philippine hog industry since 2019, with losses exceeding P200 billion and approximately 50% of the country's hogs still affected. There is a crucial emphasis on not resorting to illegal means to address the ASF problem, and ongoing efforts are urged to apprehend those involved in the illicit sale and use of ASF vaccines. While authorities are actively investigating illegal sales of vaccines, local stakeholders have expressed concern about the desperation of some farmers affected by ASF, highlighting the role of regulatory agencies in prioritizing the approval of the ASF vaccine of proven efficacy for local use.

Foot-and-Mouth Disease

Africa

In January 2024, new and ongoing FMD outbreaks were reported in six African countries (Algeria, Tunisia, Libya, Kenya, South Africa, and Uganda), causing significant interference with the livelihoods of the communities affected.

Regional Highlights

- **Algeria | January 4:** Local media reported an outbreak of FMD in Bouira, Algeria, affecting eight out of 14 cattle on a farm. This has prompted the veterinary services to isolate the affected cattle to curb the spread of the disease. Additional measures have been implemented, including the closure of livestock markets in the region and a vaccination campaign. Despite these efforts, the vaccination exercise has not reached all farms, leading to awareness campaigns urging farmers to vaccinate their herds. The wilaya (governorate) of Bouira has approximately 32,000 head of cattle, but the high costs of food and vaccines have compelled some farmers to abandon their agricultural activities. On December 10, 2023, Algeria reported two FMD outbreaks to WOAH in Sétif Province. These outbreaks affected two cattle farms, with 10 cases reported and 187 susceptible cattle. The FMD serotype responsible for the Algerian outbreaks has not yet been identified.

- **Libya | January 22:** There are currently seven ongoing FMD outbreaks in cattle, with three starting in January 2024 and four in December 2023. The January 2024 outbreaks in Surt, Az Zawiyah, and Misratah resulted in 51 deaths and 209 cases among 751 susceptible cattle. Since the initial outbreaks in December 2023, 62 deaths and 242 cases have been reported in an 885-cattle-susceptible population. These outbreaks are attributed to the Serotype O virus, although specific strain information is not yet available. It should be noted that in 2023, FMD

serotype O, topotype O/EA-3 viruses, which are endemic in Eastern Africa, were reported in the same districts (Az Zawiyah, Misratah) currently facing outbreaks.

- **Tunisia | January 23:** Two new FMD outbreaks were reported to WOAH. Serotype O viruses caused these outbreaks. The first outbreak occurred in Essray, Kassérine, involving goats with three deaths, six cases, and 183 susceptible goats. Although there were no recorded cases in sheep, two at-risk sheep were present on the affected farm. The second outbreak in Jammel Nord affected domestic cattle, with nine cases among 33 susceptible cattle. Both outbreaks are part of a disease event that began in September 2023. Various measures such as zoning, surveillance, quarantine, and vaccination have been implemented to control the spread of the disease.

- **South Africa | January 4:** FMD outbreak within South Africa's FMD protection zone. An immediate notification has been sent by South African authorities to WOAH about an FMD outbreak in domestic cattle in a village in Mbombela, Mpumalanga, with 14 cases and 37 at-risk cattle recorded. The virus strain responsible for the outbreak is yet to be identified; however, control measures such as control of wildlife reservoirs, zoning, and quarantine have been implemented. Vaccination is yet to be applied.

- **Uganda | January 19:** The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry, and Fisheries has issued quarantine restrictions in more than 20 districts following outbreaks of FMD. Several reports about the impact of the current outbreaks have been published in local print media. The movement of live animals and animal products has been banned to control outbreaks. FMD is endemic in Uganda, and research shows that annually, there is an increase in outbreaks between November and January, which is usually a period of low rainfall.

Surveillance at Points of Entry

Port of Dover, United Kingdom | January 2: The port is witnessing unprecedented volumes of illegally imported meat, raising concerns about the risk of ASF. The Dover Port Health Authority (DPHA) has seized over 57 tonnes of illegal pork meat since the implementation of new requirements for bringing pork and pork products into Great Britain from the European Union and European Free Trade Association (EFTA) states, with concerns that this represents only a fraction of the illicit trade. This encompasses confiscating 5.5 tonnes of illegal meat during the weekend preceding Christmas alone. The UK has not experienced a confirmed ASF outbreak, but the risks remain high, necessitating robust measures to protect biosecurity.

