

ASF SITUATION

The presence of ASF is notified to the OIE by its Members through the Six-monthly reports (as sufficiently stable) or through Immediate Notifications (IN's) and Follow-up reports (FUR's), when considered as an exceptional event. In 2018, this disease was notified through the six-monthly reports in 3 countries in Europe (Estonia, Italy and Lithuania) and 18 countries in Africa¹. South Africa and Zambia notified the disease in 2018 through the Six-monthly reports and through IN and FUR's. This report presents an overview of the events notified through the OIE's Early Warning System (EWS) by means of IN and FUR's. This information is publicly available². A classification of the affected population (by wild boar, backyard and farm swine) was made considering their different roles in the epidemiology of the disease.

1. Spatial distribution

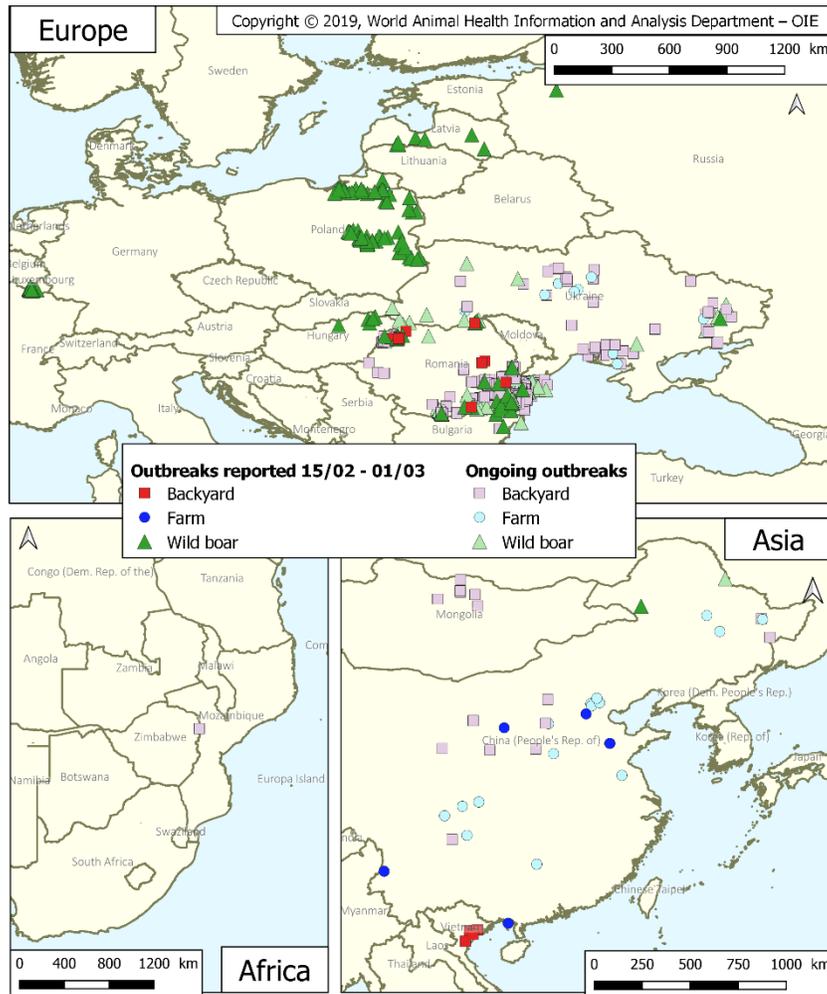


Figure 1. ASF outbreaks reported through the EWS within the period. The outbreaks notified between February 15 and March the 1st are pointed with a higher color intensity compared to the ongoing outbreaks (lighter colors).

In this period, a total of 1,233 ongoing outbreaks and 264 new outbreaks were notified. In the previous report period 1,235 outbreaks were notified as ongoing and 434 as new.

2. Impact of the disease

In this period, 99,5% of all losses (27,393 of 27,510 animals) occurred in Asia. China (People's Republic of) notified 25,371 losses, while Vietnam notified 2,022. All losses reported in Europe (117) were notified by Romania. In Africa, no outbreaks were reported.

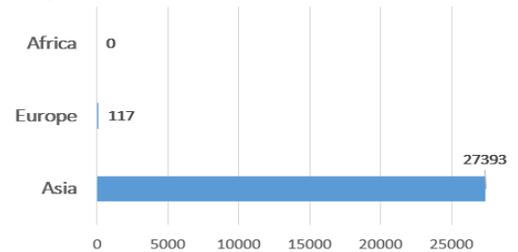


Figure 2. Losses* due to ASF outbreaks notified through WAHIS within the period (Feb 15 - March 01, 2019)

The impact of this disease is measured in terms of losses*, which are calculated by the sum of dead and culled animals from the infected farm or backyard premises of the reported outbreak.

3. Changes in the epidemiological situation

New affected country: Vietnam notified the first occurrence of the disease in 4 administrative divisions through an IN, the 20th of February. In a matter of 8 days, the country submitted 3 FUR's.

Countries with new or ongoing outbreaks in the current period: 13 countries notified ASF through immediate notifications and follow-up reports, 9 in Europe (Belgium, Hungary, Bulgaria, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia and Ukraine) and 3 in Asia (China (People's Republic of), Mongolia and Vietnam). In Africa, the previously notified event in Zimbabwe is still ongoing.

In Europe, following the successful eradication, Czech Republic received the support of the EU Member States to lift all the restrictions in the country (see Press release). The targeted surveillance program is still ongoing. In this region, every single case is notified as a new outbreak in wild boar.

In Asia, Vietnam notified 11 outbreaks. This incursion towards southern Asia demonstrates the dynamics of deterioration in the region. China (People's Republic of) notified 6 outbreaks, including 1 outbreak in wild boar in Inner Mongolia. Two new outbreaks were notified in two administrative divisions.

Figure 1 portrays the spread of the disease in these regions.

Member Countries are reminded that the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* provides comprehensive guidance to Veterinary Authorities for establishing a country, zone and compartment free of African swine fever (ASF) as well as recommendations relating to the trade of pork and pork products. These products, when handled in accordance with hygienic practices complying with international standards, should not present a risk of infection.

The OIE also encourages Member Countries to implement enhanced national sanitary measures on waste disposal from aircrafts/vessels/passengers and enhanced on-farm biosecurity measures – including the protection of pigs from untreated swill feeding and the effective separation between domestic pigs and wild boar – and stresses the importance of OIE international standards for risk management of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) to reduce the risk of exporting disease to trading partners. For an overview on the historical distribution of the disease since 2016, please refer to the ASF report N° 1 (available in the official website of the OIE).

¹ Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Congo (Democratic Rep. Of), Ghana, Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

² WAHIS interface