

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Background

African Swine Fever (ASF) is a highly contagious disease of swine that has not been detected in the United States to date.

The virus can cause a wide range of clinical signs in infected pigs, and can spread very rapidly. Some signs of an ASF infected pig include:

- Fever
- Discoloring of the skin
- Loss of appetite
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty breathing
- Weakness
- Sudden death

ASF has been found in many countries around the world including Africa, Eastern Europe, China, Vietnam and Mongolia.

ASF is not known to affect human health and doesn't transmit from pigs to humans.

There are no treatments or vaccines for ASF.

Prevention

Practice Biosecurity:

- Separate new pigs before bringing them into your herd and monitor them for signs of disease.
- If pigs become sick, separate them and contact your veterinarian.
- Don't visit other swine farms. If you must visit another farm, take a shower and wash your clothing before and after your visit.
- Vehicles and tools can carry disease. Don't share equipment with other farms and clean tools after use.
- Limit visitors to your farm and reduce on-farm traffic as much as possible.
- Ask all visitors about recent travel outside the country. Do not let anyone who has been in an ASF-affected country onto your farm for at least five days after they enter the United States.

Help keep ASF out of the U.S. when travelling:

- Declare visits to foreign farms or interactions with foreign livestock upon return to the U.S.
- Be aware of U.S. import restrictions on pork and pork products.
- Declare all agricultural products on your U.S. Customs form. Keep receipts and original packaging for agricultural products as proof of their country of origin.
- Cooperate with inspectors examining your items to be sure they do not contain harmful foreign pests or diseases.

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF)

ASF Clinical Signs

Clinical signs vary widely. Animals with ASF may have:



Purple ears



Gummy eyes



Weakness/tiredness



Skin discoloration



Localized dying tissue

Garbage Feeding

The Minnesota Board of Animal Health (Board) issues permits to people who feed food waste to livestock.

The Board conducts routine inspections of farms that are permitted to feed garbage in order to prevent the introduction and spread of diseases like ASF.

- Food waste containing meat or that has come into contact with meat must be cooked to at least 212°F (100° C) for at least 30 minutes.
- Cooked and uncooked food waste must be separated and stored appropriately.
- Rodents and pests must be kept away from uncooked food waste.
- Feeding areas and trucks must be cleaned and sanitized as needed, and trucks used for hauling food waste over public roads must be leak-proof.
- Unconsumed food waste and dead livestock must be disposed of properly.
- All livestock on permitted farms must appear healthy.

Feral Swine

Feral swine are pigs that live in the wild. Feral swine pose a significant threat because they can carry dangerous diseases which the swine industry has worked hard to eradicate from domestic pigs.

Minnesota prohibits importation of feral swine, swine who were feral at any point in their lifetime and feral swine carcasses. There are exceptions for some processed products. Please contact the Board to learn more about import restrictions.

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BOARD OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Healthy Animals for Healthy People and Communities

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