

Updated Outbreak Assessment #40

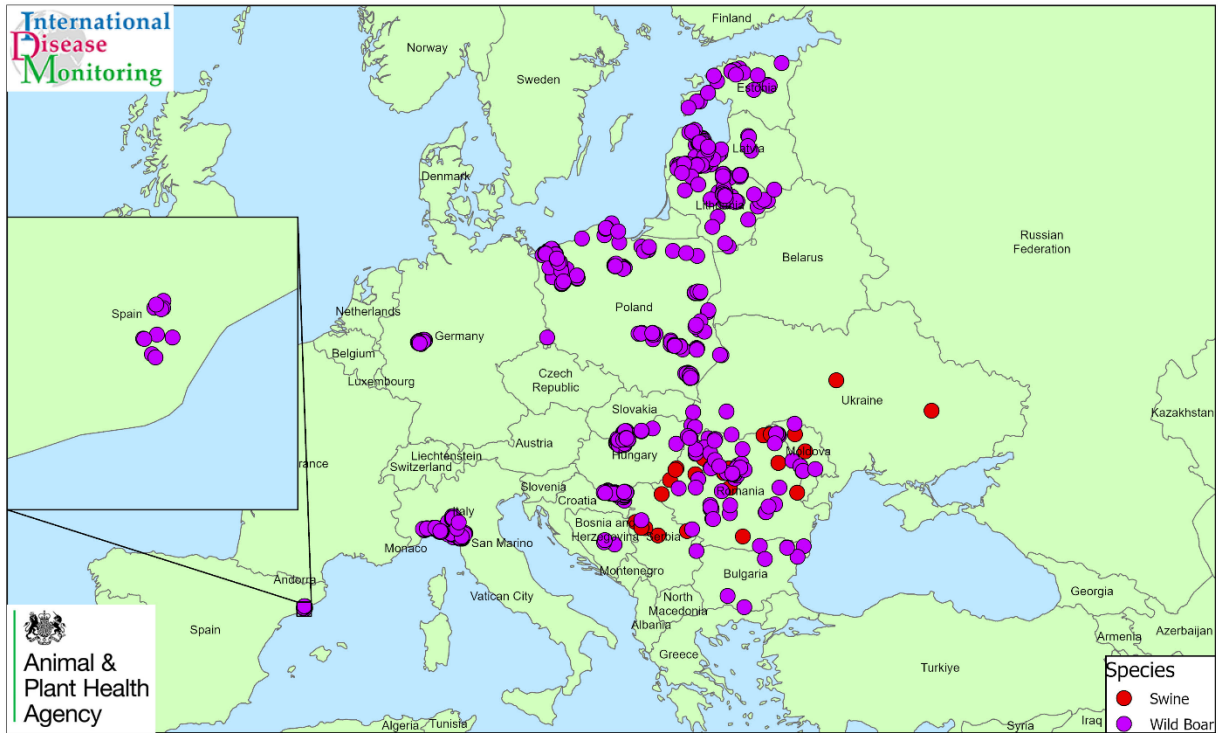
African swine fever in Europe

16 April 2026

Disease report

Since our [last update](#) on 24 February 2026 African swine fever (ASF) has continued to be reported in domestic pigs and wild boar across Europe. Particularly, there have been reports of ASF in wild boar in Saxony, Germany. These are the first reports since February 2025. There have also been further detections in wild boar in Spain.

According to reports published by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), additional outbreaks of ASF have been reported in domestic pigs in Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Ukraine (Figure 1). Additionally, WOAH has reported additional cases of ASF in wild boar across Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Spain and Ukraine. The number of ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs and cases in wild boar by country and year (2023-2026) are available in Appendix A.



Map Prepared by IDM
 Date: 16/04/2026
 Absolute Scale: 1:25,000,000

African Swine Fever
 25 February to 16 April 2026
 (WOAH Data Only)



Figure 1: Map of African swine fever outbreaks in domestic pigs (red points) and wild boar cases (purple points) across Europe from 25 February to 16 April 2026. (WOAH data only).

Situation assessment

Germany

On 5 February 2026 Saxony was declared free from ASF by the German Ministry of Social Affairs, following no cases in the area for over 12 months ([TSIS](#)). However, on 1 April 2026, WOAHA reported one case of ASF in wild boar in Saxony. Since this report, an additional 15 cases have been reported to WOAHA, bringing the total to 16.

