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AFRICAN SWINE FEVER UPDATE

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African Swine Fever found on a domestic pig farm for the first time on mainland Italy

- On 10th June 2022, **Italy** confirmed an outbreak of **African Swine Fever (ASF)** in a small domestic pig farm in the municipality of Rome (figure 1). This is the **first outbreak of ASF in domestic pigs on mainland Italy**
- In January 2022, Italy reported a case of **ASF (Genotype II) in wild boar** on the **mainland for the first time** in the Piemonte region. ASF (Genotype I) has been endemic on Sardinia since 1978 although it has never previously been reported on the mainland. ASF Genotype II is the strain of African swine fever that is causing the current outbreaks in domestic pigs and wild boar in mainland Europe, the Asian continent, the Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- In May 2022, ASF was reported in wild boar in the municipality of Rome, (several hundred kilometres away from the cases in the Piemonte region) and in Rieti approximately (100 km from the nearest case)
- **Infected wild boar** play an important role in the **spread of ASF**
- Humans can also transmit ASF to pigs through feeding of **food waste** contaminated with ASF to pigs, or through bringing **clothing, footwear, vehicles and equipment contaminated** with ASF onto a pig farm.
- There has been no movement of live pigs into Ireland from Italy in the past six months

Figure 1: Location of African swine fever outbreak in the municipality of Rome, Italy. This is the first outbreak in domestic pigs on mainland Italy (Source: Animal Disease Information System (ADIS))



Diseases don't respect borders

Risk to Ireland

- **ASF continues to spread** into new regions such as mainland Italy and south-west Germany
- **Humans** can play an important role in **spreading ASF** to new regions
- **Travellers coming back from ASF affected regions** must be **vigilant** to avoid inadvertently bringing back to Ireland ASF contaminated meat, meat products, clothing, footwear, vehicles, equipment, etc.
- **Food waste infected with the ASF virus** being consumed by pigs represents the **most significant risk pathway** for a disease incursion into Ireland
- Other risk factors **include clothing, footwear, vehicles and equipment contaminated** with the ASF virus
- **Wild boar and feral pigs** play an important role in the spread of the disease worldwide
- Ireland does not have a sustainable wild boar or feral pig population
- EU legislation (Article 15 of Commission Delegated Regulation 2021/605) prohibits the trade of wild boar between EU Member States and implements control measures on the movement of live pigs within ASF affected areas of the EU which is a risk factor for the introduction of the disease

Advice for Travellers

- The **ASF virus can survive for several months** in pork and pork products such as sausages, cured meats, smoked meats (meat/meat products can also carry other animal diseases such as Foot & Mouth Disease)
- **Do not bring meat products into Ireland** from outside the EU, and never bring home pork or pork products if travelling abroad to regions affected by ASF
- **Do not bring meat or meat products onto Irish pig farms**
- Always use a **secure bin to dispose of waste food**, so that it cannot be accessed by farm animals, wild animals, or wild birds

Advice for Pig Owners



NEVER FEED FOOD WASTE TO PIGS

- **Food waste (swill) including kitchen waste and catering waste must be disposed of carefully** away from livestock. Bins must be located in a secure location and sealed to ensure that vermin, birds or other animals do not carry food waste into areas where pigs are kept
- Pig owners in Ireland are advised to implement **biosecurity measures** to mitigate the risk of an outbreak of the disease in this country such as establishing disinfectant points and implementing a **pig-free period of 72 hours for anyone coming from an ASF affected region** to prevent the risk of contaminated clothing, footwear, vehicles or equipment coming into contact with pigs
- **Vigilance for any unexplained disease patterns** or unusual presentations of disease should be maintained. Any suspicions of ASF must be reported to your [Regional Veterinary Office](#) during normal office hours or the National Disease Emergency Hotline at 01 4928026 (outside of normal office hours) without delay
- A dedicated page of useful information including clinical signs of ASF and biosecurity information is available at www.gov.ie/asf

