

## Updated Outbreak Assessment #25

# African swine fever in Europe

9 May 2022

Ref: VITT/1200 ASF in Europe

## Disease report

Since our last report on 10 January 2022, a case of African swine fever (ASF) genotype 2 has been confirmed in a wild boar in a new region of mainland Italy, in the capital Rome, in the Lazio region (Map 1). This is the first report of ASF in the region and is approximately 400km from the previously reported cases in wild boar in Piedmont and Liguria regions, where there have been 113 cases of ASF since the disease was first reported on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Elsewhere, and according to OIE reports, frequent outbreaks in domestic pigs continue to be reported in Moldova, Romania, Russia, and Ukraine. ASF has also continued to be reported in wild boar across Europe.

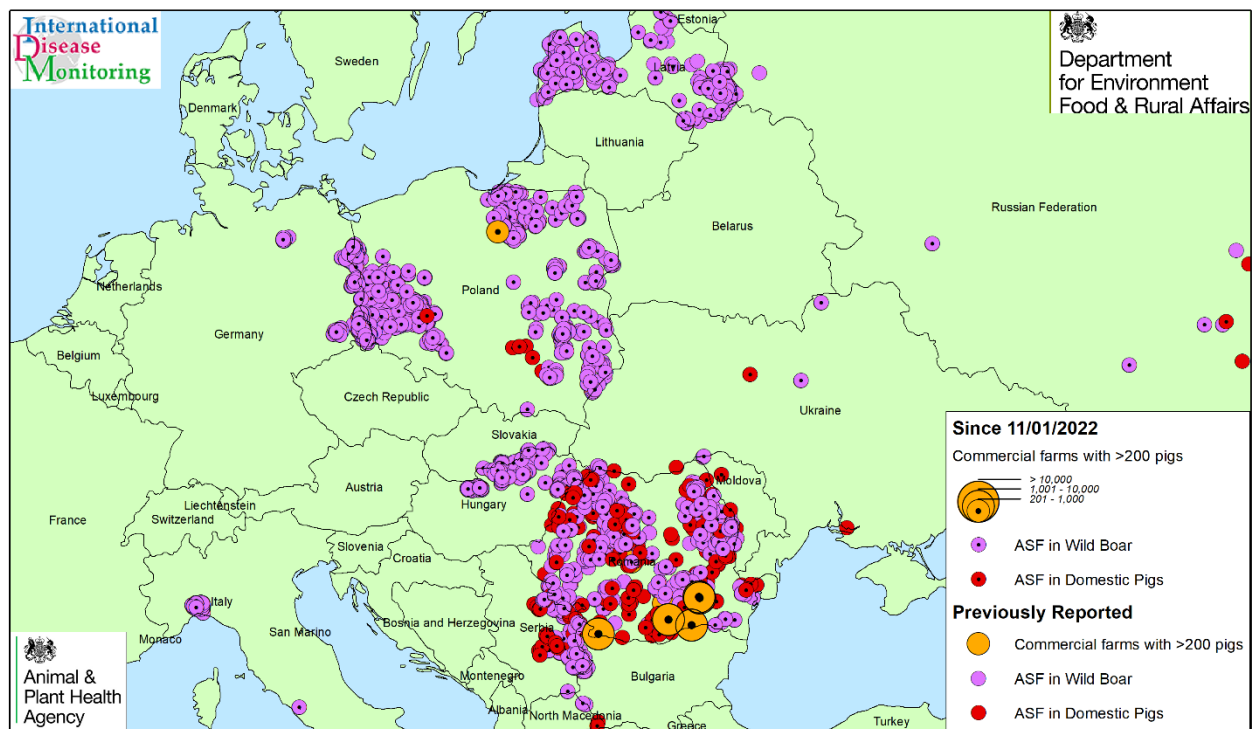
The case in Italy was confirmed in a wild boar which was found in a pre-agonal state and euthanased in a nature reserve in the Metropolitan City of Rome, Lazio in mainland Italy. There is currently no information on whether there have been any recent imports to UK from the affected area, however, there have been no cases reported in domestic pigs in the region to 9 May 2022. The new restrictions under Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 will prevent any further imports from the infected region. The same regulation covers the prohibitions, derogations, and requirement for certification from any region affected by ASF for consigning live pigs or products of porcine origin or associated animal by-products to EU Member States and third countries.

