



Canadian Pork Council
Conseil canadien du porc

A CPC UPDATE ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER ACTIVITIES

September 30, 2020

PREVENT, PREPARE, RESPOND, RECOVER

ASF ADVOCACY

Background

- The 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.
- ASF preparedness and response remains a priority for the CPC staff. Work on the different groups and committees with government and industry partners has continued at a good pace despite of COVID-19.

What's new?

- The CPC followed up on its 2020/21 budget submission with a letter to Minister Bibeau and Minister Freeland that outlines what is needed as the next steps on the ASF file.
- The CPC staff reached out to senior department officials, minister's office, and members of the opposition to discuss the letter.
- The CPC is seeking a dedicated meeting of the House of Commons Ag Committee on African swine fever.
- Since Germany reported ASF in wild boars, the CPC has worked with the CFIA to understand how the EU regionalization plan was implemented to learn from the experience.

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. Discussions are underway with several Asian countries.
- The CPC staff is collaborating on the different initiatives to support Canada's ability to zone and compartmentalize.

What's new?

- The CPC continues its work on biosecurity to support zoning and compartmentalization.
- The National Biosecurity Standards update and the development of National Standards for ASF free swine compartments in Canada are well advanced.
- The Canadian government zoning discussions with Japan are entering the final stages.
- Preliminary zoning discussions started with Taiwan and South Korea but both countries are focusing on COVID-19.

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ASF COMMUNICATIONS

Background

- The CPC is actively collaborating with other stakeholders, including staff at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.
- The CPC has released an ongoing series of communications products via its members and CPC social media platform.
- The CPC and provincial offices have developed resources for small producers.

What's new?

- The government-industry communications WG has reconvene. The CFIA is working with the provinces on key messages for the first week of an outbreak.
- The CFIA has received funding for a campaign focused on biosecurity for small producers.
- A campaign for travellers is also planned once the COVID-19 travel restrictions are eased.

ASF STRATEGY

Background

- The CFIA has released its revised framework for action to prevent and mitigate the impacts of ASF in the Americas ([ASF framework for action](#)).
- The ASF Executive Management Board (EMB) which includes the CPC, 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 meets every two weeks.

What's new?

- The National Farmed Animal Health and Welfare Council has started providing coordination, support, and resources to the ASF Executive Management Board.
- The outcome statements and activities to support the objectives of the four pillars of the Pan-Canadian ASF Action Plan are being completed.
- The CPC is participating in the newly formed North American swine health WG, with government and industry partners from Canada, Mexico, and the US.

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WILD PIGS

Background

- The Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative (CWHC) has received 3-year funding from Environment and Climate Change Canada to lead work on wild pigs.
- An Invasive Pig Strategic WG has been formed with the goal to develop a consistent and coordinated Pan-Canadian approach to manage/eradicate wild pigs.

What's new?

- The Invasive Pigs Strategic WG had a panel discussion with USDA to talk about the overarching wild pigs management questions.
- The Invasive Pigs Strategic WG is developing a national communications plan.
- The CFIA's wild pigs disease response policy is being refined in consultation with the provinces.

DIAGNOSTICS AND SURVEILLANCE

Background

- All Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN) labs can test for ASF.
- Passive ASF surveillance is already underway in Canada.
- Under the lead of CFIA, a Surveillance Technical Committee with members from the federal and provincial governments, industry, academia, and laboratory representatives is working on implementing enhanced surveillance to detect ASF sooner.

What's new?

- The Surveillance Technical Committee has developed CanSpotASF for enhanced ASF passive surveillance.
- The first tool of CanSpotASF was launched in August, allowing CAHSN certified labs to test for ASF on non suspect samples.
- The Technical Committee is focusing now on establishing other tools to add to the CanSpotASF toolbox.

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FEED INGREDIENT IMPORTS

Background

- The Canadian government-imposed changes to import requirements for 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) as they could be contaminated with ASF.
- The list of countries affected by ASF is being updated as new countries report it to the OIE.

What's new?

- The CFIA has updated their plant-based feed import requirements to include the latest countries affected by ASF, such as India and Germany.
- The work to establish a risk assessment tool for feed mills that includes the risk of viral pathogens continues.

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 CBSA's most effective tool for detecting undeclared products.

What's new?

- In the last 10 months, twelve detector dog teams have been distributed to Toronto, Vancouver, and Montreal airports.
- Twelve more teams in training.
- CBSA leveraging internet and social media to raise awareness on danger of introducing ASF into Canada. Some outreach activities scaled down due to COVID-19.