Rest of Europe – Current Situation

- Since ASF first entered Lithuania in 2014, a total of 13 EU Member States have been affected by the disease. Czech Republic and Belgium are the only two Member States who have successfully eradicated ASF from the wild boar population. Greece confirmed outbreaks in domestic pigs only in 2020 and was successful in preventing further spread of the disease.
- In 2022 (up to the 10th June), 190 ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs and 3, 934 ASF events in wild boar were reported by **10 EU Member States** and **several other Eastern European countries** to the European Commission's Animal Disease Information System (Table 1)
- In 2022 (to date), the EU Member States of **Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia** have reported ASF. It has also been reported in **Moldova, Republic of North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine** (Figure 2)
- On 25th May 2022, **Germany** confirmed an outbreak of ASF on a **domestic pig farm** in the district Baden-Württemberg, **a previously unaffected area**. This outbreak is located in the south-west of Germany **near the border with France, over 500 km from other cases of ASF** in the north-east of Germany

- The German authorities consider that a **human factor** may have been involved in transmitting ASF to pigs in the outbreak in Baden-Württemberg, highlighting the importance of appropriate biosecurity measures to prevent the spread of disease
- During 2021, 1,874 ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs and 12,147 ASF events involving wild boar were reported by 10 EU Member States (Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy (Sardinia), Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia) and other Eastern European countries (Moldova, Ukraine and Serbia) to the European Commission's Animal Disease Information System (ADIS)
- The EU has legislation in place to prevent the spread of ASF within and between Member States through the implementation of control measures on the movement of pigs and pig products and prohibits the movement of wild boar between Member States (Commission Implementing Decision 2021/605)
- ASF outbreaks in the EU must be reported to the European Commission. Member States must implement control measures for outbreaks in domestic pigs to prevent further spread, as per Commission Delegated Regulation 2020/687.

Figure. 2. ASF disease events in **wild boar in red** and outbreaks in **domestic pigs in blue** during 2022 (1st January to 10th May 2022) (Source: ADIS).

