



Canadian Swine Health  
Intelligence Network

Réseau canadien de  
surveillance de la santé porcine

# CSHIN QUARTERLY PRODUCER REPORT

## REPORT Q4 OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2018

Veterinary Survey Participation: 54 veterinarians (17 Québec, 15 Ontario and 22 Western Canada). Provincial networks also contribute laboratory data.

## African Swine Fever (ASF)- What is being done to enhance prevention and preparedness

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The CSHIN Q4 call invited two guest speakers to discuss what is being done by both the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the Canadian Pork Council (CPC) to enhance Canada's prevention and preparedness for African Swine Fever.

### CFIA- Dr. Amy Snow, Section Planning Chief for ASF

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has activated their National Emergency Response Team. This is the first time that this team has been activated for preparedness reasons. This team is working with provincial governments, industry stakeholders including the Canadian Pork Council and the Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA). Weekly meetings occur that summarize progress and ensure that timelines are met.

Dr. Snow provided background information on the ASF situation globally as well as summarized a list of items that are being worked on in collaboration with contributing partners:

- In recent years, ASF spread to new countries and regions in the world. Since August of 2018, the spread of ASF through China and from Eastern Europe into Western Europe is significant.
- **To date, ASF has never been detected in Canada or the United States, but concern of spread into North America heightens.**
- CFIA has always had in place strict import requirements from higher risk countries like China and European countries. ASF has provided reason to further investigate into these import requirements to ensure that we continue to be well protected.
- CFIA already had strong import controls in place on animal-sourced feed ingredients, but now a working group is looking into the risk of plant-based feed ingredients.
- The National Center for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD) laboratory in Winnipeg is looking into validation of ASF testing on pork and pork-by-products. This validation is expected to be completed in the next few weeks. These tests could then be used to screen meat products confiscated at Canadian ports of entry. **It is important to note that other countries already testing pork and pork by-products are using the ASF PCR test. This test can detect ASF genetic material, but it is unable to determine if the genetic material is infectious (alive) or non-infectious (dead).** This leaves the question are these products capable of transmitting disease to pigs?
- The Canadian Border Services Agency (CBSA) has reported seizing pork products regularly at Canadian ports of entry. **In 2018, a total of 737 products were undeclared, detected and seized from travellers entering Canada. Detector dogs have also been redirected to target the highest risk flights at Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal.**
- The Canadian Border Service Agency (CBSA) is providing information to CFIA on a weekly basis regarding detections of illegal meat products at our borders.

- CBSA officers understand they are Canada's first line of defence and understand the risks associated with this virus.
- **Seven provincial laboratories are now able to conduct ASF PCR testing. These labs are not allowed to perform routine surveillance testing** and must let CFIA know before conducting this testing. Having provincial labs able to perform ASF testing will assist with early detection and overall surge capacity if ASF is ever detected in Canada.
- CFIA is continuing to work with both the USA and Mexico to harmonize ASF diagnostic testing methods.
- Discussions are being held on wild pigs and the risks that they could pose to the spread of this disease.

## Canadian Pork Council (CPC)- Dr. Egan Brockhoff

Dr. Egan Brockhoff summarized a list of items that the CPC has focussed on regarding ASF:

- CPC is working closely with CFIA on a variety of working groups. This high level of collaboration has proven to be very effective.
- CFIA is planning an ASF forum in April 2019 and will be inviting many important trading partner countries to this event. The forum will provide a platform for ideas to be shared regarding different approaches for ASF prevention and containment efforts.
- Dr. Brockhoff emphasized strong Incident Command Structures (ICS) are in place within some of the provincial swine industry organizations e.g. Quebec's Équipe québécoise de santé porcine (EQSP), Swine Health Ontario (SHO) and in Manitoba allowing them to use this structure to integrate with provincial and federal governments, collaborating on prevention and preparedness efforts and to prevent duplication of tasks.
- CPC has released many communications both in written form and through social media on several topics including; feed ingredient risks including recommended hold times, international travel and returning farm workers and preventative measures tailored to back-yard swine producers.
- CPC is working on evaluating the risks associated with the wild pig population in Canada. This includes information on where wild pigs are located and general population numbers.

## What can you do to prevent the introduction of ASF to Canada and actions you can take if you suspect your pigs are sick...

### Prevention

- 1) **When visiting other countries known to be infected with ASF: DO NOT** bring back any meat products into Canada (this is illegal). Do not feed swine any human food waste. Wash all clothing and footwear immediately after use in other countries.
- 2) **Routinely review biosecurity protocols with farm staff and visitors:** Ensure that farm staff and visitors have not had contact with swine in other countries where ASF infections have been detected **BEFORE** you allow them entry into your swine herd. Ensure that all visitors and staff understand how to properly abide by your on-farm biosecurity protocols e.g. proper use of a Danish entry system, required downtime, etc.
- 3) **Do not allow workers on your swine farm to bring in pork or pork by-products** e.g. in lunches.

