

MEETING REPORT

African Swine Fever Stakeholder Teleconference

Author:	Lechelle van Breda, Manager, Production Stewardship
Committee:	African Swine Fever Stakeholder Teleconference
Meeting Date:	Friday 15 November 2019

Item #	Item Name	Discussion summary	Major outcomes, recommendations, actions
1	Welcome (APL CEO)	<p>Ms Margo Andrae opened the teleconference at 10:00am.</p> <p>Australia remains ASF free.</p> <p>Ms Andrae provided an update on feral pig funding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Minister for Agriculture Bridget McKenzie announced the Government is investing \$1.4M over the next three and half years to support a National feral pig coordinator to tackle Australia's feral pig population. • The coordinator will be based at Australian Pork Limited. • This initiative will coordinate efforts across state/territory jurisdictions. • This is a crucial opportunity to nationally 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 Australia. 	
2	Industry ASF technical committee – current activities	<p>Dr Ross Cutler delivered an update on behalf of the Industry ASF technical committee. This covered the progress with preparedness activities that are currently underway.</p> <p>The Industry ASF technical committee was convened 3 weeks ago, members have technical expertise cross all facets of pig production (industry, veterinarians and researchers). The group provides a forum for rapid exchange of technical information, are industry advisers and contribute to gap analysis in preparedness activities. The group has direct interaction with the state governments, which is highly beneficial for industry and the CVO Network.</p> <p>The Industry ASF technical committee has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convened and connected with global networks in Europe, China, US, NZ (Eric) and with the CSIRO. • Enabled rapid exchange of key technical information from the recent international literature and meetings. • A detailed analysis of two scenarios by group members in SA and Qld led to a detailed gap analysis. From this, the key issues provided the 	

		<p>agenda items for an effective and collaborative meeting between the Industry ASF technical group and the AHC CVO task force last week.</p> <p>Outcomes from the Industry ASF technical committee and the AHC CVO task force meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • APL facilitated placements of industry staff and the CVO working groups on movement permits, DDD, feral pigs and processing. Hence, producers have first hand interaction with agency thinking and can contribute in practical terms. • The forum identified areas where APL can specifically assist in preparedness and response activities. These include industry liaison, communication, valuing and compensation, training agency staff where necessary and biosecurity standards, possibly by a higher biosecurity accreditation. • APL has stressed the value of preslaughter testing possibilities, state based rapid testing for cases identified at abattoirs and testing boars off feed in AI centres. • The Industry ASF technical committee have strongly supported further investigation into risk management for transport biosecurity (notably disinfection of trucks) and are working with both the CVO processing and DDD working groups in this area. • In total, there are approximately 31 action items that the Industry ASF technical committee is watching or directly involved in. <p>Ms Andrae noted the unique opportunity for industry to assist the CVO network with preparedness activities and commended the collaborative approach of all involved.</p>	
3	Industry update - APL Manager, production stewardship	<p>Dr van Breda provided an update for industry on APL co-ordination activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The APL website will soon have available for access, a NZ Pork presentation on ASF on a global scale delivered by Dr Eric Neumann, a pig veterinarian and epidemiologist from New Zealand. • Both the federal and state governments are working collaboratively with each other, and industry. • APL, via the Industry ASF technical committee, is ensuring that all “gaps” in preparedness are being addressed by the co-ordinating departments. • Communication materials are being disseminated by APL for all stakeholders to access. • As noted by Ms Andrae, feral pig funding has been invested with the industry. APL will provide updates associated with this position and activities as they progress. 	
4	Stakeholder questions	No Questions from Stakeholders.	
5	Next call	<p>The weekly teleconferences will continue to be scheduled whilst stakeholders have concerns and continued interest in the activities underway. The next teleconference will be held on Friday 21st November at 10am. Details will be circulated by APL.</p>	All stakeholders are welcome to continue sending through or asking questions, or raising their concerns with both Ms Andrae or Dr van Breda.

