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Action on feral Pigs

Feral pigs are a huge risk to industry if African swine fever (ASF) reaches Australia. While pig producers can increase their farm's biosecurity and implement precautions, if ASF makes its way into the feral pig population it would be very hard, if not impossible, to eradicate. This would be detrimental to trade and revenue for producers, as we would lose the markets we currently have export access to because our herd health status.

There are an estimated 24 million feral pigs in Australia. As well as carrying disease, feral pigs spread weeds, degrade soil and water, prey on native species, and damage crops and livestock.

Feral Pig Coordinator

Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie is establishing a National Feral Pig Coordinator to tackle Australia's feral pig population.

This initiative will coordinate efforts across the nation to eradicate feral pigs. The coordinator will be based within APL. More information will be available shortly but this is a great outcome for industry.

“

This is a crucial opportunity to get on the front foot nationally to better manage feral pig populations, both in the immediate context of protecting our industry from African swine fever and to reduce the agricultural and environmental damage feral pigs inflict across so much of the continent.”

-Margo Andrae, APL CEO

Minister McKenzie raised biosecurity and ASF as priority in a meeting with state agriculture ministers. They all agreed to collaborate across national/state governments on biosecurity and feral pigs management.

Working with other industries

NFF members unanimously supported implementing the below national biosecurity policy:

That the NFF Members Council call on governments to commit to invest in and work with industry towards control of feral pigs, a highly destructive established pest that threatens the agriculture sector and the environment and has potential to carry and spread endemic diseases and exotic diseases such as African swine fever.

APL is advocating for actions such as a co-ordinated control strategy, more research on feral pig management and community attitudes, and exclusion fencing programs to keep feral pigs out of farms and national parks.

For more information, contact Lechelle van Breda at Lechelle.vanbreda@australianpork.com.au or 0447099397



African swine fever update

As an industry we are continuing to improve our biosecurity preparedness as the global outbreak of African swine fever continues.

To read in detail what meetings and activities APL staff have been attending in regards to ASF, turn to page 12.

In case you missed it...

1. Dr Lechelle van Breda, Manager production stewardship, has been temporarily assigned to coordinate APL activities in relation to ASF to ensure there is one point of contact for stakeholders and producers and a cohesive approach. If you have an ASF related event you would like APL to assist with, or have any ASF or biosecurity questions, please don't hesitate to contact Lechelle.

APL ASF Coordinator

Lechelle van Breda

Manager, Production Stewardship,

lechelle.vanbreda@australianpork.com.au

0447 099 397 or 02 6270 8823



2. Margo Andrae, APL CEO, was invited to Senate Estimates, along with the Department of Agriculture Secretary Daryl Quinlivan and Federal Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie, to discuss African swine fever, biosecurity concerns and systems and the risks involved. You can watch the senate hearing at <https://bit.ly/2W45MU5> and read Margo's senate estimates opening remarks at australianpork.com.au/asfresources.
3. Federal Minister for Agriculture, Senator Bridget McKenzie announced the funding of a Feral Pig Coordinator to tackle Australia's feral pig population as the threat of African swine fever creeps closer to Australia (See front page).

What is the Federal Government doing?

Government has significantly increased border security including:

- Updated passenger declaration cards
- Redirected all mail from ASF countries via Melbourne to take advantage of the new 3D scanner
- Re-location of 2 detector dogs to Darwin and Cairns
- Commenced review to increase fines for bringing in illegal products via personal luggage and mail
- Revoked the visas of 2 separate passengers from Vietnam for illegally bringing into Australia 4 and 4.5kg of pork products
- Increased media and support to highlight importance of biosecurity
- Collaboration across national/state governments on biosecurity and with feral pigs management.

“*Increased scrutiny at the border has seen an increase in detection of illegal imported meat products, with 202 of 418 (48.55%) pork samples tested in September positive for ASF.*”

Industry and CVO ASF taskforce

Animal Health Committee has established several ASF Taskforce groups that Chief Veterinary Officers are leading. The taskforce is addressing key areas of ASF disease preparedness, including:

- Operationalising AUSVETPLAN
- Movements and permits
- Processing
- 3D (decontamination, destruction and disposal)
- Feral pigs

APL has established an Industry based ASF technical committee to review all industry disease response activities and requirements. This committee is working closely with state Chief Veterinary Officers. This is a great example of State/Federal Government working together on disease preparedness alongside industry.

