

African Swine Fever Stakeholder Weekly Update

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Committee:	African Swine Fever Stakeholder Weekly Update
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Item #	Item Name	ASF preparedness update	Major outcomes, recommendations, actions
1	Australian Pork Limited Ms Margo Andrae Dr Lechelle van Breda	<p>Australia remains ASF free.</p> <p>Agriculture Minister Bridget McKenzie announced the establishment of a Biosecurity Futures group, to provide industry intelligence, advice and ideas on biosecurity matters directly to government. The eight initial members who have agreed to participate are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Margo Andrae, Australian Pork Limited • Paul Zalai, Freight and Trade Alliance • Stephen Annells, Fertilizer Australia • Carolyn McGill, Food and Beverage Importers Association • Jane Lovell, Seafood Industry Australia • Tania Constable, Mineral Council of Australia • Tony Mahar, National Farmers' Federation • Margy Osmond, Tourism and Transport Forum. <p>A month-long operation – Operation Conway has tested Australia's defenses by screening all passengers and crew from high-risk flights for pork products and other biosecurity risk material. A total of 1021 passengers and crew were screened using a combination of x-ray, manual inspection and detector dogs across five flights originating from countries with confirmed cases of ASF. During the operation 44kg of risk products were seized, including 12kgs of pork, leading to 28 infringements and 17 written warnings. Some of the seized pork products were sent for ASF testing, with 22% returning a positive result. The Government is working to strengthen compliance at the border.</p>	
2	Department of Agriculture update Dr Narelle Clegg	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted activities in the non-commercial air cargo pathway have been deployed, to date no undeclared or mis-declared meat products have been identified. • Following communications regarding ASF risk commenced; the declaration rate for seized products has increased – undeclared product at a high in 2015 of more than 20%, now down to around 10% in 2019. • Continuing to work with Timor-Leste to support them with their ASF outbreak response. • Working with Papua New Guinea to develop awareness materials for ASF. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Domestic pig farmers, border staff and incoming international passengers have been targets for National Agriculture and Quarantine Inspection Authority messages that outline the risks associated with importing pork products from affected countries. ○ Messaging aimed at small-holder pig farmers also focused on the importance of reporting unusual disease events to local authorities 	
3	Chief Veterinary Officer update Dr Kevin de Witte (CVO for Tasmania)	The ASF taskforce working groups are continuing to work through industry questions and these will be collated and provided to APL when completed.	
4	Stakeholder questions	No questions from stakeholders.	
5	Next report	The weekly report will continue to be scheduled whilst stakeholders have concerns and continued interest in the activities underway and will be reviewed mid January. The next report will be distributed on Friday 6st December.	All stakeholders are welcome to continue sending through or asking questions, or raising their concerns with both Ms Margo Andrae or Dr Lechelle van Breda.