

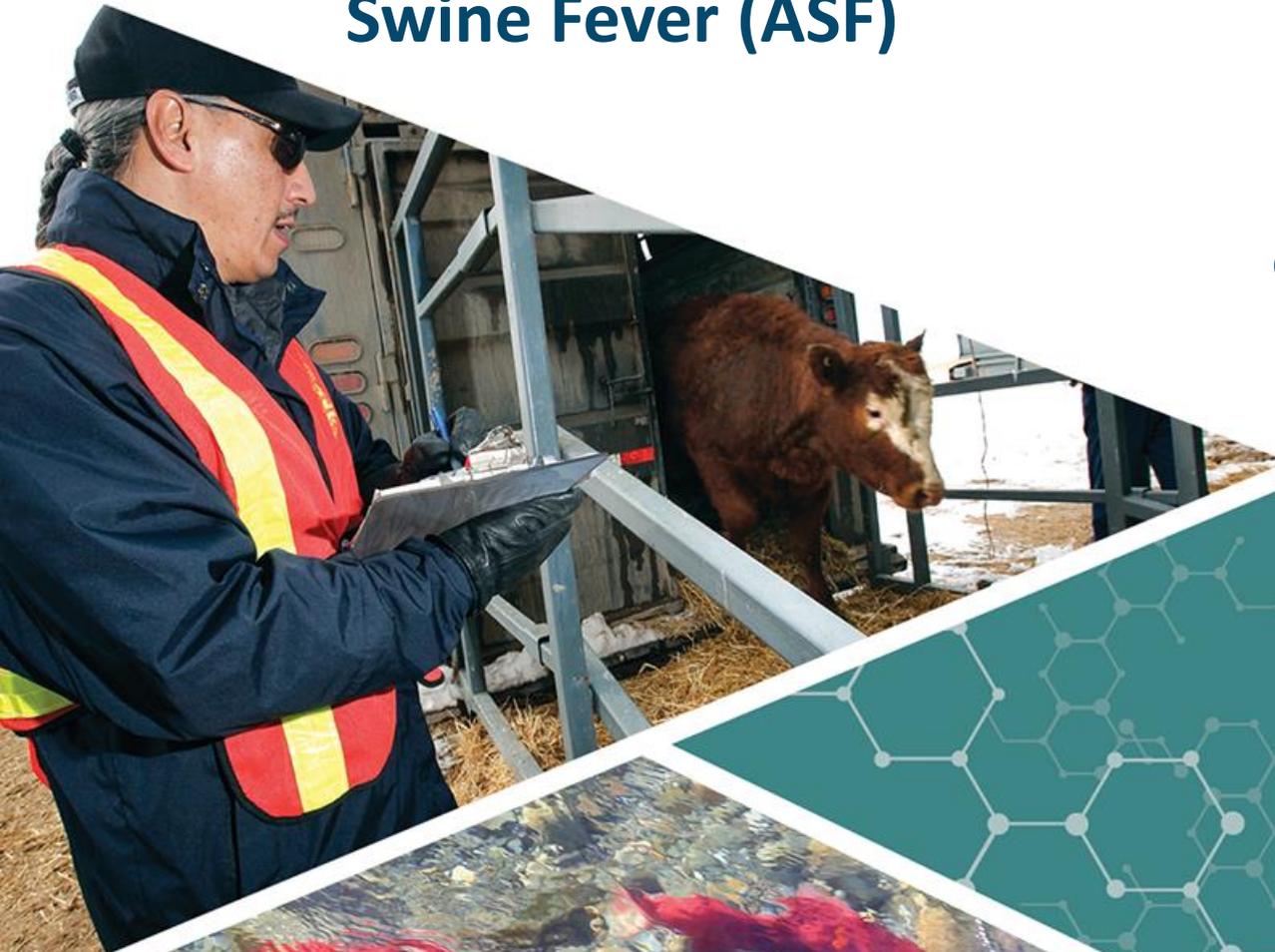


Canadian Food
Inspection Agency

Agence canadienne
d'inspection des aliments

International Zoning Arrangements for African Swine Fever (ASF)

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Canada 

Zoning/Regionalisation

- Zoning or regionalization is recognised as an important principle in the definition of animal health status of countries by the World Organization of Animal Health (OIE).
- The concept of zoning was developed to limit trade impacts to those parts of the country where disease does not exist. Zoning is one of the early actions to be taken if there is an incursion of African Swine Fever (ASF) into Canada.
- A protection zone may be established to preserve the animal health status of an animal population in a free country or a free zone by preventing the introduction of a pathogenic agent of a specific infection from neighbouring countries or zones of different animal health status to that animal population. A protection zone can be established within or outside the free zone or within the free country.