Elsewhere in Germany, since our last report, WOAHA has reported a further 148 cases of ASF in wild boar. These have been reported in Rheinland-Pfalz (2) and North Rhine-Westphalia (146). Within North Rhine-Westphalia, the core area has been fenced, and intensive surveillance is being undertaken to prevent spread of the disease. Despite these restrictions, there have been the first detections in the town of Olpe (18 km from recent reports in Kirchhundem), this marks a small expansion further to the west within North Rhine-Westphalia. Olpe is 60km from Cologne. Media articles have also confirmed the first detections of ASF in wild boar in the Hochsauerland district (North Rhine-Westphalia) ([WDR, 2026](#)). Recent [PAFF presentations](#) note a lack of cases in Hesse, Rhineland-Palatinate and Baden-Wuerttemberg. In Hesse, weathered bone fragments from wild boar were recently detected and tested positive for ASF by PCR. However, the remains are likely more than 12 months old and there is currently no evidence of virus circulation in the area.

Spain

Spain reported its first cases of ASF in wild boar since 1994 on 28 November 2025. As of 9 April, the [ministry of agriculture for Spain](#) (MAPA) reported a total of 241 cases (up from 162 on the 24 February). All cases have been reported in Catalonia. MAPA have identified 3 primary outbreaks with 39 secondary outbreaks in surrounding areas. The most recent update showed detections near Sant Cugat del Vallès and Sant Just Desvern, which are already within the restriction zones. Enhanced passive surveillance has been undertaken on the farms within the RZI and RZII however, no farms have been affected at this time.

On 20 February, the zoning proposals put forward by Spain were officially recognised by the EU. Under the new control measures, areas where ASF virus has been detected in wild boar population are subject to RZII regulations and a RZI zone has been established around the active zone where the virus has not been detected. This new zoning allows for the movement of domestic pigs and wild boar products outside of the restricted zones which was previously not possible. Control measures as part of the restricted zones include, fencing of affected zones to prevent wild boar from moving, 100% sampling of wild boar culled by trained hunters, active searches for carcasses, and pig traps.

From [March 2026 PAFF Presentations](#), a special wildlife capture group are undertaking nighttime hunting patrols using thermal imaging in agricultural areas, with the aim of culling

approximately 1,719 wild boar. There is also an active search for carcasses and hunting stakeouts to reduce populations. Other implemented control measures include large scale trapping, search dogs and drones and erecting fencing to prevent movement of wild animals. Within the RZI, there are 40 pig holdings, while the RZII has 20 pig holdings, all of which are subject to biosecurity measures and enhanced passive surveillance. All school farms and backyard premises have been inactivated and are empty.

EU Veterinary Emergency Teams (EUVET) have visited Spain twice, [in early](#) and [mid-December](#). They determined that cases likely first started occurring in Spain in October 2025, indicating the epidemic was likely in its initial exponential phase. The second visit was to investigate the Animal Health Research Centre (Centre de Recerca en Sanitat Animal (CReSA), following concerns that the virus may have been released from these laboratories. Based on their findings, EUVET could not identify any obvious routes for virus release from the facilities.

According to [December 2025 PAFF presentations](#), the initial cases in wild boar in Spain were confirmed as genotype II. This is the genotype circulating across Europe. However, there is a novel nucleotide change in the sequence, making it a new subgroup of genotype II. These genetic differences mean it is not possible to narrow down the origin of the strain. The [January 2026 PAFF presentation](#) highlighted a low mortality rate in wild boar in Catalonia, which could be a concern for undetected spread. It is being considered that a possible deletion event could be affecting the virulence of the virus, but this could also be due to low transmissibility in the area.

Italy

Since our last report, Italy has reported 238 cases of ASF in wild boar. Of these 238 cases, 157 occurred in Tuscany, 42 in Emilia-Romagna and 39 in Liguria. All cases have occurred in areas already affected by ASF. Certain areas of Emilia-Romagna, Lombardy and Piedmont currently listed as RZII [have been reclassified](#) as RZI due to the absence of ASF outbreaks and cases over the past 12 months, while some areas currently listed as RZI have been amended to RZII following new cases of ASF in wild boar in Emilia-Romagna in early 2026.

