



A CPC UPDATE ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER PRIORITIES

November 08, 2019

PREPARE

1. ASF ADVOCACY

- CPC staff and board members are participating in a series of steering committees and working groups to address various aspects of the African swine fever (ASF) file.
- The Government of Canada is very active on the file and supportive of CPC's efforts.

What's new?

- During CPC's members' meeting, producers stressed the inability of the Business Risk Management suite of programs to help them in the event of an ASF outbreak. CPC will keep working with government on developing adequate response programming.
- The emergency operations centers' meeting on November 25 and 26 in Gatineau, QC will have representation from all the provincial pork boards. Federal and provincial government representatives will also participate in the 2-day discussion to better prepare/respond to an ASF outbreak.

2. INTERNATIONAL ZONING RECOGNITION/DOMESTIC ZONING PREPARATION

- Canada has bilateral zoning agreements with the United States and the European Union.
- Similar agreements are required with other trading partners of which Japan is the most important.
- An Industry-Government working group composed of CPC, Canadian Meat Council, Canada Pork International, Global Affairs Canada, Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada is pursuing a coordinated approach to zoning in Canada.

What's new?

- The questionnaire sent by Japan as the first step to establish a bilateral zoning agreement has been completed and submitted.
- The OIE will develop guidance on zoning and compartmentalization specifically for ASF. An ad hoc working group will be established to validate the guidance. Industry has asked to have representation on this ad hoc working group.

- CPC staff will participate in the disease modelling workshop organized by CFIA that will take place on November 20 and the ASF compartmentalization meeting that will take place on November 21-22 in Ottawa.

3. ASF COMMUNICATIONS

- CPC is actively collaborating with other stakeholders, including staff at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- CPC is releasing an ongoing series of communications products via its members and CPC social media platform.

What's new?

- Participants of the CPC's fall members' meeting and staff from the Canadian Food Inspection Agency and Global Affairs Canada communications teams participated in a crisis communication exercise. The outcome of this session will better inform the CPC's communications plan.

4. ASF STRATEGY

- CFIA has released its revised framework for action to prevent and mitigate the impacts of ASF in the Americas ([ASF framework for action](#))
- CFIA's forward agenda is available at ([CFIA ASF forward agenda](#))
- The CPC is a member of the ASF Executive Management Board (EMB) which includes CFIA and other stakeholders working together on the Pan-Canadian ASF Action Plan.
- The ASF EMB is meeting every two weeks.

What's new?

- Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer and other members of government participated in the 2nd ASF Forum held in Mexico on October 22-23, 2019.
- The OIE's standing committee of experts on ASF for the Americas will meet in Bogota, Colombia in December to discuss border security. A second meeting will focus on harmonization of laboratory diagnostics.
- CFIA has proposed a series of five exercises ranging from internal exercises to ones involving key partners. For the CFIA internal exercises, industry will be allowed as an observer.

5. WILD PIGS

- CPC staff is working with the CFIA to develop a strategy to manage the threat posed by wild pigs in Canada.
- The CFIA is developing a plan with Environment and Climate Change Canada to work on the impact of wild pigs on the habitat and as transmitters of disease.

What's new?

- Environment and Climate Change Canada has provided 3-year funding to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative to assess the extent of wild pigs' spread in Canada.
- Information will help to get funding for a plan to control/eradicate wild pigs.

6. DIAGNOSTICS AND SURVEILLANCE

- All Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN) labs can test for ASF.
- Passive ASF surveillance is already underway in Canada.
- CFIA is not routinely testing meat seized at Canadian borders for ASF. Meat seized is considered contaminated and destroyed.

What's new?

- The ASF surveillance working group is finalizing its recommendations and moving on to work on a more defined implementation and surveillance plan.
- The National Foreign Animal Disease lab is collaborating with the US in a project to develop a new serological test for ASF.
- Canada, US and Mexico initiated work to harmonize detection tests for ASF, classical swine fever and foot and mouth disease.

PREVENT

1. FEED INGREDIENT IMPORTS

- Imported feed ingredients including unprocessed grains and oilseeds, as well as associated meals (including corn, soybean, wheat, barley, rice, canola meal, soybean meal, flax seed meal, sunflower seed meal, and corn gluten meal) carry the risk of being contaminated with ASF.
- The Canadian government-imposed changes to import requirements for unprocessed grains and oilseeds, as well as associated meals destined for use in livestock feed, because of their risk of being contaminated with ASF.
- The list of countries affected by ASF is being updated as new countries report it to the OIE.

What's new?

- CFIA's implementation of import controls for plant-based feed ingredients coming from ASF affected countries is ongoing.
- Anecdotal evidence indicates Canadian producers are sourcing organic plant-based feed ingredients from countries not affected with ASF to reduce the possibility of introducing the virus into Canada.

2. BORDER MEASURES

- The CPC is working with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the CFIA to increase preventive measures at the border, to increase traveler awareness and increase surveillance of flights coming from high-risk countries.
- Detector dog teams are focusing on flights/cargo coming from ASF affected countries.

What's new?

- The CBSA has developed a handout for Border Service Officers to provide to travellers arriving by air who indicate that they have visited a farm while abroad.
- The handout includes among other things instructions for travellers to wash and disinfect clothing and footwear, avoid visiting a farm in Canada for 14 days etc.