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## Animal Health Situation Worldwide

*Technical Working Document*

<sup>1</sup> This document replaces the versions published on 24 April and 08 May 2026. The following sections were updated:  
Figure 11 and the accompanying text.  
Table 5.



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## 1. General introduction

The aim of this report is to raise awareness of important developments in the animal health situation of Members in the period of 1 January to 31 December 2025 and to highlight the value of the information that WOAHA Members provide to the World Animal Health Information System (WAHIS).

The report begins with a description of the reporting behaviours of our Members, listing some recommendations. The reporting of infection with foot and mouth disease virus, infection with lumpy skin disease virus, infection with bluetongue virus, infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm), infection with peste des petits ruminants virus, and sheep pox and goat pox, is described globally, to highlight important occurrences of disease events. The report ends with a global disease situation overview of African swine fever and high pathogenicity avian influenza, as well as an update on diseases in wildlife and listed diseases in aquatic animals; these topics are presented separately as they are summaries of periodically produced epidemiological situation reports. The data and maps presented in this report originated from WAHIS.

## 2. The value of WAHIS information

Since its creation, WOAHA has played a central role in ensuring that animal health information from Members is communicated openly, accurately and without delay, for prioritised (i.e. WOAHA-listed) animal diseases. This shared information underpins effective risk management, enables tracking of global and regional control and eradication programmes, and supports coordinated action across countries/territories. It also provides essential insight for experts into the challenges faced on the ground, guiding the continuous evolution of WOAHA standards and guidelines.

To achieve this, the Organisation has developed standards, published in Chapter 1.1. of the WOAHA *Terrestrial Animal Health Code (Terrestrial Code)* and *Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code)*, for notifying listed and emerging diseases within their existing case definition and for providing relevant epidemiological information. Compliance with these standards is an obligation for each WOAHA Member. The Organisation coordinates the sharing of information collected from its Members and several non-Members on listed diseases of terrestrial and aquatic animals (122 listed diseases in 2026), as well as on emerging diseases (1 in 2026).

Finally, WOAHA coordinates the voluntary exchange of additional information that Members consider important and wish to share with others, namely information beyond the scope of the official notification procedure. This information is reported against Article 1.1.5 outside WAHIS and is published on disease-specific pages on the WOAHA website.

WOAHA's WAHIS is the primary tool for users to report animal disease surveillance information and the occurrence of important animal disease events.

WAHIS is recognised as the official source of animal health information. Its effectiveness depends on the transparency, reliability and timeliness of data provided by Members. WOAHA's active search processes identify relevant but unreported events and bring them to the attention of the relevant Veterinary Services, requesting formal reporting or updates. Once officially confirmed, these events are published by WOAHA, ensuring completeness and integrity of global animal disease information.

WOAH produces and shares a weekly WAHIS data extraction of events and outbreak data with stakeholders and international organisations, focusing on important animal health events covering the period from 2005 to date. This regular extraction provides timely visibility on emerging risks, major disease occurrences and critical disease evolutions, supporting early awareness, rapid coordination and informed decision-making at national, regional and global levels.

WOAH delivers ongoing assistance to its Members to ensure effective use of WAHIS and meaningful interpretation of its data, through a dedicated WAHIS Support Desk and tailored one-to-one training. In parallel, regular face-to-face regional training programmes are organised to support Members in responding to specific disease challenges and in strengthening their capacity to report accurately within WAHIS.

To reduce the overall reporting burden with existing tools, WOAHA is developing interconnection systems. Interconnection between the European Union (EU) Animal Disease Information System (ADIS) and WAHIS has been fully established for 38 Members and 6 territories in the Europe region. The availability of this one-portal reporting has greatly reduced the overall reporting burden and has decreased transcription errors and speeded up the reporting and publication of important animal disease event information for European Members. A pilot on reporting ASEAN Regional Animal Health Information System (ARAHIS) diseases for ASEAN<sup>2</sup> Members started in 2025, streamlining reporting for these diseases by enabling ASEAN Members to use the animal disease events module in WAHIS rather than having to report in both WAHIS and ARAHIS.

Sustained investment is essential to maintain and further develop WAHIS in line with evolving standards, user expectations and ongoing digital innovation. This long-term commitment to strengthen and modernise WAHIS reflects its central role in enabling timely, reliable disease reporting worldwide.