Poland

Since the last update, Poland has reported 562 cases of ASF, affecting a total of 1,170 wild boar. These cases have been reported across the country in clusters. According to WOA, the last outbreak of ASF in domestic pigs in Poland was reported on 3 October 2025. From recent [PAFF Presentations](#), Poland have enlarged several restriction zones due to cases in free zones and cases in RZII that are of close proximity to the RZI.

Hungary

Since the last update, there have been a further 165 reports of ASF in wild boar in Hungary. There continues to be three main clusters of cases, one being just to the north of Budapest, another in Salgótarján and the final cluster around Debrecen. [From media reports](#), an increasing number of found dead wild boar has heightened public concern and questioning of the veterinary and public health services' response.

The [PAFF presentation](#) from March highlighted that in 2026, there have been 123 cases of ASF in wild boar in Baranya county, close to the border with Croatia. Of these cases, 62 were shot and 61 were found dead. Due to further cases in the county, Hungary have proposed reclassifying some RZI areas to RZII and extending the current RZIs. Additional measures in Baranya County include total depopulation of wild boar, monitoring using drones and closure of wildlife crossings along motorways. Between 29 July 2025 and 16 February 2026, a total of 6,652 dead wild boar have been tested across the country, with only 125 positive cases from Baranya County. From the [National Food Chain Safety Office](#), Baranya County has a high density of wild boar, which is likely contributing to the spread of disease. The presentation also confirmed that there have not been any detections of ASF in domestic pigs in Hungary.

Romania

Since our last assessment, Romania have reported 29 additional outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs across the whole of the country. Of these outbreaks, three outbreaks involved domestic pigs found on public land, one was on a pig farm and the remaining 25 outbreaks occurred on backyard premises. The whole of Romania remains under RZ III restrictions. Since our last update, Romania also reported 76 cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting a total of 138 individuals. These cases have been reported across the country.

A recent modelling study based on Romanian outbreak data has analysed how ASF spreads between wild boar and domestic pigs (Hayes and others., 2026). The study suggested that approximately 60% of ASF infections on pig farms originated from other infected farms, with 27% of outbreaks being attributed to contact with infected wild boar. The study also noted that transmission likely occurs both ways, with approximately 40% of wild boar infections proposed to originate from infected pig farms.

From [PAFF Presentations](#), a private postal consignment, which was sent from Romania to Luxembourg contained 9.93kg of porcine meat. There were no labels, health marks or commercial packaging. Samples were taken and later tested positive for ASF. Luxembourg are investigating the consignment further in cooperation with Romanian colleagues.

Lithuania

Since our last report, Lithuania reported 383 cases of ASF in wild boar across the entire country. There have been no reports of ASF in domestic pigs in Lithuania in 2026. From March's [PAFF Presentation](#), so far in 2026 out of 3,357 hunted boar, only 58 have tested positive with ASF. However, 426 wild boar have been found dead, of which 419 were positive. These reports are spread across the country. The presentation noted that there were shortcomings in biosecurity measures on affected pig holdings in 2025. In response to this, an expert group was established for planned biosecurity inspections. Lithuania have proposed to revert part of the RZIII to a RZII in the east of the country due to a lack of outbreaks. They have also proposed that the RZI in central Lithuania is amended to a RZII due to positive cases in wild boar close to the RZI.

Latvia

Since our last report, there have been 107 cases of ASF in wild boar. The majority of cases have been reported in the western half of Latvia, with a few sporadic reports in the eastern side. The eastern regions of Latvia generally have a higher wild boar density than the western part of the country (FAO/Targeted research effort on African swine fever (ASFORCE), 2015; Pittiglio and others, 2018). There have not been any further detections of ASF in domestic pigs since our last report.

Estonia

Since our last update, Estonia has reported 24 cases of ASF in wild boar throughout the country. The entire country remains under RZI and RZII ([EU Commission, 2026](#)). There have not been any reports of ASF in domestic pigs in Estonia so far in 2026.

Serbia

Since our last update, Serbia have reported six outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs. Of these reports, one outbreak was on a farm holding 114 pigs. The remaining outbreaks were on backyard premises housing 54 and fewer pigs. Serbia have also reported an additional 20 cases of ASF in wild boar, with 14 cases clustered in Zapadno-Bački, northwestern Serbia, close to the borders with Croatia and Hungary. Five cases were reported in Sremski, western Serbia and the remaining case was reported in Borski, eastern Serbia, and close to the borders with Romania and Bulgaria.