Urge for action to safeguard against ASF outbreak

Amid concerns over the potential impact of cost-cutting measures on the team screening pork for ASF at Dover, Kent, there is an urgent call to action to safeguard against an ASF outbreak in the UK. As of 2022, existing regulations deem it unlawful for travelers to import pork products weighing more than 2kg from the EU into the country unless these products adhere to the commercial standards of the bloc, as well as an inspection team was established to address rising ASF outbreaks in Europe. The looming budget cut could compromise biosecurity efforts, leading to severe consequences, including culling programs and export bans. Delays in implementing official import controls on EU products of animal origin (POAO) until April 30, 2024, have further heightened concerns. Reduced resources may compromise Britain's ability to address biosecurity threats. Port health chief Lucy Manzano warns of severe consequences if ASF lands in the UK, including culling programs and export bans. Despite government assurances of strict controls, concerns persist about potential vulnerabilities and risks to pig farming, wildlife, and public health if the inspection team's resources are diminished.

The National Pig Association (NPA) is urging the UK government to expand the current ban on non-

commercial pork imports, making it applicable to all imports rather than just consignments over 2kg. This proposed change aims to simplify understanding and enhance enforcement. The NPA emphasizes the need for proper resources to maintain and strengthen essential work in preventing ASF risks.

Additionally, the NPA calls for the transfer of responsibility for these checks from Border Control to port health authorities. The association continues to press the government to improve overall border controls and seeks assurances about the timely implementation of proper checks on commercial imports through the Border Target Operating Model.

The NPA and other key stakeholders have called on the UK government to take action:

- enhance border controls for meat imports, incorporating sniffer dogs at ports, airports, Eurotunnel, and postal hubs
- improve communication to highlight the risks of importing meat products
- review of Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) resources and expertise to effectively respond to notifiable disease outbreaks
- plan for regionalization with trading partners to ensure continued pork exports in unaffected areas during an outbreak.

Last week, Sir Robert Goodwill, the chair of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, expressed in a letter (LINK) severe concerns to Defra Secretary Steve Barclay about proposed budget cuts: These include proposed cuts of up to 70% in the budget for illegal meat checks at the Port of Dover, specifically introduced to keep ASF out of the country, and a decision to move the Border Control Post for customs checks from Dover 22 miles inland to a site at Sevington, near Ashford.

Since the introduction of ASF checks in September 2022, over 60 tonnes of illegal pork have been seized.

Naples, Italy | January 10: Traces of ASFV detected in Chinese salamis falsely labeled as vegetarian. The Ministry of Health has initiated checks for the withdrawal of certain salamis imported from China, falsely labeled as vegetarian. Despite claiming to be a soy version, health checks revealed the presence of chicken and pork, with the latter testing positive for the ASF virus. The Neapolitan ASL (Local Health Authority) flagged the issue, prompting monitoring since December. The double labeling, in both Chinese and Italian, highlights the discrepancy in ingredient information. An extraordinary monitoring plan is ongoing, raising concerns about potential ASF contamination.

Nueva Ecija, The Philippines | January 10: Local authorities seized smuggled ASF vaccines. In a recent buy-bust operation in Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija, law enforcement officers seized as many as 100 doses of unauthorized ASF vaccines from two suspects. In collaboration with the Department of Agriculture, the Philippine National Police-Criminal Investigation and Detection Group apprehended the individuals selling vaccines that had not been officially approved for sale in the country. The ASF outbreak has caused significant damage to the hog industry in the Philippines, with around 50% of hogs still affected. Authorities are cracking down on illegal sales of ASF vaccines, emphasizing the need for a safe and approved solution.

Pseudorabies (PRV) - Aujeszky's Disease

Argentina | December 6: The Argentine pig farming industry is grappling with a crisis due to a significant increase in the report of outbreaks of Aujeszky's disease in middle - large commercial farms. This has prompted urgent actions by the National Service of Health and Agri-Food Quality (SENASA) and the Argentine Pig Federation, including forming a crisis committee to tackle the issue. To prevent

virus spread, the committee will oversee measures such as importing vaccines and enhancing biosecurity protocols, particularly in vehicle cleaning.

After the Argentine Pig Federation requested the importation of 1.2 million vaccine doses to address the emergency, and following Senasa's efforts to overcome logistical and regulatory challenges, two batches of the vaccine were approved for importation, commercialization, and use. These batches, totaling **300,000 and 1.2 million doses**, respectively, were granted approval after successfully passing quality controls conducted by the Central Laboratory of the Veterinary Service.

Background

In Argentina, PRV has been a persistent issue since it was first identified in 1979. SENASA oversaw a National Control and Eradication Plan to address this problem. It consisted of two stages: estimating the national AD prevalence and implementing control measures.

In the estimation phase conducted in 2010, it was found that 19.1% of farms were infected with PRV, with a higher prevalence in farms with fewer sows. The plan's second stage requires farms with more than 100 sows to be PRV-free, with a future extension to smaller farms.

However, progress in the plan has been slower than hoped, and complete eradication of PRV in Argentina seems unlikely in the near future.

