

## Updated Outbreak Assessment #13

# African swine fever in Europe (Eastern Europe)

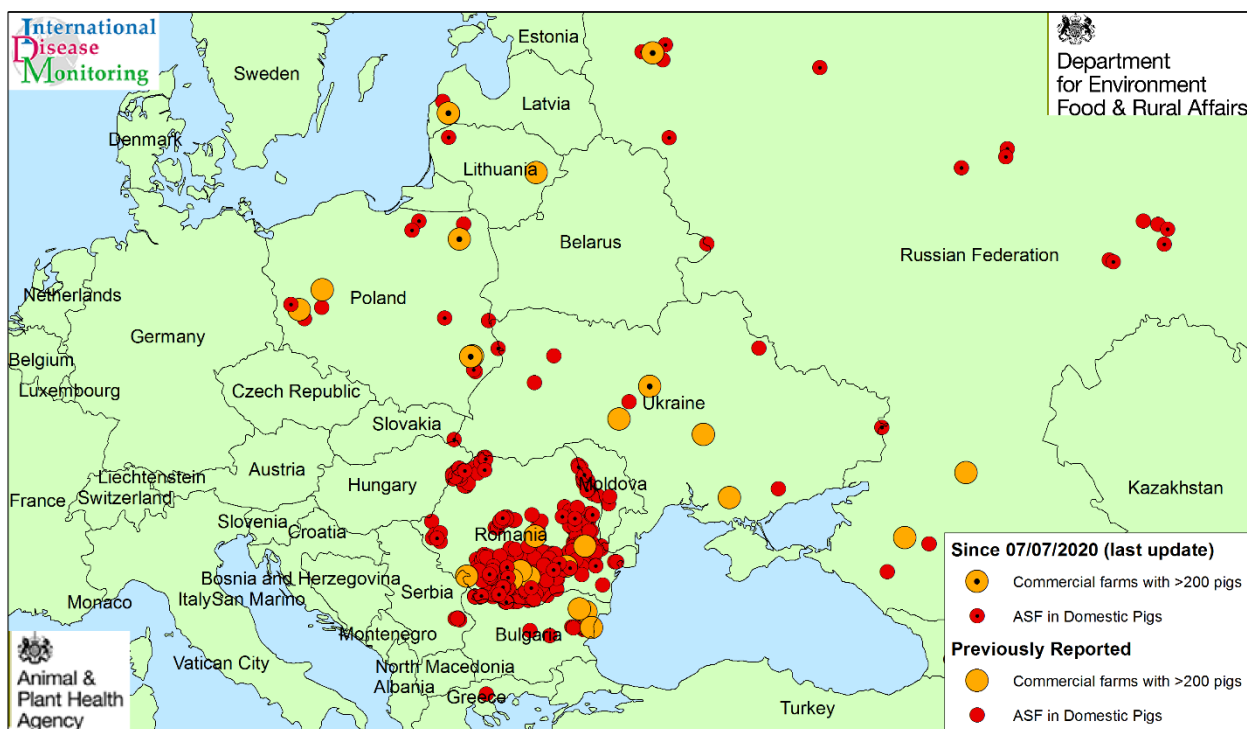
3 August 2020

Ref: VITT/1200 ASF in Europe (Eastern Europe)

## Disease report

The number of outbreaks of African swine fever in domestic pigs in Eastern Europe has continued to increase since our last report on the 7 July. The main countries affected are Poland, the Baltic States and Russia. The main change is in **Poland** which has reported a further 19 outbreaks in domestic pigs with the rate increasing in the last week of July. Two are close to the German border. While most are in small premises, three are larger premises. There are suggestions that Covid-19 has reduced the searches for wild boar carcasses in Poland. **Latvia** has reported two outbreaks in large domestic pig premises, and **Lithuania** has reported an outbreak in a small pig premises.

The maps below show the outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs reported to end of July this year and the wild boar cases.