Moldova

Since our last report, Moldova reported two outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs. Of these reports, one occurred on a backyard premises in Calarasi, central Moldova, and housed one pig. The other outbreak was reported on a farm in Rîșcani, northern-central Moldova and housed 97 pigs. Moldova also reported five cases of ASF in wild boar, with reports in

the north, close to the border with Ukraine, in the southwest, close to the border with Romania and in southern-central Moldova.

Ukraine

Since our last report, Ukraine has reported two outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs. Of these reports, one outbreak was on a backyard premises in Dnipropetrovs'k, central-eastern Ukraine and contained six pigs. The other outbreak was listed as a forest premises in Kiev and kept two pigs. Ukraine also reported three cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting a total of 12 individuals. These cases occurred across southwestern Ukraine, close to the borders with Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.

Bulgaria

Since our last update, Bulgaria has reported eight cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting a total of 16 individuals. This is a large decrease since our last report, with 273 reports. No outbreaks of ASF were reported in domestic pigs.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Since our last report, Bosnia and Herzegovina have reported three cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting a total of 18 individuals. These were all in central Bosnia and Herzegovina. There have not been any reports of ASF in domestic pigs since January 2026.

Croatia

Croatia reported 27 cases of ASF in wild boar, affecting a total of 62 individuals. All of which occurred in Osjecko-Baranjska county, northeastern Croatia. There have been no reports of ASF in domestic pigs since our last report. From recent [PAFF Presentations](#), Croatia have proposed the extension of the RZI close to the border with Hungary.

Slovakia

Since our last report, according to ADIS summaries, there have been no outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs. There have however been cases of ASF in wild boar, with 16 in February and 29 in March.

Conclusions

ASF continues to circulate in wild boar across multiple regions in Europe. Overall, the number of ASF cases in wild boar have been increasing throughout 2024, 2025, and in the first months of 2026 (with 1,119 cases in January, 941 in February, 1,016 in March and 304 in April so far (based on report date)) (Figure 2). The continued detection of ASF in wild boar in Spain and the return of ASF to a previously free area in Germany highlights

the challenges of containing ASF and the continued threat to livestock. In contrast to wild boar, the number of ASF outbreaks in Europe in domestic pig farms has remained consistent with 2024 and 2025 so far (Figure 3).

The continued rise in cases among wild boar in western Germany, within 70 km of the French border, is concerning. However, the disease has remained largely contained within fenced regions, as the closest reported case to France has held steady at that distance for some time.

Human-mediated spread has been implicated in large geographical jumps previously (Sweden in 2023), and there could be gradual spread further west through movements of wild boar if they are not effectively controlled through fencing and culling. Disease spread has remained relatively slow in northern Italy with reduced numbers of cases in wild boar in 2025 compared to 2023 and 2024. Although there have been expansions of the disease into new regions such as Tuscany and a substantial number of new reports in the first two months of 2026. Italy reported 644 cases of ASF in wild boar in 2025 and so far, this year, there have been 189 reports of ASF cases (Table A2).

Given the above, we consider that the risk of entry of ASF virus in live animals and products of animal origin (POAO) from affected countries, remains unchanged at **MEDIUM (occurs regularly)**.

As of 18 December 2025, Great Britain has introduced an [EU wide ban](#) for personal imports of fresh meat, meat products, milk, dairy products, colostrum, colostrum products and certain composite products and animal by-products of ruminant and porcine origin. This is in response to multiple disease outbreaks across the EU. These special measures will apply until revoked or amended and replace earlier safeguard declarations.

The potential high risk for non-commercial imports of pork products from ASF affected areas remains of high concern. Evidence from inspections at Great Britain ports suggest that there are vehicles illegally bringing pork meat into Great Britain from some regions of the EU affected by ASF. Some of these instances involved large quantities of porcine POAO, some of which appear to be home-slaughtered and arrive in Great Britain from an undisclosed origin, as a non-commercial import, with poor levels of biosecurity and food hygiene. Therefore, the risk of ASF entering Great Britain, from the human-mediated pathway and moving porcine POAO, is considered to remain at **HIGH (occurs very often)**, though there is considerable uncertainty around this until data is fully collated and analysed, and we will reassess as further information becomes available.

