

# African Swine Fever Update

JULY 2019

The U.S. pork industry has been actively working to prevent and prepare for a potential African swine fever (ASF) outbreak in the U.S. To date, several industry coalition groups have coordinated efforts to prevent ASF entry into the U.S. and prepare farmers and allied industry.

## COALITION GROUPS

- **African Swine Fever Crisis Team** keeps the coalition informed and will maintain consumer confidence and industry reputation.
- **African Swine Fever Task Force** drives prevention activities.
- **American Association of Swine Veterinarians (AASV) Committee on Emerging and Transmissible Diseases** shares information with the swine veterinary community.
- **Depopulation/Disposal Group** (*including government, veterinary and producer stakeholders*) recommends depopulation and disposal plans.
- **Feed Risk Task Force** (*including ag and feed industry representatives and both the Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture*) evaluates virus introduction via feed and assesses knowledge gaps and next steps.
- **National Pork Board Swine Health Committee** prioritizes and implements research.
- **National Swine Disease Council** represents the pork industry and coordinates and facilitates decision making.
- **Packer Business Continuity Task Force** focuses on restarting trade in the face of an outbreak.

## RESEARCH

- Feed/dust sampling methods and protocols
- Validation of extraction process for the detection of virus in feed and feed ingredients
- Feed half-life studies
- Feed additive mitigation – formaldehyde and medium chain fatty acid products
- Oral infectious dose – liquids and feeds
- Disinfectants studies
- Epidemiology and diagnostics work (Vietnam)
- Swine Health Committee has Request for Proposals on ASF-feed testing, diagnostics and vaccine.

## EDUCATION

- Questions for pork producers to ask their feed suppliers
- Feedstuffs holding-time calculation and ingredient biosecurity information
- Biosecurity at exhibitions – biosecurity information and *Champions Guide* booklet
- Country disease status information
- NPB Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) Preparation Bulletin (monthly via email)
- SHIC Global Disease Monitoring Report (monthly via email)
- NPPC Meat of the Matter newsletter (via email)
- Revised international travel and host visitor's biosecurity information
- Study trips to Baltic states, Germany and Denmark
- Preparation of consumer confidence information
- Dedicated websites, including [pork.org/fad](http://pork.org/fad), [factsaboutpork.com](http://factsaboutpork.com), [nppc.org/asf](http://nppc.org/asf), [swinehealth.org](http://swinehealth.org)



with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Food and Drug Administration

## PREPAREDNESS

- Border awareness – government effort and industry travelers
  - Requested increase in number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) inspectors
  - Reviewed penalty/fine levels
  - Addition of 60 beagle teams
  - Communication about inspection performance at airports
  - Review and revise Customs' questions on declaration forms
- Veterinarian network – first-hand accounts
- FAD Diagnostics – expansion of validated samples and oral fluids validation
- Enhanced surveillance program – implemented by U.S. Department of Agriculture
- Feed and feedstuffs transmission
  - Sampling, testing and mitigation research
  - Industry holding-time information
  - Imported feedstuffs risk assessment
  - Porcine origin ingredients
- Inspections of Chinese casings facilities
- Increased attention on garbage-feeder and ethnic market inspections
- Data-sharing between government and industry to facilitate safe animal movement during outbreak
- Development of bilateral agreements to facilitate trade
- FAD Exercise planning and testing (U.S., Canada and Mexico)
  - Completed: Nov. 28, 2018, and Feb. 27 and April 25, 2019 / Planned: Sept. 23, 2019
  - Regional planning in Colorado/Kansas/Oklahoma/Texas and Illinois/Indiana/Michigan/Ohio

## NEXT STEPS

- Lab capacity to test both surveillance samples and proof of negative samples
- AgView and EMRS compatibility
- Define how permitted movements take place in the face of an outbreak
- Develop CBP metrics and determine how to measure effectiveness/improvement
- Develop garbage feeder and ethnic market inspection metrics and measurements
- Depopulation and disposal base standards and state plans
- Oral fluids sampling and chain-of-custody plans
- Regionalization and compartmentalization planning
- Integration of industry with Incident Command structure in outbreak

## INTRODUCING THE NATIONAL SWINE DISEASE COUNCIL

- **MISSION** – Provide recommendations to animal health officials and industry stakeholders to mitigate threats and negative impacts to the U.S. pork industry from diseases of concern
- **OBJECTIVES**
  - Coordinate industry preparedness and response activities
  - Protect trade and interstate commerce of pigs, pork and pork products
  - Build capacity to rapidly detect diseases of concern and limit the scope of a disease outbreak
- **ROLE** – Serve as the industry touchpoint and make recommendations for regulatory officials



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