### If you suspect your herd is sick

- 4) **Contact your herd veterinarian immediately:** If you see any clinical signs in pigs on your farm that could be associated with ASF infection.

- 5) **Stop all pig movements:** Never move, sell or send to livestock auctions/yards sick or compromised pigs from your farm. This will prevent further spread of infections.
- 6) **Implement a self-quarantine on all animals, feed and equipment** until you know the cause of the illness.

## Influenza A

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### RAIZO (Quebec)

RAIZO reported that 65% of responding vets saw an increase in Influenza A cases on farms. **The most common subtype of Influenza reported in Quebec during this quarter was H3N2, however there were 2 cases of H3N1 and this is the first time that this subtype of Influenza has been reported in Quebec.** These cases had a similar clinical presentation as is seen with other Influenza A sub-types.

### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

CWSHIN reported that 45% of responding vets saw an increase in Influenza A cases. Dr. Susan Detmer reported that from November through to January, human-origin 2009 pandemic H1N1 Influenza was the most common type on Influenza seen on swine farms. Many of these cases the workers felt fine, but their children were home with a fever (in one case a child was diagnosed as Influenza A positive by a doctor). **Take home message: Barn workers should be encouraged to get the annual Influenza vaccine to limit introductions of human seasonal strains to pigs. Barn workers should be encouraged to stay home when exhibiting symptoms of Influenza and when their children are exhibiting symptoms of influenza to help prevent the mixing of this virus and the creation of new viruses.**

### OAHN (Ontario)

OAHN reported that 51% of responding vets saw an increase in Influenza A this quarter. A signal was also generated on the corresponding SPC chart. **To date, Ontario has not detected any cases of H3N1, but will be on the lookout for this subtype arising now.**

### Maritimes

In Q4 Dr. Ryan Tenbergen commented that there were no confirmed cases of Influenza A in the Maritimes. There was one suspicious case currently undergoing diagnostic in 2019 Q1.

## Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea Virus (PEDV) and Porcine Deltacoronavirus (PDCoV) Update

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### CWSHIN (Western Provinces)

Dr. Jette Christensen mentioned that Porcine Deltacoronavirus (PDCoV) is not a reportable disease in Manitoba. **CWSHIN is reporting the first case of PDCoV in Manitoba to date.** Dr. Brad Lage explained, that on January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 a sow site broke with PDCoV. This farm was undergoing a renovation to convert stalls into loose sow housing so there were lots of workers and contractors coming and going. Sows were also being moved from one location to another. This herd experienced a fast-moving diarrhea that spread through the sows. They were able to quickly detect the causative virus to be PDCoV and they are suspecting that this virus was spread to the gestating sows first. So far, this site has been successful at containing this virus.

CWSHIN reported 4 new cases of PEDV in Q4 (3 in Manitoba and 1 in Alberta). **This was the first site in Alberta to become infected with PEDV to date.** Dr. Brad Lage reported that one of the PEDV cases is a finishing operation that has been trialing a new control strategy for PEDV. The positive finisher is a 4000 head barn that is attached to another 4000 head finisher barn by a 100 ft hallway. There are 9 rooms in each of these barns. The PEDV positive finisher implemented strong biosecurity measures. Both finishing barns have been monitored for the past 7 weeks and the second barn has remained negative. Fecal samples are being taken and submitted to the lab from each room in both barns weekly. The virus did move from the first room to now 5/9 rooms. The first room that tested positive for PEDV is now testing negative for virus. Therefore, it seems that this site has been successful at containing PEDV to 1 of 2 barn. No other swine farms in proximity have tested positive for PEDV. The plan is to market early starting with the negative barn, followed by the negative rooms and then the positive rooms (once they test virus negative) over the next several weeks.

## OAHN (Ontario)

OAHN reported 3 new sites with PEDV in Q4 including 2 farrowing sites and 1 finisher operation. In Q1 of 2019, there has also been 4 new sites in Ontario. PDCoV and PEDV are classified as hazards under *the Animal Health Act* in Ontario. The Animal Health Laboratory reports all cases of both PEDV and PDCoV to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture (OMAFRA). **Take Home Message: PEDV and PDCoV are still a risk and veterinarians need to remind producers to remain vigilant with biosecurity measures.**

*This information is a professional communication for swine producers. The information was obtained from a survey of the clinical impressions of participating practising veterinarians with input from other swine health professionals. This information is not validated and may not reflect the entire clinical situation. Your judgment is required in the interpretation and use of it. It is the intent of CSHIN to improve the health of the national swine herd. CSHIN is funded jointly by the Canadian Association of Swine Veterinarians (CASV) and Canadian Pork Council (CPC).*

# MEET YOUR CSHIN Q4 NETWORK TEAM

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