



Canadian Pork Council
Conseil canadien du porc

A CPC UPDATE ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER ACTIVITIES

March 30, 2020

PREVENT, PREPARE, RESPOND, RECOVER

ASF ADVOCACY

Background

- 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?

- The impact of COVID-19 on the various working groups and initiatives varies. Many meetings have been held online but others have been postponed.
- Work on the ASF file remains a priority for the CPC staff and the government of Canada has expressed their commitment to keep working on it.
- CPC's budget submission on ASF was sent to the Minister of Finance, Minister of Agriculture and the leaders of the opposition on February 18.
- Gary Stordy and John Ross met with Minister Bibeau's staff members working on the ASF file on March 3 and with Paul Sampson AAFC's ADM for programs, to discuss Business Risk Management programming and ASF recovery, on March 5.

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ZONING AND COMPARTMENTALIZATION PREPARATION AND RECOGNITION

Background

- 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.
- CPC's Audrey Cameron and Dr. Egan Brockhoff are collaborating with Maple Leaf Foods on their ASF compartmentalization project.

What's new?

- The CFIA delivered an official request to Taiwan Bureau of Animal and Plant Health Inspection
- and Quarantine (BAPHIQ) regarding the initiation of zoning discussions on February 20, 2020.
- On March 2, CFIA received a list of further questions from Japan and is working on a response. The CPC is collaborating to answer some of the questions.
- The CFIA has sent a letter to South Korea to initiate zoning arrangement discussions. An official response has not yet been received.
- Maple Leaf Foods and the Canadian Pork Council provided CFIA with proposed National Standards for African swine fever (ASF) free swine compartments in Canada on February 20, 2020.

ASF COMMUNICATIONS

Background

- 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?

- Three producer videos have been filmed in collaboration with provincial pork offices for a joint project with CFIA. The release of the videos has been postponed due to COVID-19
- Provincial pork offices continue to develop their ASF response communications plans.

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ASF STRATEGY

Background

- 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, AAFC, Canada Border Services Agency, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec provincial governments, CMC and other stakeholders working together on the Pan-Canadian ASF Action Plan.
- The ASF EMB is meeting every two weeks.

What's new?

- Members of the Executive Management Board (EMB) are working to identify clear outcomes for each of the 4 pillars of the ASF Action Plan.
- The work of the Industry-Government Depopulation and Disposal Working Group has been divided in 4 subgroups: destruction technical experts, disposal, partnership development and an expert review panel. Membership of the subgroups will be extended to seek expertise.
- A Permitting working group has started discussing policy and system options and will report to the EMB.

WILD PIGS

Background

- Environment and Climate Change Canada has provided 3-year funding to the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) to work on wild pigs.
- The CWHC has established an Invasive Pig Strategic Working Group. Gabriela Guigou is representing the CPC.

What's new?

- The Invasive Pig Strategic Working Group is meeting monthly.
- The group has identified 3 priorities: detecting and tracking feral pig and wild boar populations to identify critical risk interfaces, coordinated reporting and messaging and networked knowledge with centralized information.

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DIAGNOSTICS AND SURVEILLANCE

Background

- All Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN) labs can test for ASF.
- Passive ASF surveillance is already underway in Canada.
- Gabriela Guigou is representing the CPC at the Surveillance working group alongside federal and provincial governments, industry, academia, and laboratory representatives.
- The Surveillance working group has come up with recommendations to better equip Canada to detect ASF earlier.
- A technical committee is working to implement surveillance recommendations.

What's new?

- The Surveillance technical committee will start work with Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network to roll out the surveillance plan.
- The committee will also work on communications of the surveillance plan using the CSHIN and regional networks (OHAN, RAIZO and CWSHIN).
- The CFIA is working on the ASF database structure to develop a mechanism for collecting, cleaning, analyzing, and displaying ASF surveillance data.
- Dr. Egan Brockhoff is seeking regular updates from US colleagues working on ASF diagnostics and vaccine development.

BORDER MEASURES

Background

- The CPC is working with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the CFIA to increase preventive measures at the border, to increase traveller 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?

- With the boarder closure due to COVID-19 the outreach to travellers has been put on hold.

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FEED INGREDIENT IMPORTS

Background

- 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?

- Dr. Egan Brockhoff is collaborating with US researchers from Kansas State University and Pipestone on ASF and feed ingredients risk.
- Dr. Brockhoff is also collaborating with CFIA in the establishment of a risk assessment tool for feed mills. The tool would include the risk of viral pathogens.