

EXOTIC

African swine fever

Fact sheet

July 2023

Introductory statement

African swine fever (ASF) is **not** found in Australia. ASF is a highly contagious, generalised viral disease affecting only pigs.

ASF is transmitted by direct contact, inanimate objects and ticks. The virus is very resistant to inactivation. The acute form of the disease is characterised by a mortality of up to 100% in infected herds. Milder forms of the disease also occur.

Pigs that survive acute disease or are infected by mild strains can become chronically infected for several months, although virus is thought to be excreted for only 5–6 weeks.

In Europe, wild pigs can become infected and may be a reservoir of infection for domestic pigs.

If you suspect a case of ASF you should immediately call the **Emergency Animal Disease Hotline (1800 675 888)**.

References and other information

The latest information on ASF is available from the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) website: www.woah.org/app/uploads/2021/03/a-african-swine-fever-v2-0.pdf and www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahm/3.09.01_ASF.pdf

WOAH detection, reporting and control measures are located at:

www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/tahc/current/chapitre_asf.pdf

The Disease Strategy for the control and eradication of African swine fever, version 5.1, 2022 is available as part of the AUSVETPLAN series. Wildlife considerations as part of response are addressed in the WARS AUSVETPLAN. Both can be found at:

<https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/ausvetplan>

Information available on distribution and abundance of feral pigs in Australia can be accessed through “Significant invasive species (vertebrate pests)” (2008) https://pestsmart.org.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2020/06/NLWRA_Invasive_Animals_Booklet.pdf.

Acknowledgements

This sheet summarises information available in the WARS AUSVETPLAN. We are grateful to those who have had input into this plan and Animal Health Australia who maintain the plan. The full AUSVETPLAN is available at: <https://animalhealthaustralia.com.au/ausvetplan>

Updated: July 2023

To provide feedback on fact sheets

Wildlife Health Australia welcomes your feedback on fact sheets. Please email admin@wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au. We would also like to hear from you if you have a particular area of expertise and are interested in creating or updating a WHA fact sheet. A small amount of funding is available to facilitate this.

Disclaimer

This fact sheet is managed by Wildlife Health Australia for information purposes only. Information contained in it is drawn from a variety of sources external to Wildlife Health Australia. Although reasonable care was taken in its preparation, Wildlife Health Australia does not guarantee or warrant the accuracy, reliability, completeness, or currency of the information or its usefulness in achieving any purpose. It should not be relied on in place of professional veterinary or medical consultation. To the fullest extent permitted by law, Wildlife Health Australia will not be liable for any loss, damage, cost or expense incurred in or arising by reason of any person relying on information in this fact sheet. Persons should accordingly make and rely on their own assessments and enquiries to verify the accuracy of the information provided.



Find out more at www.wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au

Email admin@wildlifehealthaustralia.com.au

Or call +61 2 9960 6333