

CanSpotASF

ENHANCED SURVEILLANCE ACTIVITIES THAT AIM TO PROTECT
THE COMMERCIAL SWINE SECTOR FROM THE IMPACTS OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

As a producer, you can help ensure a successful early detection of African swine fever and limit the extensive impacts that this disease would have on the Canadian swine sector.



What would be the impact of African swine fever on Canada's swine sector?

African swine fever (ASF) can cause severe disease and mortality (over 90%) in your herd. If ASF is introduced in any pig or barn in Canada, borders will close, and all trade of live pigs and pork products will stop.

You can help with African swine fever surveillance!

Before mortality is seen, ASF can look like other diseases commonly found in your barn. ASF surveillance aims to ensure early detection and rapid response, while avoiding spread of disease. Therefore, surveillance is one important tool to protect the commercial domestic swine sector.



How may my swine operation be a part of the ASF surveillance?

Part of the plan to enhance early detection of ASF is for approved laboratories to test. Therefore, samples from your farm sent to diagnostic laboratories for routine testing may also be selected to rule-out ASF. For example, if your veterinarian suspects an PRRS problem in your barn, and submits samples to confirm the diagnosis, the laboratory may do an extra test for ASF.

Remember: ASF is a reportable disease, meaning you are responsible for contacting the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) local district office immediately if you suspect the disease in your pigs.



What happens if a laboratory rule-out test is positive?

The ASF test is very good; however, no laboratory test is perfect and in very rare cases a laboratory test can be positive without the disease present – this is known as a false positive. To ensure that the first confirmed case of ASF in Canada is a true case, a positive test is followed by further tests and thorough investigation:

- Additional ASF tests will be performed at the CFIA’s National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease laboratory in Winnipeg. This may require collecting samples from additional pigs.
- A local CFIA veterinarian, along with your farm veterinarian, will immediately check the health of your animals. This may be through a phone call or a farm visit.
- CFIA will place movement restrictions on your farm while awaiting the additional test results (48 to 96 hours expected wait time).
- If ASF is confirmed by further testing and investigation, CFIA will maintain movement restrictions on your farm and initiate response activities.

This testing at approved laboratories is one of more tools in CanSpotASF.

CanSpotASF TOOLBOX

The CanSpotASF toolbox provides several tools that can be implemented by region and population. Implementation will be stepwise and prioritized based on risk and logistical feasibility. Enhanced surveillance will be an iterative process and will include pilot projects; more tools may be added as implementation progresses.

APPROVED LABS † † *

Rule-out testing at Canadian labs approved for ASF testing

ABATTOIRS † †

Risk-based testing in provincially- and federally-inspected slaughterhouses

ON-FARM † †

- Outreach
- Small-holder networks
- Education
- Sample submissions

OTHER TOOLS † † *

- Wild pig stakeholder network
- Enhanced sampling capacity

DOCUMENTATION

Development of a process and system to pull together ASF surveillance information

ASF SURVEILLANCE POPULATIONS



† Commercial Indoor



* Small-holder, organic or captive wild boar



* Wild Pigs