What is APL doing?

- An impact assessment has been undertaken to detail how ASF would impact APL internally to ensure APL is prepared and able to respond.
- There will be a national response activity in December to test our administrative response, and then again next year as a full emergency animal disease (EAD) outbreak exercise to refine any issues flagged in December.
- APL staff have had an EAD briefing. You can also complete the training at aha.canopihr.com.au
- Current R&D activities as they relate to Surveillance have been reviewed, leading to the extension of the AHA Evidence of absence surveillance project with the possible inclusion of feral pigs.
- APL is working on a biosecurity zoning agreement with Singapore, reviewing PorkSafe and examining PigPass to ensure traceability and any problem areas for compliance to ensure trade, traceability and industry response are adequate and accurate.
- Advocating for 'no new market access' for imports from any non-ASF country.
- Monitoring small good retailers push to access new markets.

Communication

APL has launched this biosecurity focused publication, that will be printed and mailed to all producers in our database. This publication ensures our biosecurity tips, information and resources are reaching all active producers, not just members. If you know of anyone who would like to receive this, and currently isn't, please contact members@australianpork.com.au

This is on top of our weekly communique, monthly APL Update publication, quarterly Pigs N Mud and Pigs to Pork publications and adhoc producer notices. If you would like to be receiving any of these, please get in touch with Nikki Watson at nikki.watson@australianpork.com.au or on 02 6270 8814

For Producers

APL is working to ensure producers are aware of what an ASF outbreak in Australia would mean for them.

Visit australianpork.com.au/asfresources for the latest information and resources.

Events

APL has been supporting the state pork bodies with their producer events. NSW, VIC and QLD all have held events, with SA and WA still planning producer workshops. The aim is to discuss the impact of African swine fever and how to prepare for it.

APL has also hosted a webinar on ASF preparedness. You can watch this webinar at australianpork.com.au/asfresources.

APL has also been hosting a teleconference every Friday morning with key stakeholders including select producers, SFO's (to assist in extending the updates to smaller producers), Government senior officials, AHA and State CVO representatives. This is to ensure a cohesive approach and the communication of accurate information. Visit australianpork.com.au/asfresources for the summary of these meetings.

Awareness

APL has increased engagement with pork retailers and food service to ensure they understand what African swine fever is, the impact it would have on Aussie producers and pork and most importantly, that it has no impact on human health. Pork retailers and food services have direct contact with every day consumers/customers, so they have a role to play in garnering support for our industry and making sure people don't stop buying fresh Aussie pork during this period.

APL has also increased engagement with pig hunters to drive home the problem of feral pigs' ability to spread diseases and how hunters can be a part of the solution by identifying disease.

APL is also working closely with the Government and other peak bodies to ensure public facing communications about not bringing meat products near pigs or trying to bring meat in from other countries.

APL's CEO Margo Andrae answering media interview requests to ensure our industry's message is clear with everyday consumers. Since August, Margo has featured in media clips reaching well over 9 million people with our messages.

If you see any unusual symptoms in pigs, contact your vet immediately or phone the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline at 1800 675 888.

African swine fever and your water



Coming into summer and with African swine fever close to Australia, it is a good time to talk about water supply.

It is important to note that the risk of feral pigs contaminating your water supply is likely quite low. An infected pig would have to die adjacent to your water intake valve or pipe for the virus to be sufficiently concentrated in the liquid to cause infection.

So why are some producers concerned?

The Romanians speculated that the Danube river might have been the source of infection for a large farm in that country. This was mentioned in a technical paper published in the European Journal of Food Safety in 2018 but the idea wasn't given a lot of support in Europe. They thought that the wild boar may have been more directly involved; it just hadn't been thoroughly investigated because it's hard to do.

A group at Kansas State University looked at spread of ASF by infected liquids. Their work suggested that it could be spread in liquid. However, extrapolating these laboratory results to the farm requires caution.

