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

Situation Update #3

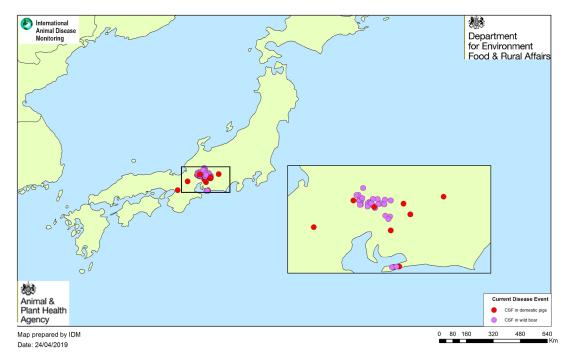
24 April 2019

Ref: VITT/1200 CSF in domestic swine, Japan

Classical Swine Fever in domestic swine in Japan

Disease report

Japan reported Classical swine fever (CSF) for the first time since 1992 in Gifu province in September 2018 (OIE, 2018), with the first wild boar case detected a week later. Since then, CSF cases have been regularly reported to OIE, but mostly in wild boar in either Gifu prefecture or the neighbouring Aichi prefecture as part of surveillance activities, with single outbreaks in domestic pigs reported in January and February 2019 in Osaka, Nagano and Shiga prefectures. As of 24 April there have been 29 CSF outbreaks in domestic swine (12 since our last report in February, including one report in a slaughter house) with a further 132 cases reported in wild boar, since the start of the CSF outbreak in Japan.



Classical swine fever in Japan since September 2018

Situation assessment

A total of 29 outbreaks have been reported in domestic pigs, with the most recent on the 16 April. None of the most recent outbreaks were reported outside of Gifu and

Aichi, however, it remains important for Japan to ensure that there is no onward transmission of virus to wild boar in regions where there has been no previous reports of CSF in wild boar or in domestic pigs.

Wild boar are found throughout most of Japan. All prefectures are required to conduct CSF testing on dead wild boars. The role of wild boar in the spread of CSF in the prefectures of Gifu and Aichi, and beyond, is being closely monitored. As of the 19 April, 994 wild boar (163 dead and 831 captured) in Gifu prefecture have been tested, and 318 (113 dead and 205 captured) were found to be positive for CSFV by RT-PCR since 13th of September. In Aichi prefecture, 233 wild boar (17 dead and 216 captured) have been tested and 13 were found to be positive (2 dead and 11 captured) for CSFV by RT-PCR since 14 September. Among the other prefectures, 276 wild boars (253 dead and 23 captured) in 40 prefectures were tested and all were found to be negative for CSFV by RT-PCR since the 14th of September (OIE, 2019). Additionally, since 24 March 2019, an oral vaccine (bait vaccine) has been applied to wild boars in selected areas in Gifu and Aichi prefecture where CSF positive cases have been found in wild boars.

Japan is not approved for the dispatch of fresh or frozen pig meat to the EU.

To date, the Japanese Veterinary Services have ruled out the occurrence of African swine fever (ASF) in this outbreak, and in the country, although there is evidence that ASF-contaminated pig meat was brought into the country from China in the luggage of a passenger in November (ProMed, 2018). More recently, Japan reported on the 2 April that ASF virus was discovered in sausages brought into the country from China. The sausages were brought into Japan, apparently as souvenirs, by two passengers arriving separately at Chubu airport near Nagoya on planes from Shanghai and Qingdao on 12 January 2019, according to the Japanese authorities (ProMed, 2019).

Conclusions

Currently, we consider there to be a **very low** likelihood of introduction of CSF virus from any affected country to the UK via various pathways, and the cases in Japan do not affect this risk level. We will continue to monitor the situation.

We continue to emphasise the importance of prompt reporting of suspect disease in pigs, and the implementation and maintenance of appropriate biosecurity measures, particularly considering the risk of disease spread by fomite transmission and strict compliance with the swill feeding ban.

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