

Updated Outbreak Assessment #12

African swine fever in Europe (Eastern Europe)

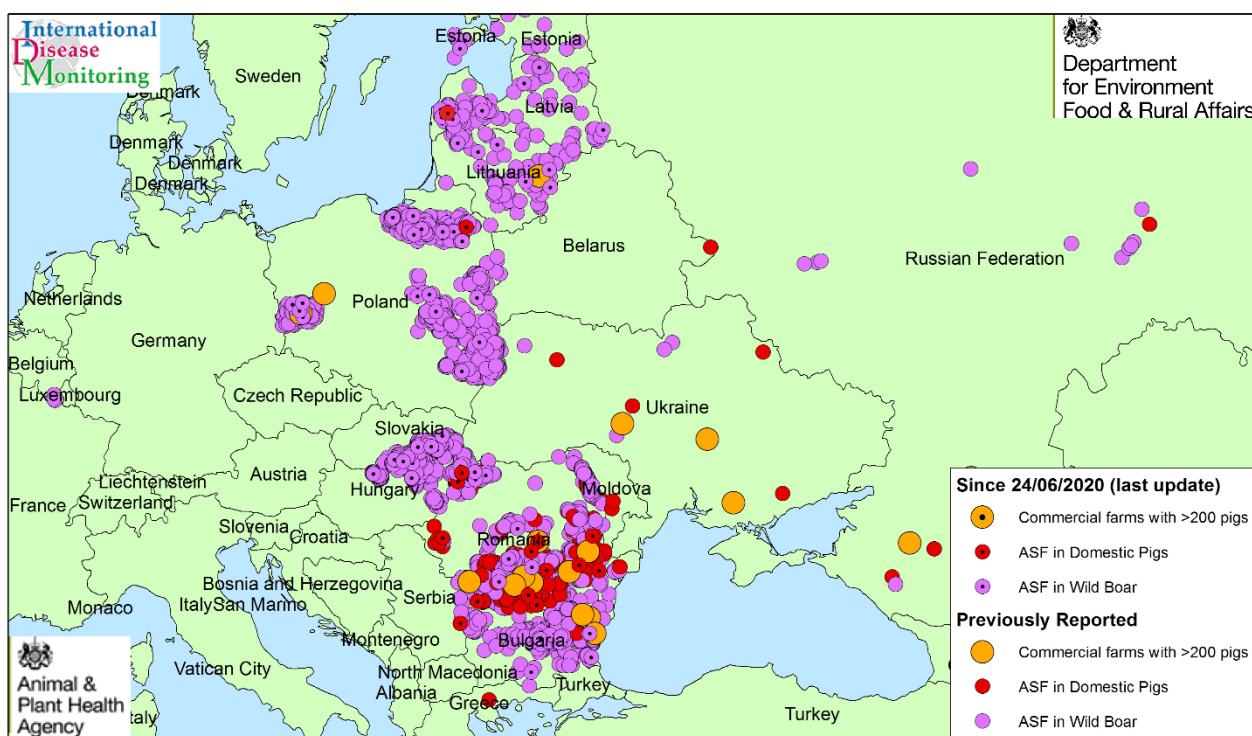
07 July 2020

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

Disease report

Outbreaks of ASF have continued in domestic pigs in Eastern Europe, as have cases in wild boar. Since our last report on the 24 June, **Latvia** has reported one outbreak in a small domestic pig premises, the first here since July 2019. **Poland** has reported one new outbreak in a domestic pig premises in the northeast of the country. Wild boar cases have continued in Poland, with some close to the border with Germany in the district of Zarski (the closest is 17km from this border). **Romania** has reported 22 new outbreaks in domestic pigs, spread across the country. **Serbia** has reported eight new outbreaks, in close proximity, near the border with Bulgaria. These are the first reported outbreaks in Serbia since September 2019.

Belgium has had no further reports of ASF in domestic pigs or wild boar since 10 March.



Map prepared by IDM

Date: 07/07/2020

Absolute scale:1:20,000,000

African swine fever in Europe January - July 2020

0 137.5275 550 825 1,100 Km

Situation assessment

Since our last report in June, outbreaks in domestic pigs have been reported in **Romania**, **Poland**, **Latvia** and **Serbia** (see Table 1). All were recorded as backyard or smallholder premises, of up to 122 pigs.

ASF cases in wild boar have continued to be reported in **Bulgaria**, **Estonia**, **Hungary**, **Latvia**, **Lithuania**, **Poland**, **Romania**, **Serbia** and **Slovakia**. (See Table 2.)