A separate report by a Danish group in 2018 found that if infected pigs were in a pen and they were removed when they got very sick, that the pen (with faeces and bedding) could infect new pigs that were introduced but only on

the first day or possibly two. Pigs introduced after 3 days did not get infected. In an Australian environment where materials are contaminated with faeces or urine, ASF will survive for about a week at room temperature.

What can producers do to minimise risk?

If you are still concerned, and would like to be very thorough, you can minimise the risk of ASF coming onto your farm through your water source, you can do this by treating the water in the tank with 2% sodium hypochlorite. If the water is treated and then sits in a tank for a few hours, any trace of ASF will be killed. The chlorine will then evaporate off so palatability will be fine.

Chlorination has the added advantage of improving water quality generally with a consequent positive outcome for the pigs and the farm. This would ensure you could cover the perceived ASF risk and seriously help the farm's productivity along at the same time.

In general, water supply should not be the top of your biosecurity checklist but is a fair addition if you are being thorough. In the list of the risks to think about, fencing, truck hygiene, people movement and removing any meat products from the lunch room should all be near the top of your biosecurity checklist.

Pass the PigPass, not the bug

PigPass has only grown and improved since it was first introduced by the industry to meet market and government requirements. It is only as good as its weakest link. Everyone in the pork industry has a role to play.

State and territory governments have been progressively implementing mandatory reporting since 1 February 2018 – four states down, three states/territories to go.

Producers should note the following requirements:

- Producers sending pigs – create a PigPass NVD with the correct information. Login and check that your movement has been closed by the receiver of the pigs after two days. If using a paper PigPass ensure you keep a copy on file for three years.
- Anyone receiving pigs – check the details of the pig movement, fill in the correct information and report the receipt of pigs to PigPass. Ensure you to double check the data you have entered before you click submit. Keep a copy of the PigPass you receive on file for three years.

PigPass will now:

- Remind you to stop and check that the information you have entered is correct before you click submit,
- Check the validity of your PIC before you order a PigPass book or generate an ePigPass on PigPass; and
- Send you an email if your PIC is found to be invalid and deactivate your account until this is fixed.

Of course, if you are trialling the PigPass mobile app for us (available from Apple or Android stores), that helps reduce errors, particularly those relating to movement reporting. The PigPass app generates the PigPass NVD, then stores the PigPass NVD, and uploads it to PigPass when your phone comes back into telecoms range. The PigPass NVD can be passed to the receiver (truck drivers, abattoirs, saleyards and shows) using the QR code scanner in the app or it can be emailed from the app.

Remember, PigPass is all about protecting your industry.

You have an important role in making sure PigPass is effective and ready to assist state and territory governments in an emergency. It must be able to trace where a disease has been, which properties are affected and to ultimately reduce the spread and impact of the disease. It can only do this if the data you enter is correct, complete and entered within the required timeframes.

Common errors

1. If the incorrect serial number is entered by a user into a PigPass movement report, then the incorrect movement is recorded in the system which will result in two data errors that need fixing. This could significantly delay a traceback of livestock in an emergency.
2. Many of the electronic PigPass NVDs generated directly online are not reported by the receiver of the pigs – in other words a movement occurs that cannot be traced.
3. Sometimes we see new producers who misunderstand the requirements and use the senders PIC and tattoo. Each pig owner needs their own PIC (and tattoo if using this), which can be obtained from your state Department of Agriculture or Local Land Services if you are located in NSW.