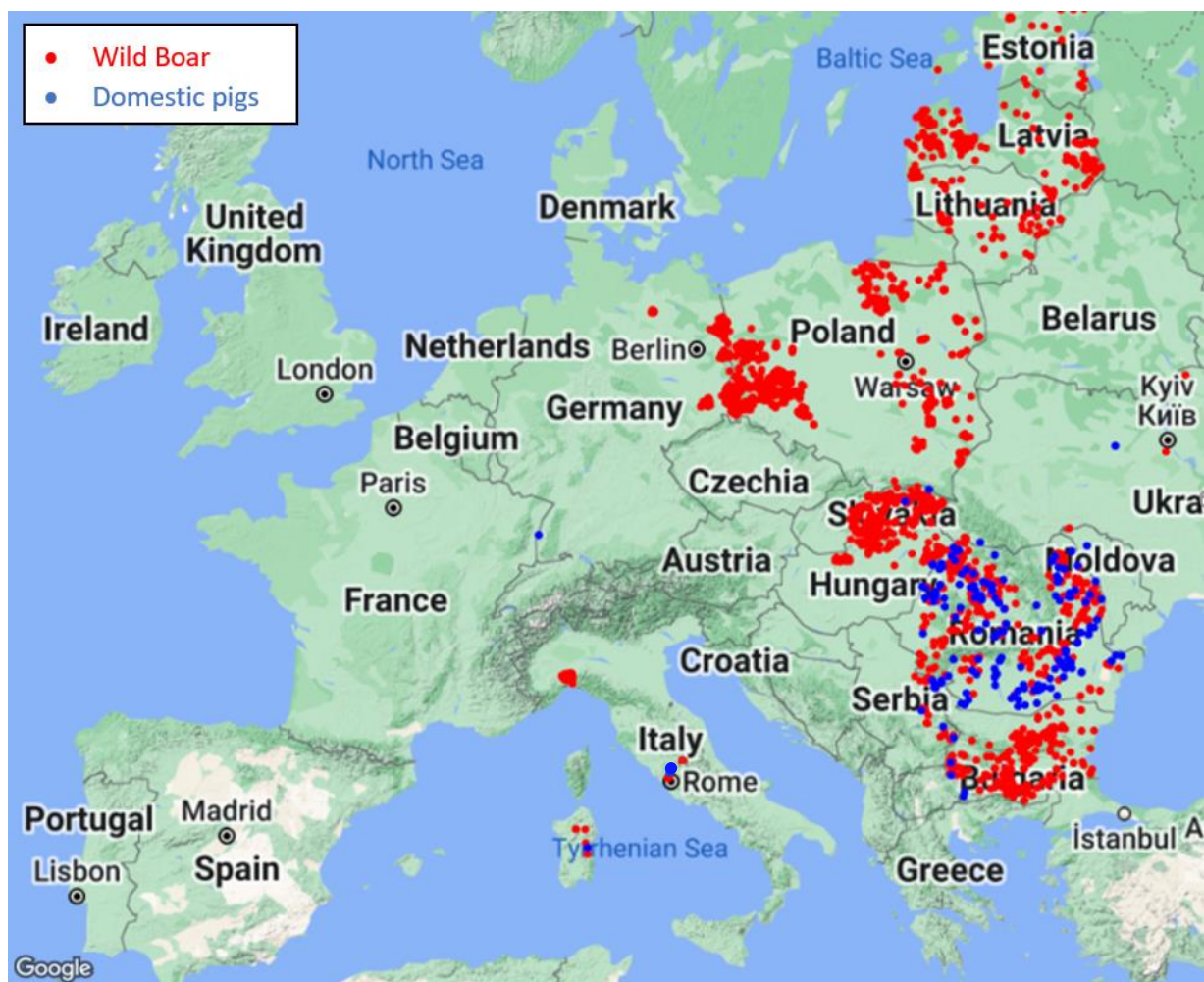


Table 1: African swine fever outbreaks and events in Europe during 2022 (up to 10th June 2022)
(Source: ADIS)

Country	Date of most recent outbreak in domestic pigs	No. of ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs	Date of most recent case in wild boar	No. of ASF wild boar events (involving 1 or more animals)	Total number of cases and outbreaks of ASF reported
Bulgaria	30/3/2022	3	12/05/2022	235	238
Estonia	n/a	n/a	14/04/2022	27	27
Rep. of North Macedonia	12/01/2022	1	14/04/2022	2	3
Germany	26/5/2022	1	2/06/2022	870	871
Hungary	n/a	n/a	05/06/2022	362	362
Italy	10/06/2022	3	10/06/2022	174	177
Latvia	n/a	n/a	10/06/2022	255	255
Lithuania	n/a	n/a	07/06/2022	121	121
Moldova	26/05/2022	3	25/02/2022	2	5
Poland	07/06/2022	2	09/06/2022	1204	1206
Romania	06/06/2022	163	07/06/2022	311	474
Serbia	10/02/2022	11	10/02/2022	32	43
Slovakia	16/05/2022	2	25/05/2022	337	339
Ukraine	09/02/2022	1	02/02/2022	2	3
Total		190		3,934	4124