Latvia reported one new outbreak of ASF in domestic pigs on 06 July. Three pigs on a backyard premises in the west of Latvia tested positive by PCR; this is the first report of ASF in domestic pigs here since 19 July 2019. Cases among wild boar continue, with 16 cases since our last report. As of 01 June this year, Latvia has begun resampling of seropositive hunted wild boar, by PCR, before disposal. Enhanced passive surveillance, with monetary incentive for reporting of found dead wild boar, was implemented 01 July (PAFF, June 2020).

Since our last report, **Poland** has reported one new outbreak in domestic pigs, in the northeast of the country. Poland is continuing with widespread surveillance across the country, having tested 446,641 domestic pigs and 63,975 wild boar in the first half of 2020 (PAFF, June 2020). Cases among wild boar in Poland have continued, with 43 reported cases since our last report. Sanitary shooting is being carried out in affected counties across east Poland, and in the affected area in the west, to try and limit spread in the wild boar population. The proximity of those in the west, close to the German border, continues to be a concern for Germany.

Although there have not yet been any reports of ASF in wild boar or domestic pigs in **Germany**, passive surveillance continues across the country, focussed on the three states which border Poland: Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania, Brandenburg and Saxony. Every carcass found is tested, with monetary incentives for finding, hunting and reporting wild boar. So far, all test results have been negative. A total of 358km of preventative fencing has been erected across the borders with Poland of the three affected states (PAFF, June 2020).

Romania has continued reporting outbreaks in domestic pigs with 22 outbreaks spread throughout the country. All were backyard farms, with no more than 81 pigs, and most with less than ten pigs affected. Cases in wild boar have continued with 19 reported cases since our last report in June. In the first quarter of 2020, 13,146 domestic pigs were tested following passive surveillance, and 558 were positive. Passive and active surveillance has been carried out in 1,108 and 19,348 wild boar respectively, with 1,582 positive results in total in the first quarter of 2020 (PAFF, June 2020).

Biosecurity checks are in place at both a county level by local authority, and at central level by official veterinarians, in Romania. Traffic control checks are also in place, in a joint effort by police and the local veterinary authority (PAFF, June 2020).

Serbia has reported eight outbreaks in domestic pigs, all within close proximity and near to the border with Bulgaria. Three were reported in June; one premises with ten pigs and the other premises with one pig each. The remaining outbreaks were reported in July, affecting five premises with eight pigs in total. There have been no new reported cases of ASF in wild boar, since our last update.

Following the confirmed outbreak in **Greece** on 05 February 2020, subsequent statutory surveillance carried out has not revealed any positive results in domestic pig or wild boar populations sampled. As such, the country lifted their control zone measures in the regions of Serres and Thessaloniki in mid-April this year.

Table 1: Numbers of confirmed ASF outbreaks reported in domestic pigs (backyard and commercial) 01 January – 07 July 2020. 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	1	1
Lithuania	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Moldova	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	3
Poland	0	0	1	1	0	3	1	6
Serbia	0	0	0	0	0	3	5	8
Romania	93	56	47	30	37	53	7	323
Russia	2	2	3	0	2	2	0	11
Slovakia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ukraine	1	1	1	2	2	1	0	8
Total	103	66	58	35	41	62	14	373

Table 2: Numbers of ASF cases reported in wild boar 01 January – 07 July 2020. All data 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	0	340
Estonia	7	5	6	2	2	5	1	28
Hungary	425	413	533	777	495	327	35	3005
Italy	28	4	0	0	0	0	0	32
Latvia	44	19	22	18	12	26	8	149
Lithuania	38	13	18	15	15	21	2	122
Moldova	25	5	16	9	4	0	0	59
Poland	559	563	702	449	278	198	12	2761
Serbia	22	12	6	1	0	0	0	41
Romania	176	111	99	59	54	45	7	551
Russia	13	12	3	1	1	2	0	32
Slovakia	12	8	30	37	28	10	0	125
Ukraine	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	4
Total	1500	1237	1499	1394	909	648	65	7248

Conclusion

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

Current COVID-19 pandemic restrictions have resulted in direct flights to/from the EU/UK and internationally being either cancelled or running at a very limited schedule. Although travel restrictions between Member States due to COVID-19 may make the spread of disease through personal imports and fomites less likely, there has been a significant increase in positive wild boar ASF reports over the last few months. By relaxing COVID-19 movement restrictions of people within ASF affected countries, this could now further impact on disease reporting. 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.

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.

Plant, Animal Food & Feed (PAFF) Committee (June, 2020)

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/health/regulatory_committee/presentations_en



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