PigPass Helpdesk

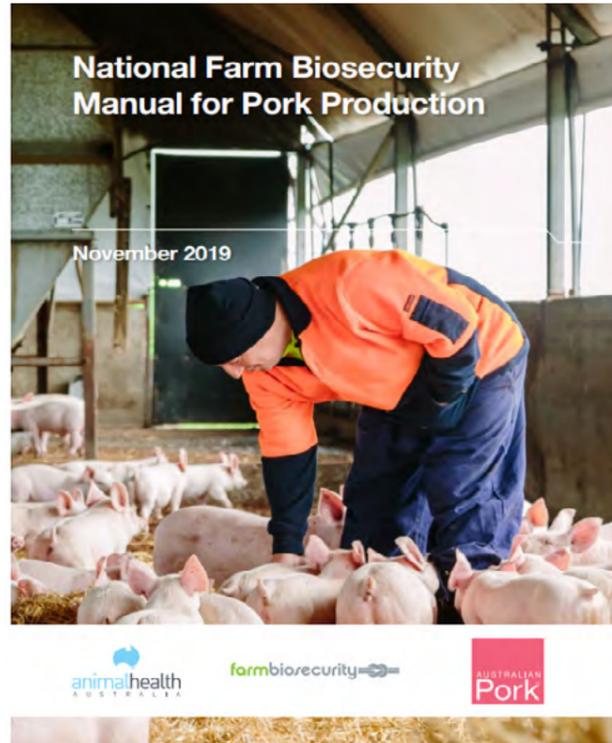
If you need help using PigPass please contact the PigPass Helpdesk for assistance. We are available every weekday from 9 am to 5 pm EST. At other times you can leave a voicemail or send an email to helpdesk@pigpass.com.au

EMERGENCY ANIMAL DISEASE SIGNS

THE SIGNS OF A DISEASE ARE NOT ALWAYS CONSISTENT BETWEEN HERDS. VARIATIONS ARE COMMON.

Potential Emergency Disease	Pigs affected	Coughing	Vomiting	Scouring	Increased mortalities	Impaired movement	Loss of body condition	Other signs and remarks
Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD)	All				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Piglets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lame, unwilling to stand	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blisters on feet, snout & teats Fever <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dribbling saliva and chomping jaws (mainly adult pigs) Abortions, some breeder deaths
African Swine Fever (ASF)	All		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate and high	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staggering, reluctant to move	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red-purplish to red skin Fever Low feed intake Eye discharge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constipation, followed by diarrhoea Pigs huddle together Sudden death
Classical Swine Fever (Hog Cholera)	All		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sometimes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Immediate and high	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Staggering, reluctant to move	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red-purplish to red skin Fever Low feed intake Eye discharge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constipation, followed by diarrhoea Pigs huddle together
Pseudorabies or Aujeszky's disease	Mainly growing pigs		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High in young pigs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Uncoordinated	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listlessness Increased abortions Some pigs refuse to eat Shivering and convulsions (spasms) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nervous signs in piglets and weaners Respiratory signs in finishers and adults Pig is the only natural host i.e. fatal in many other species, including dogs, cats and cattle
Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)	Mainly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Piglets	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Up to 80% of affected piglets Some sow deaths		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<p>Symptoms variable - Sows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased abortions, stillborns and weak newborns Early farrowing Low conception rates and delayed returns Fever <p>Growing pigs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nervous signs Deep and fast breathing Weaners have a rough hair coat Ill-thrift, i.e. large variation in size of pigs the same age <p>All pigs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feed refusal, Listlessness Blue extremities
Transmissible Gastroenteritis (TGE)	All		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Most affected piglets		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vomiting and scouring immediate and heavy in piglets <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clinical signs less severe in older pigs
Influenza	All		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Growers and finishers			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sluggish	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fever Listlessness Low appetite Difficulty breathing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can spread to and from humans (flu in stock people), birds and pigs Abortions Sows off feed for a day or two

Revised National Farm Biosecurity Manual for Pork Production



Animal Health Australia has published the Revised National Farm Biosecurity Manual for Pork Production, developed in partnership with APL.

The National Farm Biosecurity Manual for Pork Production identifies areas of risk to pig producers and appropriate measures to minimise the risks. It establishes a minimum set of biosecurity guidelines applicable to all pork producers.

The alignment of the Farm Biosecurity Manual for Pork Production and the biosecurity module within the APIQ[✓] programme provides the framework and standards by which Australian pig producers can demonstrate good biosecurity practices. The Manual builds on the agreed 2013 version, while also encompassing contemporary industry risks and mitigation measures to reflect changes that have been made to the APIQ[✓] standards.