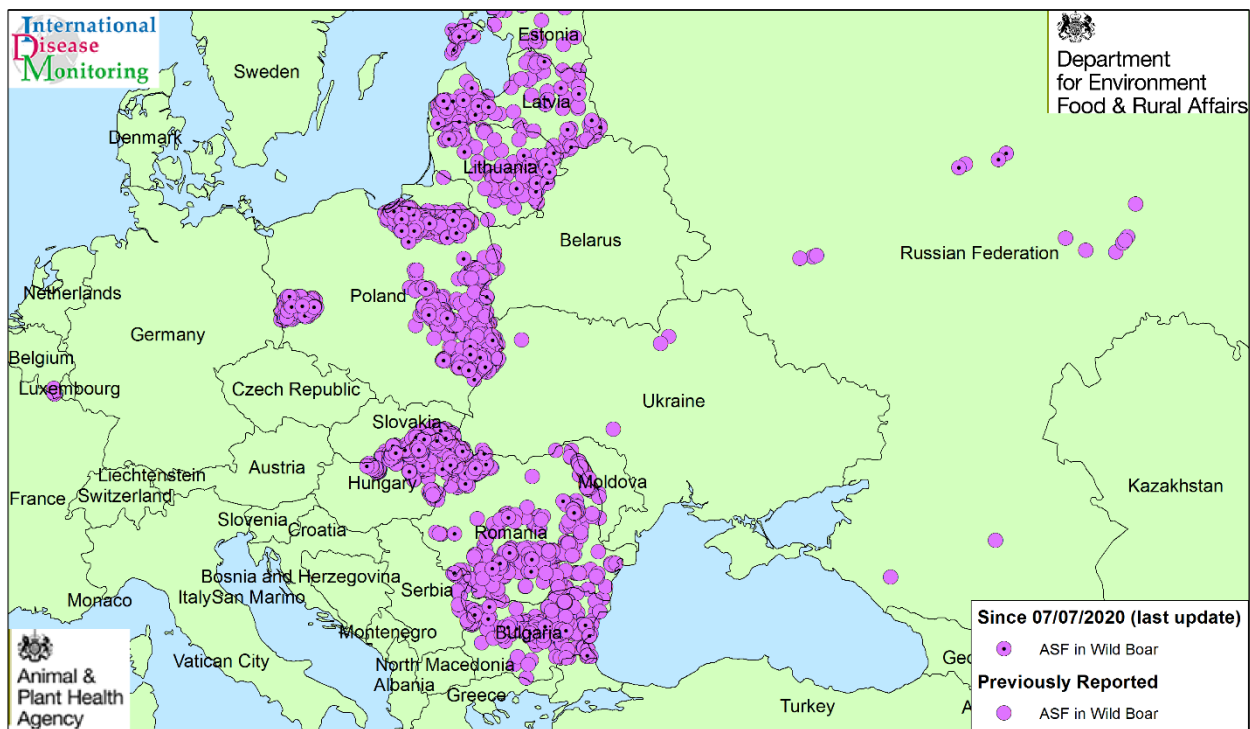
Map prepared by IDM

Date: 03/08/2020

Absolute scale: 1:20,000,000

## African swine fever in Europe (Domestic Pigs) January - July 2020

0 137.5275 550 825 1,100 Km



Map prepared by IDM  
 Date: 03/08/2020  
 Absolute scale: 1:20,000,000

**African swine fever in Europe (Wild Boar)**  
 January - July 2020

0 137.5275 550 825 1,100 Km

## Situation assessment

Our last update reported one outbreak of ASF on a small pig premises in the north-east of **Poland** on 3 July. Since then the situation has deteriorated, particularly in the last 10 days of July, where there has been a further 19 outbreaks in domestic pigs. While most are small premises with fewer than 30 pigs, three are in larger operations with approaching 2,000 pigs. Most of these are in the east, typically the south-east near the border with Ukraine or in the north east near Kaliningrad. However, of greater concern is that two have been reported in the west near the German border, although these are small with fewer than 20 pigs. The outbreak in Zielona Góra on 27 July is the closest affected pig premises to the German border to date, at approximately 30 km to the east of the border.

According to Pig Progress (July 2020), ASF is present in one third of the Polish land area and the infected area in western Poland has been expanding in recent months, although mainly towards the centre of Poland and not towards the German border. ASF eradication in Poland focuses on shooting wild boar, preferably females, together with the search for, and removal of, carcasses of pigs that died of ASF. The military is involved with the searches, with police, border control and fire fighters helping in the hunting. They often cover areas that are not accessible to regular hunters. Because of Covid-19, however, this external help is happening at a slower pace.