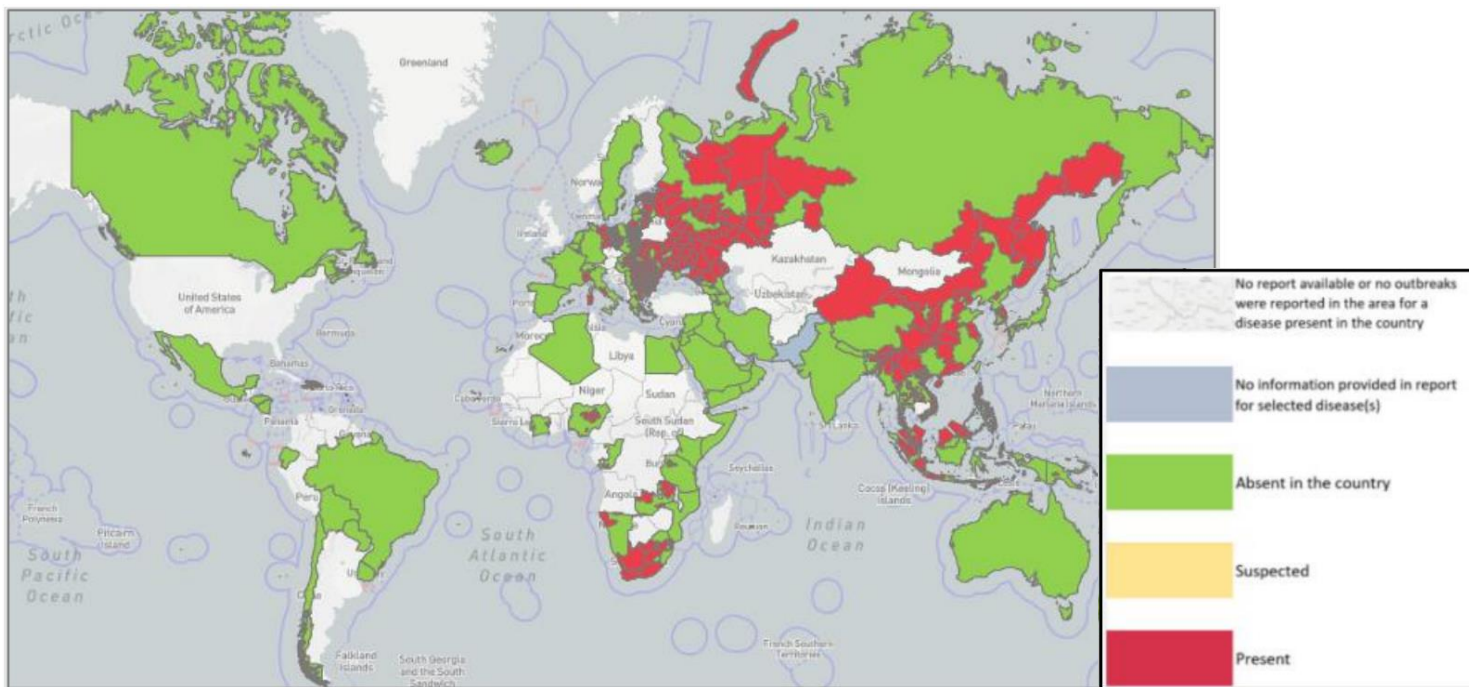
Current Situation - Worldwide

- The World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) have been promoting the control of ASF for several years and developed a five - year global initiative in 2020 to control ASF which can now be found on four continents – Europe, Asia, Americas and Africa. The initiative established [a Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases \(GF-TADs\)](#) as a platform to develop and promote national, regional and global partnerships and to strengthen disease preparedness measures in an effort to control the disease and prevent further spread.

Americas

- ASF was confirmed during 2021 in both the Dominican Republic and in Haiti, which share a land border. It is understood that cases of ASF are still occurring on the island.
- This is the first confirmation of ASF in the Americas since an outbreak in Haiti in 1982

Figure 4. Global distribution of ASF. Since 2005 ASF has been reported in 73 countries (Source: [OIE](#)).



Asia & Pacific

- Since ASF first entered China in August 2018, ASF has been confirmed in a total of 16 countries including Mongolia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea), Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Republic of Korea (South Korea), Timor-Leste, Indonesia, India, Malaysia, Bhutan and Thailand (Figure 3)
- In January 2022, Thailand reported its first case of ASF; a further 86 outbreaks in 31 provinces have been reported since
- More than 60% of the world's domestic pig population is located in East and Southeast Asia.

Figure 3. ASF situation in Asia during the period 3rd March to 12th May 2022 (Source: [FAO](#))



Africa

- Historically, the disease was first described in East Africa in the 1920s. Since 2005 the disease has been reported in 32 African countries and is endemic in sub-Saharan Africa. All known genotypes of the ASF virus are believed to be present on the continent. At the time of the entry of Genotype II into Georgia in 2007, it was thought to be present in Mozambique, Madagascar, Malawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Southern Tanzania.
- In 2021, South Africa reported 39 cases of ASF to the OIE which included 4 immediate notifications of outbreaks in previously uninfected areas of the country. ASF sequencing by South African Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Transboundary Animal Diseases laboratory has identified that both Genotype I and II are active

Further Information

Further biosecurity advice, ASF videos, posters and disease updates can be found at:

www.gov.ie/asf

[African swine fever \(europa.eu\)](http://African%20swine%20fever%20(europa.eu))

[World Organisation for Animal Health \(formerly OIE\)](http://World%20Organisation%20for%20Animal%20Health%20(formerly%20OIE))

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