The value of WAHIS data has been strengthened through a more robust verification process and structured data-quality activities, including regular updates of ongoing events by reporting users, introducing 'stable event markers' for stable diseases and linking occurrence codes with control measures. This ensures closer alignment between the animal disease events and six-monthly report modules, thereby reducing the need for manual data entry and post-validation editing.

## 3. Reporting situation of Members

### 3.1 Animal disease events

The WAHIS animal disease events module is a crucial component of the WOAHA animal disease reporting system and enables WOAHA Members to comply with their reporting obligations as described in Articles 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 of the *Terrestrial Code* and *Aquatic Code* for WOAHA-listed and emerging diseases. With this aim, Members provide immediate notifications and follow-up reports to share information on the occurrence and subsequent evolution of animal disease events in their country/territory. Furthermore, by sending 'no-evolution' follow-up reports countries/territories fulfil their reporting obligations and provide weekly updates on disease events when there are no substantial changes; an up-to-date record of the disease situation worldwide is thus maintained, and transparency is promoted while reducing the reporting burden on national authorities when the situation remains unchanged.

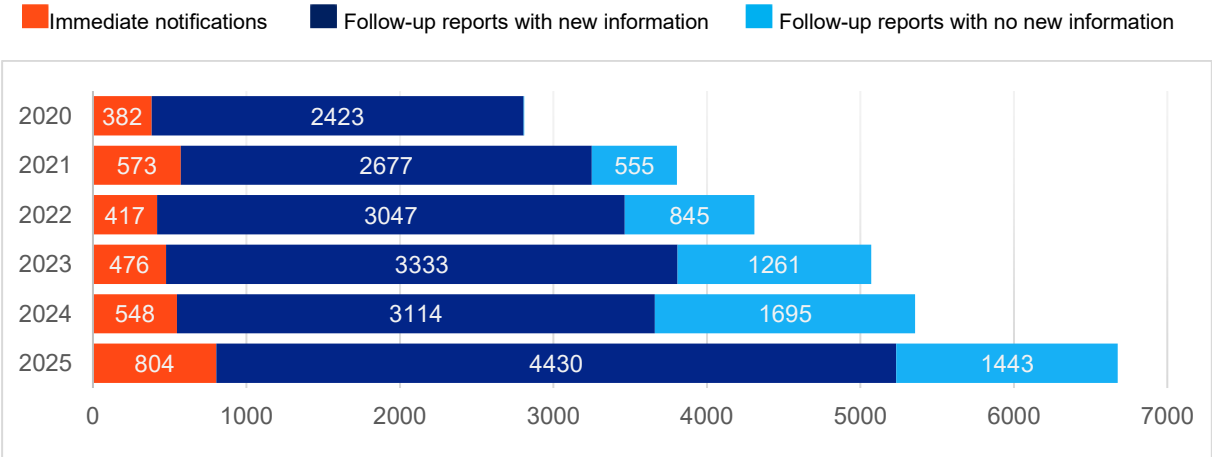
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<sup>2</sup> ASEAN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations

WOAH commends its Members for the efforts made in timely reporting of disease events but also encourages them to periodically review their ongoing events to ensure that in each case the data reflect the current disease situation.

The animal disease events module shows the evolution of the animal disease events worldwide until the reported diseases have been eradicated, or until the incidence or geographical spread has been contained (indicated in WAHIS as ‘stable events’), after which the diseases are reported only in the six-monthly reports. By facilitating this rapid and structured reporting process, the animal disease events module plays a crucial role in global animal health surveillance, enabling timely dissemination of critical official information and allowing Members and non-Members to take swift preventive actions when necessary.

Overview of the number of immediate notifications and follow-up reports submitted in the last six years



**Figure 1.** Trend in the number of immediate notifications and follow-up reports submitted during the last six years (including follow-up reports with no new information in the data reported).

The number of animal disease events published through WAHIS has been increasing steadily since 2020 (see Figure 1), with 804 immediate notifications and 5873 follow-up reports being published in 2025. This demonstrates Members’ commitment to meeting their notification obligations in terms of both reporting exceptional disease occurrences (immediate notifications) and providing regular updates (follow-up reports). The number of no-evolution reports decreased slightly in 2025, but this WAHIS feature continues to be used to provide ongoing transparency in the animal disease situation. Its use reflects Members’ increased awareness of WAHIS features that facilitate meeting reporting obligations.