Following the first reports of ASF in mainland Italy in January 2022, a Special Commissioner for ASF was appointed on 25 February and an Order of measures for control and prevention of ASF was passed on 25 March. Measures include the setup of capture devices every 2,000/2,500 hectares, reinforcement of fencing, hunting prohibition, active wild boar carcass surveillance, census of pig holdings and banning movement of live pigs, pig meat and animal by-products in the Restricted Zone II (RZ II) area. Additional measures have also been introduced in the Restricted Zone I (RZ I) area, including enhanced passive surveillance, hunting regulations, prohibited movement of wild boars caught in protected areas and other wildlife establishments other than for slaughter and enhanced biosecurity measures and checks (PAFF, 2022a). Human mediated spread is currently considered to be the most likely source (OIE, 2022).

Crisis units are being set up at the local, regional, and national level, while meetings are being held with authorities in veterinary services, forest management, wildlife, and hunting (Pig Progress, 2022).

A separate strain of ASF (genotype 1) has been endemic on the Italian island of Sardinia since 1978. ASF on Sardinia has improved in the last decade after the number of outdoor farms drastically reduced following an ASF eradication program (ASF-EP15/18). Passive surveillance of domestic pigs and wild boar is ongoing, with two outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs reported in the last two years, and 15 reports of ASF in wild boar in 2021 (ADIS, 2020; ADIS, 2021; IZSUM, 2021)

**Map 1 showing outbreaks and cases of ASF in Europe reported by OIE between December 2021 and May 2022**



Map prepared by IDM  
 Date: 10/05/2022  
 Absolute scale: 1:17,402,799

**African Swine Fever in Europe  
 December 2021 - May 2022  
 (OIE Data Only)**

## Outbreak data

Details of all outbreaks and cases provided in the tables and map in this report were taken from the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), unless stated otherwise. Additional information has been provided, where available, from the EU Animal Disease Information System (ADIS) summary tables (ADIS, 2022), and information from relevant PAFF presentations (PAFF, 2021 and PAFF, 2022).

## **Situation assessment**

### **Bulgaria**

The OIE has reported two outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs since our last report in January. Both outbreaks involved backyard pigs: one premises with only one pig present and the other premises had five pigs in total. Recent ADIS summary tables (ADIS, 2022) show that Bulgaria has also reported a further 231 cases of ASF in wild boar between 1 January and 29 April 2022.

### **Estonia**

Since 10 January 2022, neither OIE or ADIS have reported ASF in domestic pigs or wild boar. There has been no change in Restriction Zones (RZs) and most of Estonia is under RZ II restrictions.

### **Germany**

Since 10 January, neither OIE nor ADIS have reported any outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs in Germany. The outbreak in domestic pigs that occurred on 15 November 2021 in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania is now resolved, and restrictions were lifted on 15 January 2022. Reporting in wild boar has continued by the OIE, with a further 226 reports of ASF in wild boar, comprising of 809 individual wild boar cases. The majority of these were in Saxony and Brandenburg. Six cases of ASF in wild boar in Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania are thought to be unrelated to the outbreak in domestic pigs in November. The geographical distribution of cases remains relatively unchanged and control measures continue to be implemented.

### **Hungary**

To date, there have been no outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs reported by OIE or ADIS. Since 10 January, OIE has reported 283 cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting 384 individual animals. In 2021, there was a steady decrease in reports of ASF in wild boar in Hungary throughout the year, from 615 in January 2021 to 12 in October 2021, followed by an increase in November and December (Table 2). A similar trend was observed in 2020. ([https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/950374/asf-eastern-europe\\_update\\_18.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/950374/asf-eastern-europe_update_18.pdf)). However, the numbers of cases reported throughout spring this year, are much lower than those reported at the same time last year, suggestive of effective disease management measures.

## **Latvia**

There have been 209 reports of ASF in wild boar from OIE since 10 January 2022, comprising 335 animals in total. This represents an increase in the number of wild boar cases since our last report. There have been no reports of ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs.

As of April 2022, in the county of Dienvidkurzemes, ASF has been confirmed in six dead wild boar in the Vērgales parish (RZ I). A further four cases have been confirmed in wild boar in the Dunalkas and Sakas parishes (RZ II) which lie close to the Vērgales parish. The confirmed cases in Vērgales plus the increased risk posed by the proximity of the cases in Dunalkas and Sakas has led to an extension of RZ II in Latvia to include the Vērgales parish (PAFF 2022b).