Challenges- Negotiating Zoning Arrangements

- Such requests may result in requests for reciprocal zoning recognition
- Knowledge of a country's veterinary infrastructure is critical for the formal evaluation of disease status to determine those countries, zones or regions which the CFIA officially recognizes as free of specified diseases
- Veterinary infrastructure , disease status, emergency response capacity to contain and eradicate a foreign animal disease such as ASF outbreak
- Regionalization discussions can take years and may include questionnaires on epidemiology, control and eradication measures and on-site audits by foreign competent authorities
- Once arrangements are in place, trading partners may still close their borders for a period of time after the first identification of a disease
- Trading partners may react to Canada's historical disease freedom status, and can ask for an evidence to demonstrate disease freedom status through an active surveillance program
- Re-negotiation of export certificates to incorporate may force acceptance of other changes to certificates that are not favourable to Canada

International Zoning Updates

- Formal agreements and arrangements to recognize zoning prior to outbreaks are in place for highly infectious diseases (including African Swine Fever) with the United States and European Union.

Bilateral Arrangements

- US- Canada Zoning Arrangement- Regulatory Cooperation Council (RCC)
- US -Canada ASF Protocol for non-captive swine
- Canada -European Union Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA)
Canada- EU Zoning Agreement
- United Kingdom- To be formalised

International Updates

- Japan
 - Accepted CFIA zoning for Avian Influenza at Provincial level
 - Has no domestic legislation to allow zoning
 - Currently affected with Classical Swine Fever
- Korea
 - Priority is to deal with ASF affected countries
- Singapore
 - Singapore has accepted Canada's ASF zoning at Primary Control Zone (PCZ)
- Taiwan
- Vietnam

U.S.-Canada Protocol for African Swine Fever in Non-captive Swine

- To ensure protection for animal health and to provide a framework to mitigate against unwarranted disruption of trade, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) agree to apply appropriate science-based import health measures in the event that African swine fever (ASF) is confirmed in non-captive swine in their respective countries, without involvement of the captive swine population.

Objective of Protocol

- The intent of the protocol is to guide the CFIA and the USDA in applying import health measures proportional to an ASF outbreak in non-captive swine, thereby minimizing the trade impacts while protecting the swine populations in both countries.
- The CFIA and the USDA developed the protocol within the framework of the current Canadian and U.S. ASF response plans and business continuity planning. The protocol may evolve in response to future changes to these plans.

ASF protocol

- The protocol describes three phases with increasingly reduced restrictions on trade in live swine, swine germplasm, and untreated swine commodities.
- All trade will initially stop. Resumption of trade will occur as the phases progress.

Phase I

- Phase I starts with confirmation of ASF virus in non-captive swine.
- The U.S.-Canada border will immediately close to trade in live swine, swine germplasm, and untreated swine commodities. The closure will last for at least 72 hours.
- In order to move to phase II, the affected country must have established an initial area of control (AOC) (aka control area, primary control zone), initiated surveillance/case finding and removal in non-captive swine and started surveillance in captive swine.
- 72 hours is the minimum closure. It may take longer to complete these actions.

Phase II

- The Phase II Restricted Area initially has a radius of 50 kilometers from the point of ASF detection.
- After one incubation period (15 days) has passed, the radius of the Phase II Restricted Area may decrease to 20 kilometers or the AOC plus 10 kilometers, whichever is larger.
- Detection of ASF in non-captive swine outside of the Phase II Restricted Area may result in renewed border closure, particularly if there are no apparent linkages to previous cases.

Restrictions in Phase II

- Trade restrictions in Phase II are reduced to the Phase II Restricted Area, which consists of the AOC and a surrounding Assurance Area.
- Live swine, germplasm, and untreated swine commodities from the AOC are not eligible for export during Phase II but may move domestically in accordance with the applicable business continuity plans.
- Live swine, germplasm, and untreated swine commodities from the Assurance Area are not eligible for export but may move domestically without additional restrictions.
- Trade in adequately mitigated swine commodities from within the Phase II Restricted Area may continue uninterrupted unless prevented by events outside the scope of this agreement.

Phase II to Phase III

- The CVO of the ASF-affected country may request to move to Phase III of this protocol, provided that at least one incubation period has passed and the affected country has completed initial surveillance of non-captive swine as described in the respective Response Plan.

Phase III

- Trade restrictions in Phase III are reduced to the boundaries of the AOC.
- Live swine, swine germplasm, and untreated swine commodities originating from the AOC are not eligible for export but may continue to move domestically in accordance with business continuity plans.
- The affected country may gain provisional freedom for bilateral trade purposes before reinstatement of free status by the OIE if there have been no ASF detections in captive swine, no detections in non-captive swine for at least 45 days, and surveillance has been conducted in both populations in accordance with the respective ASF response plan.
 - With provisional freedom, unrestricted trade may resume.
- Detection of ASF in non-captive swine within the AOC may result in loss of provisional freedom.

Future Needs for Implementation of the Protocol

- The USDA and the CFIA are looking to industry and other governmental agencies (e.g., USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service) to aid in developing and implementing mechanisms to enhance traceability of swine products after slaughter and ensure accurate export certification
- Government and industry in each country are developing business continuity plans to allow for safe movement of live swine and swine products from within an AOC (aka primary control zone, control area).
 - The business continuity plans will require practical, risk-based movement testing protocols necessary to ensure safe movement of these commodities.
 - Establishing these protocols is critical to implementation of the ASF protocol, as well.

Questions ??

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