Overview of diseases with the highest number of outbreaks reported in the animal disease events module, globally and by region.

In 2025, the diseases with the highest numbers of outbreaks reported globally through the animal disease events module were infection with African swine fever (ASF) virus, infection with influenza A viruses of high pathogenicity in non-poultry including wild birds (HPAI [non-poultry birds]), infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm), infection with bluetongue virus (BTV), sheep pox and goat pox and infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza viruses in poultry (HPAI [poultry]).

In Africa, in 2025, infection with foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus was the leading disease in terms of the number of outbreaks (685) and the number of reporting countries (11), while infection with Rift Valley fever (RVF) virus accounted for a total of 300 outbreaks reported by four countries. In the Americas, the highest number of outbreaks reported in 2025 was for infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm) with a total of 3210 outbreaks reported by four countries. HPAI (non-poultry birds) and HPAI (poultry) were also reported by 10 and 6 countries, respectively, across the Americas, with 933 outbreaks in total.

In Europe, the spread of ASF continued, with 9465 outbreaks reported by 18 countries. HPAI (non-poultry birds), HPAI (poultry) and BTV were reported respectively by 36, 24 and 21 countries. In Asia and the Pacific, FMD was the most frequently reported disease, with 1650 outbreaks in seven countries, followed by ASF, with 885 outbreaks being reported by nine countries. Lastly, in the Middle East, FMD was by far the most frequently reported disease.

Detailed information on the number of outbreaks by region is shown in Table 1 and a review of the occurrence or reoccurrence of selected diseases in the regions can be found in Section 4.1.

**Table 1.** Top five diseases in terms of the number of outbreaks starting in 2025 reported through the animal disease events module, by region.

Region	Disease	No. of events*	No. of outbreaks	No. of countries/territories reporting
Africa	FMD	18	685	11
	RVF	4	300	4
	BTV	5	120	4
	Lumpy skin disease	1	58	1
	HPAI (poultry)	9	55	6
Americas	New World screwworm	25	3210	4
	HPAI (poultry)	9	515	6
	HPAI (non-poultry birds)	19	418	10
	Equine infectious anaemia	9	89	1
	HPAI (cattle)	1	85	1
Asia and the Pacific	FMD	12	1650	7
	ASF	13	885	9
	Rabies	6	373	5
	HPAI (non-poultry birds)	21	245	9
	HPAI (poultry)	33	220	10
Europe	ASF	84	9465	18
	HPAI (non-poultry birds)	122	5188	36
	Sheep pox and goat pox	52	1777	6
	BTV	54	1661	21
	HPAI (poultry)	99	852	24
Middle East	FMD	5	100	3
	HPAI (poultry)	3	3	2
	Koi herpesvirus disease	1	1	1
	Peste des petits ruminants	1	1	1

\* Events could have started before 2025

The link between the animal disease events module and the six-monthly reports module

Data in the animal disease events module is important for: accurately representing the disease situation in a country or territory; accurate, almost real-time representation of the disease situation on WAHIS dashboards; global health awareness in support of global animal health surveillance and response efforts; and risk-based decision making, including for trade. In addition, the data from the animal disease events module is transferred to a six-monthly report upon its creation. Therefore, keeping animal disease events up to date is important particularly prior to drafting the six-monthly report.

The importance of reporting stable diseases correctly

Historically, some countries or territories have consistently reported the presence of disease only in their six-monthly reports. Consequently, users who consult only the animal disease events module or those consulting the WAHIS animal disease situation dashboard for a period in which there is no six-monthly report may misinterpret the apparent absence of disease. In this situation, there will be no animal disease events and no information in the dashboard. The presence of a stable event marker in the animal disease events module informs users of the expected presence of disease in the country or territory.

In consequence, and in consultation with WOAHA staff, Members are encouraged to identify disease situations considered as stable and to create stable events in the animal disease events module. Reporting countries/territories have been approached as relevant in this respect throughout 2025 with a focus on diseases with official status or that have global strategies; this campaign will gradually be extended to all WOAHA-listed diseases.