## **Lithuania**

According to OIE and ADIS, there have been no outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs since our last report. However, the latest ADIS summary confirmed 96 cases of ASF in wild boar since 1 January 2022 (ADIS 2022). In February, territories in the south-west that were previously in RZ II were reverted to RZ I in Marijampolės, Kalvarijos and Vilkaviškis district municipalities. Lithuania's last reported case via ADIS was on 28 April 2022 (PAFF 2022c).

## **Moldova**

Moldova has reported one outbreak of ASF in domestic pigs to OIE since our last report. The outbreak occurred in a small commercial pig premises in the Rîșcani district in the north of the country, close to the borders with Ukraine and Romania, and affected 143 pigs. There were also two cases of ASF in wild boar reported by OIE since our last report, in Briceni district on the border with Ukraine.

## **North Macedonia**

Since our last report which detailed the first outbreak of ASF in North Macedonia, OIE has reported one further outbreak of ASF in a backyard premises of 18 domestic pigs. North Macedonia has also reported two cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting 7 individual animals. All ASF cases have occurred in the north-east of the country, close to the border with Bulgaria.

## **Poland**

Since our last report on 10 January 2022, there have been no outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs reported in Poland by ADIS or PAFFs. However, since our last report, OIE has reported eight historical ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs, that occurred between September and December 2021.

There have also been 1708 cases of ASF cases in wild boar in Poland reported by OIE, 462 of which had start dates after our last report on 10 January and the rest which occurred between October 2021 and 10 January. There was also one case of ASF in a bush pig (*Potamochoerus porcus*). According to ADIS summaries, in the period from 1 January to 29 April 2022 there were 1018 cases of ASF in wild boar.

In April 2022, there have been some amendments to the ASF RZ boundaries in Poland. Firstly, an area of the Warmia-Masuria region has been reverted from RZ III to RZ II. Secondly, an area spanning the Podkarpackie and Małopolskie regions has been reverted from RZ III to RZ I. As a result of the recent case of ASF confirmed in wild boar in the Pomorskie region, the boundary for RZ II has been extended (PAFF 2022d).

## Romania

Since 10 January, OIE has reported 135 outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs in Romania. Seven of the reports were on commercial premises, with between 3,200 and 20,000 animals (totalling 66,435 animals). There were seven reports of ASF in pigs in national parks and other registered premises with eight pigs affected, and one on a registered premises with over 300 pigs. The remainder were on backyard premises with less than 75 pigs (comprising a total of 120 farms with 1,112 animals). There were 251 reports of ASF in wild boar by OIE in the same timeframe, comprising 462 individual wild boar.

The whole of Romania is currently in [RZ III](#) and hence there are strict measures in place regarding the exportation of live pigs and pork products from the region, as per [Commission Implementing Regulation \(EU\) 2021/605](#) (Europa, 2022). Pig holding inspections are to be performed at least once per year, with advice being offered to small farmers by veterinarians on biosecurity measures and the obligation to notify of health issues (PAFF, 2021c).

## Russia

Since our last report on 10 January 2022, Russia has reported nine outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs to OIE, of which one was a larger commercial premises with 330 pigs, and the remainder were backyard premises with less than 100 pigs. There were also 15 reports of ASF in wild boar, comprising 89 animals.

## Serbia

Since 10 January 2022, Serbia has batch-reported 115 outbreaks of ASF in domestic pig and 200 cases of ASF in wild boar to OIE. All of these occurred between October 2020 and December 2021. The latest ADIS summary however, confirmed a further 11 outbreaks in domestic pigs and 32 cases in wild boar between 1 January 2022 and 10 February 2022 (ADIS, 2021).

## **Slovakia**

According to OIE, Slovakia has had no reported outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs since August 2019. However, ADIS summaries have confirmed one outbreak in domestic pigs since our last report on 10 January 2022 (ADIS, 2022). According to PAFF presentations (PAFF, 2022f) this outbreak was confirmed in late January and affected a small commercial premises of 168 fattening pigs. Movements of pigs is prohibited in the regions in accordance with the relevant legislation.

There have been no cases of ASF in wild boar reported by OIE in Slovakia (since April 2020), but ADIS reports that between 1 January 2022 and 9 May 2022 there have been 274 cases of ASF in wild boar (ADIS 2022). The most recent is dated 29 April 2022.