Additionally, PRV has been identified in wild pigs in certain regions, emphasizing the need to prevent contact between wild and domestic pigs to avoid sporadic introductions into farms.

In 2016, Argentina began using an inactivated gE-negative marker Bartha K61 vaccine (AUSKIPRA R BK) due to the absence of national PRV vaccines. This choice was made to minimize the risks associated with modified live vaccines (MLV).

Currently, Argentina is the only country using the inactivated AUSKIPRA R BK vaccine as the primary tool for PRV control.

France | January 10: Two hunting dogs have died from Aujeszky's disease after coming into contact with an infected wild boar. The dogs were infected after encountering a dead boar in the forest of Fontainebleau near Barbizon (Seine-et-Marne) in late November 2023. The third hunting dog died of the disease on an unspecified date in December near the village of Luxeuil-les-Bains (Haute-Saône). Although the disease is lethal for many young wild boars and pigs, adult male wild boars frequently survive and become latent carriers. They have the potential to spread the disease through their feces or, if killed by hunters, through their entrails. Hunting associations are urged to follow guidelines to prevent the spread of the disease among animals.

France has seen occasional outbreaks in the past few years, reaching a peak in April 2020 with the detection of almost 100 cases on a pig farm in Allier. Another outbreak occurred in January 2023, confirming 15 cases in pigs on a farm near Alès (Gard).

USA | January 15: The USDA and Wildlife Services have detected pseudorabies virus antibodies in feral swine samples from Calaveras County, California. Two feral pigs were sampled on October 25, 2023, within a 10-mile radius of Burson, California. The test results, indicating positive PRV antibodies, were reported on January 3, 2024. Both pigs were euthanized to prevent further spread of the disease. This marks the first discovery of PRV in the county. Wildlife Services will continue monitoring for the disease in Calaveras County throughout 2024.

Fact box: Aujeszky's Disease

Aujeszky's disease, caused by a herpes virus, is not transmissible to humans but can be fatal for domestic animals and pets, including dogs, cats, pigs, and sheep. The disease is highly contagious and transmitted in the saliva, feces, breath, and semen of infected animals. Also known as pseudorabies, it can cause disorders of the nervous system, leading to various symptoms, including coughing, sneezing, fever, constipation, depression, seizures, ataxia, circling, and, in some cases, death.

The disease was eliminated from the commercial pig industry in the United States in 2004.

Nipah Virus

UK

The University of Oxford has initiated the first-in-human clinical trial of a vaccine called ChAdOx1 NipahB against the Nipah virus. This is a highly fatal disease primarily found in Southeast Asia, with a mortality rate of up to 75% and no approved vaccines or treatments. The trial involves 51 participants aged 18 to 55 and is funded by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI).

The virus, carried by fruit bats and possibly transmitted through contact with infected pigs or person-to-person contact, is recognized by the World Health Organization as a priority pathogen requiring urgent research. The ChAdOx1 NipahB vaccine, developed using the same platform as the Oxford/AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine, is expected to be tested for the next 18 months, with further trials planned in Nipah-affected regions. This trial is part of the Pandemic Sciences Institute's Henipavirus Programme, aimed at preparing the world for future outbreaks of the Nipah virus by conducting biomedical research and addressing ethical concerns associated with the disease.

References:

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WOAH - WOAH Asia Regional office
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DEFRA - Animal conditions international monitoring reports
CAHSS - CEZD Weekly Intelligence Report
European commission - ADIS disease overview
EUROPE
Sweden
ASF Sweden: Outbreak seems to get resolved in record time
Montenegro
The first case of African swine fever in wild pigs in Montenegro has been confirmed
ASF Montenegro: 27th country in Europe to report virus occurrence
First ever ASF cases recorded by Montenegro
Greece
ASF Greece: 174 pigs culled on farm in north
Italy
ASF Italy: Sardinia reports outbreak of genotype II
ASF genotype 2 outbreak in Sardinia resolved
Alarm throughout Italy over salami sold as vegetarian but testing positive for swine fever
UK
'Unprecedented' volumes of illegal meat seized at Port of Dover, highlighting serious ASF risk
NPA urges Government to toughen up illegal meat import rules, after Port of Dover revelations
'Deeply worrying': Large quantities of illegally imported meat seized in Dover
Health chiefs warn of risks with 70% budget cut for border meat checks
First human vaccine trial Nipah Virus
France
Dogs die in France from wild boar disease
A third hunting dog dies of 'false rabies' in France: call for caution
ASIA
The Philippines
Smuggled ASF vaccines seized by authorities
NORTH AMERICA
USA
Pseudorabies detected in California feral swine
SOUTH AMERICA
PRV vaccines approved in Argentina

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