Access the manual at <https://www.farmbiosecurity.com.au/toolkit/plans-manuals>

Podcast: African swine fever - The fight to save Queensland's bacon

The Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' (DAF) have a podcast about the battle to prevent African swine fever from reaching Queensland's shores. Listen to:

- CSIRO's Dr David Williams explain why this disease is so lethal—killing a quarter of the world's pigs in its latest outbreak overseas.
- Rob Martyn explain what is being done on SunPork Farm's Darling Downs property to prepare for a potential outbreak.
- Dr Allison Crook and Dr Jonathan Lee from Biosecurity Queensland explain how they are working with the industry on a preparedness and prevention plan, and what consumers can do to stop the disease getting into Queensland.

Tune in at: daf.qld.gov.au/news-media/podcasts/africanswinefever



Australian Pork Limited (APL) is a unique rural industry service body for the Australian pork industry. We are a producer owned company delivering integrated services that enhance, support and promote the

viability of Australia's pig producers.

What makes APL producer owned is the funding that is received primarily through statutory pig slaughter levies, collected under the Primary Industries (Excise) Levies Act 1999, with additional research specific funds provided by the Australian Government.

With the funding, our aim is to enhance opportunities for the sustainable growth of the Australian pork industry by delivering integrated marketing, innovation and policy services along the pork industry supply chain. APL pursues opportunities for the industry at both the domestic and international level.

\$2b economic impact of ASF

APL commissioned ACIL Allen to prepare an analysis of the likely economic impact of an African swine fever (ASF) incursion in Australia, focusing primarily on trade and revenue impacts. The study found that a conservative estimate for a larger, multi-point impact would be up to \$2.03 billion over 5 years.

The potential economic impacts of ASF on Australia depend heavily on the size and duration of the outbreak and the control strategies used.

ACIL Allen developed an indicative economic impact assessment of two scenarios of ASF incursion in Australia. The AUSVETPLAN manuals were used to inform the design of these scenarios and how they would play out.

You can access the full report at australianpork.com.au/asfcost2b

The modelling focused on:

- the direct and indirect economic impact of ASF to industry and the supply chain,
- the impact on trade and revenue
- export market closures, and
- retail demand reductions.

Impacts that were not modelled were:

- monitoring and surveillance activities for infected sites and other regions following an outbreak,
- the persistence of pathogens in the composting process of mass mortalities,
- costs associated with treatment of whole effluent pond systems, along with loss of revenue in offset organic fertiliser costs,
- environmental costs in terms of soil contamination and treatment if burial is used as a treatment option.
- incursion in the feral pig population and subsequent risk of the virus becoming endemic
- social impacts (mental health and relationship costs associated with the revenue losses)

The report is therefore considered a very conservative estimate of the total impact ASF could have.

For more information, contact Andrew Robertson at 02 6270 8888
Andrew.Robertson@australianpork.com.au

The outbreak scenarios

Scenario 1: low spread

Context: a small, single point outbreak within a small number of piggeries, and contained within four weeks.

Assumptions:

- ASF is introduced at a smallholder piggery through swill feeding
- It is in one state with a relatively high level of production intensity which is geographically clustered in a way which allows the disease to spread easily between farms.
- It then spreads to around 20 per cent of 'small holder producers' and 'small and medium commercial piggeries' in the same state,
- Spread through farm movements, as well as people and vehicle movements, and direct contact with other pigs at saleyards.
- ASF is contained to these piggeries and does not spread up the production chain
- the impact is felt through the supply chain.

Estimated total economic loss: between \$667-\$877 million.

Scenario 2: high spread

Context: a large, multi-point outbreak across the eastern seaboard, and contained within three months.

Assumptions:

- Spread through the large number of transport movements throughout these states.
- Spreads rapidly during the first two weeks of detection
- appears at many major and large commercial piggeries along the eastern seaboard and an export abattoir in Melbourne.
- All existing infected stock along the supply chain will be destroyed within a 4-week period.

Estimated total economic loss: between \$1.548-\$2.033 billion.

Lessons from the NSW

The NSW Farmers African Swine Fever Forum was held in Young, NSW, on Tuesday 22 October 2019. It was attended by 120 stakeholders interested in obtaining first hand advice about the ASF virus and how it can be effectively managed. The day provided an opportunity for pork producers to engage openly with key industry personnel. The forum focused on preparedness for an ASF incursion as pork producers play an important role in containing the spread of ASF if it enters the country.