As of April 2022, the RZ II has been extended in Slovakia to include the Liptovský Mikuláš and Banská Bystrica regions, following the confirmation of ASF in found dead wild boar in the area, previously RZ I. In addition, RZ changes have been implemented in the Levice and Nové Zámky regions near the border with Hungary, where an ASF outbreak occurred in December 2021. Following disease eradication and negative ASF testing from commercial farms and backyard holdings, and passive wild boar surveillance in the area, veterinary measures have been lifted. The area remains in RZ I due to the high risk of introduction from Hungary. Similarly, a RZ III area has been removed in the Lučenec region following eradication of a single ASF outbreak, however the area remains under RZ II measures (PAFF 2022g).

## **Ukraine**

Since 10 January, Ukraine has reported one outbreak of ASF to OIE on a farm with 95 pigs. There were also 2 reported cases in wild boar in Ukraine since our last report. There has been no update from Ukraine since 2 February 2022.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
 Animal and Plant Health Agency  
 Advice Services - International Disease Monitoring

**Table 1: Domestic pig outbreaks reported from June 2021 to 9 May 2022 in Europe (OIE only)**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bulgaria	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	5
Germany	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Latvia	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Moldova	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
North Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Poland	0	0	0	106	8	3	0	3	1	4	0	0	125
Romania	57	208	311	281	201	102	85	44	42	29	28	4	1392
Russia	6	44	33	36	32	8	6	4	3	0	1	1	174
Serbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	114	0	0	115
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukraine	0	3	2	1	0	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	11
<b>Total</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>241</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1832</b>

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
 Animal and Plant Health Agency  
 Advice Services - International Disease Monitoring

**Table 2: Wild boar cases reported from June 2021 to 9 May 2022 in Europe (OIE only)**

<b>Row Labels</b>	<b>Jun</b>	<b>Jul</b>	<b>Aug</b>	<b>Sep</b>	<b>Oct</b>	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>	<b>Jan</b>	<b>Feb</b>	<b>Mar</b>	<b>Apr</b>	<b>May</b>	<b>Total</b>
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Germany	35	29	59	31	43	39	49	43	31	102	50	0	511
Hungary	173	66	42	8	12	20	35	56	51	108	51	26	648
Italy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	15	31	31	1	104
Latvia	16	32	44	20	31	48	74	62	66	54	22	5	474
Lithuania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Moldova	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
North Macedonia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
Poland	0	0	4072	134	109	110	0	335	0	500	874	0	6134
Romania	51	44	22	33	21	55	103	114	91	42	32	5	613
Russia	2	21	13	3	19	5	6	5	1	3	6	0	84
Serbia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28	0	172	0	0	200
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukraine	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>4252</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>1067</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>8776</b>



## Conclusion

ASF has been confirmed in a wild boar in a new region of mainland Italy over 400km from the nearest cases in north-west Italy, as reported by OIE. It is unknown whether this case is related to those in the north-west, or if it is a new incursion into Italy from elsewhere. These developments are concerning given Italy's status as the European Union's seventh largest pork producer with a \$9.1 billion industry and serves as a reminder of the ability of ASF to spread long distances to a previously unaffected region, often via human-mediated routes.

As intensive surveillance will be implemented around the new outbreak areas, it is likely that further outbreaks within the Lazio Region will be reported over the coming months.

ASF continues to be present in domestic pigs across eastern Europe. While the outbreak and case numbers of ASF in domestic pigs in Romania have declined since our last report, wild boar cases have increased, and Romania continues to be considered under RZ III restrictions and unable to export pork products. ASF is still circulating in wild boar across much of Eastern Europe, therefore the risk of entry of ASF virus in products of animal origin from affected countries, including from illegal imports, remains at **medium**.

Although the UK has now left the European Union, as part of our ongoing commitment to ease the burden felt by businesses and travellers and allow ports of entry longer to prepare, there has been no change to the rules for passengers travelling into GB from the EU with products of an animal origin from January 2021, but Great Britain will be bringing in changes towards the end of 2023. Nevertheless, all travellers are strongly advised to avoid bringing, ordering, or requesting any pork products – for example, dried or cured meats, sausages, salamis, or pâté – back to the UK from affected parts of Europe. Travellers from Asia and other third country areas who bring meat or dairy products can also face prosecution and a large fine.

We would like to emphasise to all pig keepers, pig producers, smallholders, and general public to ensure pigs are not fed catering waste, kitchen scraps or pork products, thereby observing the swill feeding ban.