In mid-July, **Latvia** reported a further two outbreaks in domestic pig premises, following on from one at the beginning of July which was the first in Latvia since July 2019. While the first premises, described in our last report, was small with only 31 pigs, the two pig premises affected in mid-July are large, one with 9,871 pigs and the other with 1,785 pigs.

**Lithuania** has also reported an outbreak in a small pig premises (five pigs) in late July, the first since one in April.

**Serbia** also reported an increased number of pig premises with ASF in July, although all outbreaks were at the beginning of the month.

**Slovakia** reported its first outbreak in pigs this year in early July, albeit in a pig premises with just two animals, on the border with Ukraine and Hungary.

The number of domestic pig outbreaks in **Romania** has also increased in July, with Romania as usual reporting the highest monthly number of domestic pig outbreaks, reflecting the large number of backyard operations.

**Russia** has reported the largest monthly increase in domestic pig outbreaks, with numbers increasing four-fold in July compared to June (Table 1).

**Hungary** has still not reported any ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs to date, despite having by far the highest number of wild boar cases every month (Table 2). There are outbreaks in pig premises very near to its borders in neighbouring Romania and Slovakia (see map).

In total the number of domestic pig outbreaks reported in eastern Europe and western Russia has doubled in July compared to June.

ASF cases in wild boar continue to be reported in **Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Serbia** and **Slovakia** in July (See Table 2). Wild boar cases are still occurring in western Poland with some close to the border with Germany. Hungary, Poland and Romania continue to report the highest monthly totals of wild boar cases, but numbers are lower than June and continue to decline month-on-month from the peaks at the start of the year. ASF in wild boar is slowly spreading west towards Austria.

**Table 1: Numbers of confirmed ASF outbreaks reported in domestic pigs (backyard and commercial) 01 January – 07 July 2020 per month. All data from ADNS and OIE.**

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Bulgaria	6	5	5	1	0	0	0	17
Greece	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Latvia	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3
Lithuania	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
Moldova	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	4
Poland	0	0	1	1	0	3	16	21
Serbia	0	0	0	0	0	3	9	12
Romania	93	56	47	30	37	53	79	395
Russia	3	2	2	0	2	6	25	40
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Ukraine	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	9
<b>Total</b>	103	66	58	35	41	62	135	505

**Table 2: Numbers of ASF cases reported in wild boar 01 January – 07 July 2020 per month – All date from ADNS and OIE**

Country	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Total
Belgium	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Bulgaria	148	70	63	25	20	14	30	370
Estonia	7	5	6	2	2	5	11	38
Hungary	425	413	533	777	495	327	212	3182
Italy	28	4	0	0	0	0	0	32
Latvia	44	19	22	18	12	26	36	177
Lithuania	38	13	18	15	15	21	26	146
Moldova	27	6	30	18	8	0	0	89
Poland	559	563	713	461	287	203	120	2906
Serbia	22	12	6	1	0	0	0	41
Romania	176	111	99	59	54	45	44	588
Russia	13	10	3	2	1	3	5	34
Slovakia	12	8	30	37	28	10	12	137
Ukraine	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
<b>Total</b>	1502	1236	1524	1416	922	654	496	7747

## Conclusion

The number of pig premises reporting ASF in north-eastern Europe is increasing with some larger premises now affected and rates increasing towards the end of July, particularly in Poland, the Baltic States and western Russia. ASF is still present in wild boar across much of Eastern Europe and is increasing in domestic pigs as reported here. Therefore, there still remains a risk of entry of ASFV in products of animal origin from affected countries via other pathways, including from illegal imports.

The current risk of ASF being introduced into the UK through the entry of contaminated or infected pork or pork products, remains at **medium**.

All travellers are strongly advised to avoid bringing 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 should remain vigilant and ensure that any visitors to their premises have not had any recent contact with pigs or pig premises in the affected regions. People returning from any ASF-affected areas of the world should avoid any contact with domestic pigs in commercial holdings, smallholdings or even household pet pigs. Habitats where feral pigs or wild boar exist should also be avoided. All clothing, footwear or equipment should be disinfected before entering pig areas.

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.

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## References

All disease reports are available from the OIE WAHIS database.

Pig Progress (July 2020) (<https://www.pigprogress.net/Health/Articles/2020/7/ASF-is-a-growing-problem-for-Poland-615815E/>)



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