### 3.2 Six-monthly reports

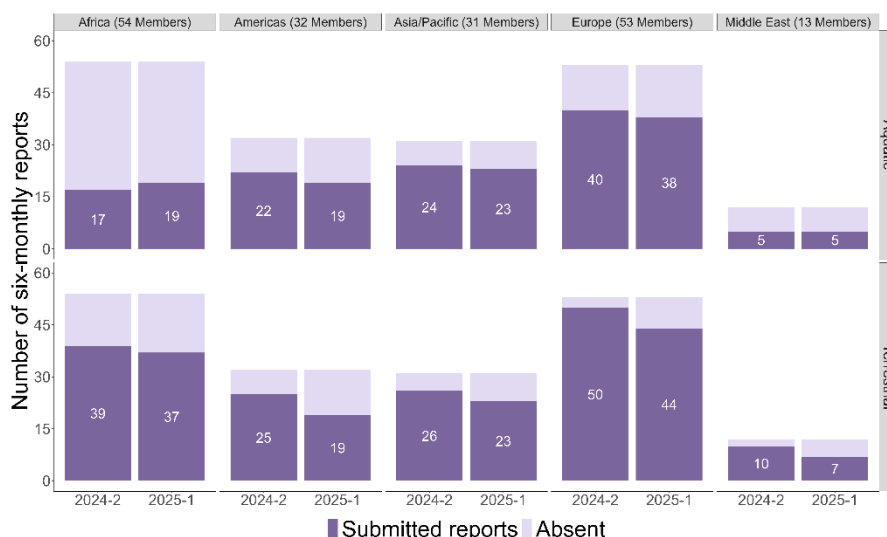
The six-monthly report module enables countries or territories to fulfil their international reporting obligations, in accordance with Article 1.1.3 of the *Terrestrial Code* and *Aquatic Code*, by submitting consolidated data on the disease situation, eradication efforts and surveillance activities.

Unlike animal disease events, which focus on immediate notifications and follow-up reports, the six-monthly reports provide an overview of the disease situation during a semester, which contributes to global animal health transparency. Information captured in the six-monthly report module supports risk assessments and trade decisions. This module plays a crucial role in maintaining an accurate global epidemiological picture. The six-monthly report, once published, becomes the reference for the animal disease situation during that semester and informs the WAHIS disease situation dashboard. In the absence of a published six-monthly report, information in this dashboard is sourced from the animal disease events module.

Six-monthly report submission in 2025

During the 2025 submission period, Members were required to submit six-monthly reports for the second semester of 2024 and the first semester of 2025. At the end of December 2025, reports on terrestrial animal diseases showed a higher submission rate compared to reports on aquatic animal diseases (see Figure 2).

WOAHA encourages Members to submit their pending reports and to try to meet the indicative deadline for submission (mid-September for reports for the first semester and mid-March of the following year for reports for the second semester).



**Figure 2.** Number of six-monthly reports submitted by Members, by animal category and region, for the second semester of 2024 (2024-2) and the first semester of 2025 (2025-1), by 31 December 2025.