You can access presentations from the day at nswfarmers.org.au/ or at australianpork.com.au/

Session 1: Biosecurity Plans

Edwina Beveridge APL Director and NSW Farmers Pork Committee member opened the day, by outlining the symptoms of ASF, the way it spreads and the extreme conditions needed to kill it. Edwina shared some practical on farm tips, by sharing what Blantyre Farms has implemented and what actions reduced their biosecurity risk. For example, installing security fencing, providing additional staff training on biosecurity and colour coded gum boots for dirty and clean areas.

Dr Pat Mitchell from PIC discussed business continuity and standstill scenarios for an ASF incursion. Producers need to consider preparedness for a two week stock standstill, including feed, vaccines, and semen for AI.

Key points:

- Biosecurity will vary depending on the farm and that producers should consult their vets to create a comprehensive biosecurity plan tailored to their farm.
- Would you be able to cope with a 2 week standstill if you are in a quarantine zone?

Session 2: Destruction, disposal & decontamination (the 3 D's)

Duncan Worsfold from Agriculture Victoria ran through the key aspects of destruction, disposal and decontamination, or '3D'. Having a 3D plan will be important if ASF enters the country, as affected pigs will need to be destroyed and disposed of in a way that prevents ASF spreading. Disposal options discussed included burial, burning, rendering, landfill disposal and composting.

Farmers are best placed to know the workings of their farms and this information is integrated into the risk assessment undertaken by the regulators, particularly when addressing the 3 Ds. Disposal options include burial, burning, rendering, landfill disposal and composting.

Key points:

- EPA approval will be required prior to disposal
- Each farm is different - the best option will be different relative to environmental constraints such as ground water, location etc.

Session 3: DPI's preparedness activities

NSW Chief Veterinary Officer Sarah Britton provided attendees with an overview of the work done by NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) in preparation for an ASF incursion. A key piece of DPI's work is a series of ASF outbreak simulations carried out in NSW and surrounding states. Sarah shared some of the key learnings from these exercises, including the response timeframe and actions necessary for containing the disease in a cost effective manner.

Forum presenters answer questions. From Left, Duncan Worsfold, Sarah Britton, Eliz Braddon, Pat Mitchell and Lechelle van Breda.



Farmers ASF forum

Actions the DPI NSW are taking to reduce the threat of ASF include:

- the 'Don't pack pork' programme aimed at foreign university students
- Working with the APL technical group within NSW and nationally to identify gaps
- Engagement with processors in NSW and VIC.
- Peri-urban programme i.e. where pigs sold online were identified. A gap analysis was undertaken with APL and then Local Land Services follow up with small holders to advise on PIC requirements.
- Swill feeding audits have increased, doubling local land services environmental health officers through the restaurant reuse campaign.
- Emergency Animal Disease awareness with abattoirs.
- mapping landfill sites, rendering facilities and disposal sites.

In regards to feral pig management, Dr Eliz Braddon, Riverina Local Land Services, discussed 'Feral Scan' which overlays piggeries in NSW to identify high risk areas and mentioned there is work underway to identify the most efficient program for feral shooting including aerial infra-red identification.

Sam Allan, Animal Health Australia, explained the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement Deed which outlines the framework and the AUSVET Plan, which details the actions on EAD. You can read more about this at animalhealthaustralia.com.au

Key points:

- Recommended fences to minimise contact with feral pigs and installing buffer zones.
- If an outbreak occurs, state DPIs take the lead with help from local land services. A number of liaison officers are appointed and APL would act as a liaison to provide communications

Session 4: Australian Pork Ltd actions

Dr Lechelle van Breda provided an update on the spread of ASF, the actions of Australian Pork Limited and the Australian Government, and the precautions producers

can take in the face of an ASF incursion. There was a comprehensive update on the measures taken by the Australian Government at the border and overseas to prevent ASF entering the country, including the increased scrutiny of incoming products and passengers from ASF-affected countries and the increase in penalties for failing to declare pork items upon entering Australia.