All pig keepers, whether commercial holdings or not, should remain vigilant and ensure that any visitors or seasonal workers have not had any recent contact with pigs, pig products, pig premises, wild boar (including hunting) or equipment associated with such activities in the affected regions in Europe or other affected parts of the world. As with all biosecurity, measures are only as effective as the people using them so proper training should be provided.

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Advice Services - International Disease Monitoring

Pig keepers and veterinarians should remind themselves of the clinical signs for ASF. Any suspect cases must be reported promptly. Please see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/african-swine-fever> for more information.

We will continue to monitor the situation.

## Authors

Dr Lorna Freath  
Dr Sonny Bacigalupo  
Anthony Pacey  
Dr Lauren Perrin

## References

All OIE disease reports are available from the OIE WAHIS database.

ADIS (2020) Overview report of animal diseases from 1 January 2020. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2021-01/ad\\_adns\\_overview\\_2020.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2021-01/ad_adns_overview_2020.pdf)

ADIS (2021) Overview report of animal diseases from 1 January 2021. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-01/ad\\_adns\\_overview\\_2021.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-01/ad_adns_overview_2021.pdf)

ADIS (2022) Overview report of animal diseases from 1 January 2022. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-05/ad\\_adns\\_outbreaks-per-disease.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-05/ad_adns_outbreaks-per-disease.pdf)

Europa (2022) Indicative map of EU ASF zoning as per Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 (as last amended by Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/2308) and as laid down in implementing Decision (EU) 2022/28 (arctgis.com). Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-05/ad\\_adns\\_outbreaks-per-disease\\_weekly-map.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-05/ad_adns_outbreaks-per-disease_weekly-map.pdf)

IZSUM (2021) National Surveillance Plan 2021. Available from: <http://www.izsum.it/files/Content/512/0/Sintesi%20Piano%20Nazionale%20Sorveglianza%20Passiva%202021.pdf>

OIE (2022) WAHIS (World Animal Health Information System) report 53396. Available from: <https://wahis.oie.int/#/report-info?reportId=53396>

PAFF (2022a) African swine fever in wild boars in Italy, 6-7/04/2022, F. Calvetti – Ministry of Health – Directorate General for Animal Health and Veterinary Medicinal Products. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220406\\_asf\\_ita.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com_ahw_20220406_asf_ita.pdf)

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs  
Animal and Plant Health Agency  
Advice Services - International Disease Monitoring

PAFF (2022b) ASF epidemiological situation in Latvia – 2022, 06/04/2022, Food and Veterinary Service, Republic of Latvia. Available from:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220406\\_asf\\_lva.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com_ahw_20220406_asf_lva.pdf)

PAFF (2022c) African swine fever in Lithuania (update of the situation), 10-11 February 2022, State Food and Veterinary Service, Lithuania. Available from:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-02/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220210\\_asf\\_ltu.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-02/reg-com_ahw_20220210_asf_ltu.pdf)

PAFF (2022d) African swine fever in Poland – update, 6-7 April 2022, General Veterinary Inspectorate. Available from: [https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220406\\_asf\\_pol\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com_ahw_20220406_asf_pol_0.pdf)

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220406\\_asf\\_pol\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com_ahw_20220406_asf_pol_0.pdf)

PAFF (2021e) Epidemiological situation – ASF Romania 22/09/2021, The National Sanitary Veterinary and Food Safety Authority of Romania. Available from:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2021-10/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20210922\\_asf\\_rou.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2021-10/reg-com_ahw_20210922_asf_rou.pdf)

PAFF (2022f) African swine fever in Slovakia, February 2022, State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic. Available from:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-02/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220210\\_asf\\_svk.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-02/reg-com_ahw_20220210_asf_svk.pdf)

PAFF (2022g) African swine fever in Slovakia, April 2022, State Veterinary and Food Administration of the Slovak Republic. Available from:

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com\\_ahw\\_20220406\\_asf\\_svk\\_0.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/food/system/files/2022-04/reg-com_ahw_20220406_asf_svk_0.pdf)



© Crown copyright 2022

You may re-use this information (excluding logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence v.2. To view this licence visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/2/) or email [PSI@nationalarchives.gov.uk](mailto:PSI@nationalarchives.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/animal-diseases-international-monitoring>

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to us at [iadm@apha.gov.uk](mailto:iadm@apha.gov.uk)