Swill feeding any animal, whether pigs, poultry, ruminants, or wildlife is illegal and has the potential to cause substantial harm. We would like to emphasise to all pig keepers, pig producers, smallholders, and the 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, these measures are only as effective as the people using them, so proper training should be provided.

Pig keepers and veterinarians should remind themselves of the clinical signs for ASF. Any suspect cases must be reported promptly. Read guidance about [African swine fever: how to spot and report the disease](#) for more information.

We will continue to monitor the situation.

Authors

Megan Arter-Hazzard

Dr Erica Kintz

Dr Sonny Bacigalupo

Dr Lauren Perrin

References

ADIS (2025) [Animal Disease Information System](#). Available from: https://food.ec.europa.eu/animals/animal-diseases/animal-disease-information-system-adis_en.

EU Commission. 2026. ASF Zoning measures <https://santegis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=45cdd657542a437c84bfc9cf1846ae8c>

DieSachsen News. 2026. <https://www.diesachsen.de/en/environment/african-swine-fever-eradicated-in-saxony-3101020>

Spanish Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA). 2026. <https://www.mapa.gob.es/dam/mapa/contenido/ganaderia/temas/sanidad-animal-e-higiene-ganadera/sanidad-animal/noticias-sanidad-animal/documentos-de-noticias/nota-actualizacion-situacion-ppa--26-2-2026-.pdf>

National Pig Association. 2025. [“ASF outbreaks in Estonia and Latvia result in 50,000 pigs being culled.”](#)

PAFF Presentations. Available from: [Presentations - European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

Spanish Ministry of Agriculture (MAPA). 2026.

<https://www.mapa.gob.es/dam/mapa/contenido/ganaderia/temas/sanidad-animal-e-higiene-ganadera/sanidad-animal/noticias-sanidad-animal/documentos-de-noticias/nota-actualizacion-situacion-ppa--26-2-2026-.pdf>

WDR News. 2026. [African swine fever in the Hochsauerland district - Westphalia-Lippe - News - WDR](#)

Hayes, B., Vergne, T., Rose, N., and others. (2026). A multi-host mechanistic model of African swine fever emergence and control in Romania. Nature Communications, 17, 2659. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-026-70769-6>

FAO/Targeted research effort on African swine fever (ASFORCE), 2015; Pittiglio and others, 2018.

Friedrich-Loeffler-Institut. TSIS – TierSeuchenInformationsSystem

<https://tsis.fli.de/cadenza/>

Animals are dying in droves near the Hungarian border - a serious infection may be the cause. Dívány. [Animals are dying in droves near the Hungarian border – a serious infection may be the cause | Couch](#)

National Food Chain Safety Office of Hungary [African swine fever continues to spread in the domestic wild boar population - Nébih](#)



© Crown copyright 2026

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/ or email 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.

Appendix A- WOAH data only

Table A1: Number of outbreaks in domestic pigs, 2023-2026 (based on report date).

Country	2023	2024	2025	2026
Albania	0	1	0	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	1508	36	52	4
Bulgaria	2	1	0	0
Croatia	293	6	53	1
Estonia	0	0	11	0
Germany	1	10	0	0
Greece	6	5	4	0
Italy	15	32	1	0
Latvia	8	0	0	1
Moldova	19	13	53	9
North Macedonia	15	5	1	0
Poland	30	44	18	0
Romania	533	213	478	72
Russia	56	6	0	0
Serbia	615	304	239	19
Ukraine	37	71	19	2

Table A2: Number of cases of ASF in wild boar 2023-2026 (based on report date).

Country	2023	2024	2025	2026
Albania	0	3	0	0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	22	45	27	5
Bulgaria	0	0	668	281
Croatia	9	33	254	77
Czech Republic	49	27	1	0
Estonia	0	0	252	51
Germany	153	365	2075	244
Greece	2	21	77	1
Hungary	407	437	877	388
Italy	1029	1198	699	469
Latvia	747	238	0	299
Lithuania	0	0	0	569
Moldova	4	4	25	15
Montenegro	0	1	1	0
North Macedonia	42	66	12	0
Poland	2746	2153	3490	1010
Romania	291	177	256	282
Russia	37	3	0	0
Serbia	343	92	69	60
Spain	0	0	11	33
Sweden	60	8	0	0

Country	2023	2024	2025	2026
Ukraine	10	15	34	5