Key points:

- Disease response will vary according to the situation
- Resources are available at australianpork.com.au/asfresources



What happens – an ASF response on farm

- Lab samples will be taken – blood, swabs, tissue in event of post-mortem and advised of result in 6 hours
- Movement controls in place for infected premises
- Tracing and surveillance begins – Regulatory agencies assist (pigs, people, transport, feed, equipment, products)
- Destruction/disposal/decontamination

What you can do now:

- Biosecurity plan – control entry and keep visitor logs for 30 days, maintain clean and dirty areas, no swill feeding, prevent feral access
- Consider readiness level (3Ds - destruction, disposal, decontamination) and business continuity planning – feed, vaccines, fuel.
- Storage of imported feed additives -implement and abide with set quarantine periods

Animal Health Australia videos

AHA has developed two videos around ASF:

- **Emergency preparedness for African swine fever** – Samantha Allan (AHA Exec Manager) and Kathleen Plowman (AHA CEO) provide info on the national arrangements for managing an outbreak of ASF.
- **African swine fever: biosecurity for pork producers** - Samantha Allan and Sharon Starick (incoming AHA Chair) explore how producers can secure their properties in light of the ASF threat.

You can watch these videos at

www.animalhealthaustralia.com.au/asf/

Help save our bacon.

The Northern Territory Government are undertaking an extensive communications campaign to address the threat of African swine fever. As part of this, they have developed 40 ASF fact sheets in assorted languages available at nt.gov.au/industry/african-swine-fever



APL African swine fever meetings and activities

- APL provided an ASF update at the November Delegates Forum. Narelle Cleg, Dept of Agriculture Assistant Secretary, spoke to industry on biosecurity at the border, Sharon Starick, AHA Chair and Dr Samantha Allan, AHA, discussed CCEAD Workshop details, and preparedness activities, and Dr Sarah Britton NSW DPI CVO provided an operational report on the activities being addressed by the APL industry technical group and the CVO working groups.
- APL raised the issue of ASF and Feral pigs while at a meeting with other industry bodies at the National Farmers Federation. APL received unanimous support from NFF members to have the NFF Members Council call on governments to commit to invest in and work with industry towards control of feral pigs and urgently take action to further invest in and strengthen the national biosecurity system to better protect Australia as the volume of incoming cargo and passengers continues to grow and the risk of major biosecurity threats entering and establishing in Australia is heightened.
- Margo Andrae has been in regular contact with the Senator Bridget McKenzie, Federal Minister for Agriculture in regards to feral pig management, including contributing to the announcement of a National Feral Pig Coordinator role to be established within APL.
- Dr Lechelle van Breda presented on African swine fever and the work that APL and the Government are doing to protect industry at the NSW Farmers ASF Forum held in Young.
- APL's weekly ASF teleconference with key stakeholders is to ensure consistent updates and communications. The minutes are at australianpork.com.au/asfresources
- APL met with AHA to film a video on ASF and biosecurity preparedness for use on social media channels.
- Margo Andrae continued her relationship with both metro and rural media, to ensure an understanding of what is at risk. Margo has featured in articles reaching an audience of well over 9 million
- Lechelle van Breda attended the Biosecurity Queensland roundtable to discuss Queensland ASF awareness and action with forum attendees.
- APL staff attended a Biosecurity preparedness/recovery roundtable with Biosecurity Queensland and SunPork
- Lechelle also attended the QLD domestic processor group meeting to provide insight into ASF preparedness and address concerns of industry,
- APL staff attended the Australian Meat Industry Council meeting and the Export Meat Industry Advisory Committee meeting to engage in discussions around the impact of ASF and to provide an update on how they can support the biosecurity efforts.
- APL attended the Industry/Chief Veterinary Officer ASF meeting occurred in Canberra to continue reviewing the key areas of preparedness such as operationalising the ASF AUSVETplan, movements and permits, processing and decontamination, destruction and disposal.
- APL attended Dr Barry Lloyd's ASF producer meeting in Roseworthy to engage with producers, provide information and listen to concerns of industry.
- APL Biosecurity Strategic Review Panel met in Melbourne to continue the discussion on the ASF situation and developments, risk assessments and australia's' overall preparedness.
- APL and NZ Pork Producers participated in the webinar held on 12 November by Dr Eric Neumann on what is and isn't known about African swine fever.