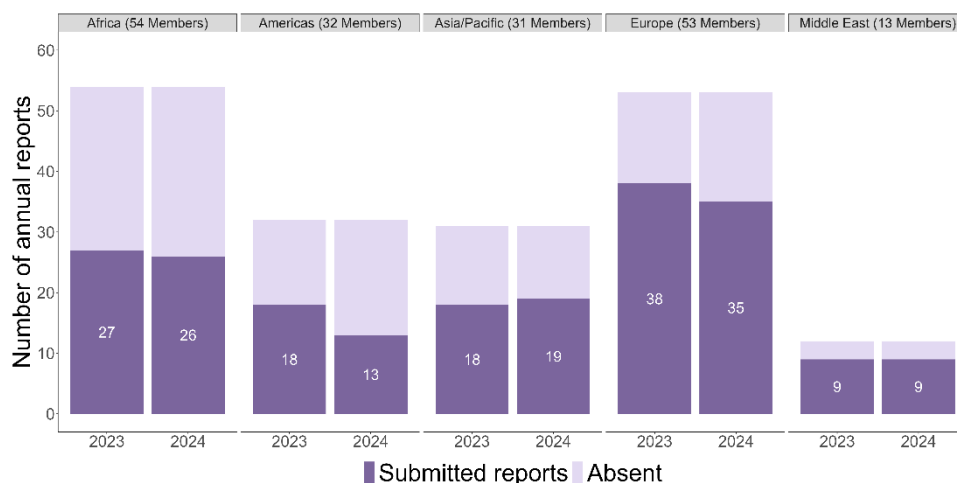
### 3.3 Annual Reports

To fulfil the requirements of Article 1.1.3 of the *Terrestrial Code* and *Aquatic Code*, Members submit their annual reports through the WAHIS annual report module. This module currently allows reporting of animal population data; however, the scope is expected to expand in the future to cover areas such as Veterinary Services' capacity and emergency preparedness. The data collected every year correspond to the preceding year. The system currently contains Members' data starting with 2023, but data for the years 2005 to 2019 are available on request through [WAHIS Support](#).

The animal population information captured in this module has many uses relevant to both WOA and the global community. Providing detailed and accurate information in a timely manner is essential for tracking trends in antimicrobial resistance as it enables global experts to conduct quantitative risk modelling to predict the direction of antimicrobial resistance. These data can also be used to support trade, policy and investment decision-making, as well as risk assessment for food safety and public health.

#### Annual Report submission trends by region

Since the launch of the module in 2024, annual report submissions have grown steadily across all regions, due in part to the WAHIS regional training programme, which has emphasised the need for timely and complete reporting. At 31 December 2025, there was still a significant shortfall in the number of reports for 2023 and 2024 submitted (see Figure 3). WOA encourages Members to submit their pending reports and to try to meet the indicative deadline for submission each year (end of April of the following year).



**Figure 3.** Number of annual reports submitted by Members, by region, by 31 December 2025.

### 3.4 Reporting against Article 1.1.5

Article 1.1.5 of the *Terrestrial Code* and the *Aquatic Code* encourages Members to provide WOAHA with other important animal health information. Information received in application of Article 1.1.5 is published on the WOAHA website: [Sharing other important animal health information with WOAHA](#) and shared through a [dedicated distribution list](#). In particular, disease occurrence in a host species not listed in the case definition of the *Terrestrial Code* disease-specific chapter should be reported by this mechanism. This includes infection with avian influenza A viruses of high pathogenicity in mammals other than bovines.

Thirty-nine reports were received in 2025 from 17 different countries/territories with data from more than 160 outbreaks related mostly (all but three) to avian influenza in mammals other than bovines (44 cases in domestic animals and 149 cases in wild animals).

While reporting against Article 1.1.5 remains voluntary, sharing such information with WOAHA assists the relevant Specialist Commissions with their assessments (e.g. assessment of a disease as emerging, inclusion of a disease in the WOAHA list of notifiable diseases, or inclusion of a species in the list of notifiable species for a WOAHA-listed disease).

## 4. Global disease situation

### 4.1 Hot topics in 2025

This section focuses on selected diseases of global importance in 2025: foot and mouth disease (FMD), lumpy skin disease (LSD), New World screwworm (*Cochliomyia hominivorax*), peste des petits ruminants (PPR), and sheep pox and goat pox.

The data presented in the tables and figures below were obtained from the six-monthly reports for the first semester of 2025 (as the submission period for the second semester of 2025 opened in January 2026) and, where six-monthly report data were not available, from the animal disease events module.

#### 4.1.1 Infection with foot and mouth disease (FMD) virus

In 2025, FMD outbreaks were reported in Africa, Asia and Europe predominantly affecting domestic animals. Serotype O was the most widely distributed serotype, accounting for approximately 70% of reported outbreaks during the period (see Table 2 and Figure 4).

The detection of FMD serotype SAT 1 for the first time in Azerbaijan, Egypt, Iraq, and Kuwait in 2025 represents an unusual geographic occurrence outside its historically usual range. Currently, there is no clear evidence identifying the specific mechanisms responsible for the spread of SAT 1 in these outbreaks. This underscores the need for strengthened epidemiological investigations, surveillance and molecular characterisation to better understand the pathways of introduction and dissemination.

Around 10% of outbreaks were reported as untyped by 12 countries/territories in Africa and eight countries in Asia, highlighting the ongoing challenges in serotype identification and the need to improve the diagnostic capabilities in both these regions. Additionally, given the absence of cross-protection between serotypes, and even within serotypes, accurate strain typing remains essential to support vaccine selection and to inform global strategies on the distribution of circulating FMD virus strains.

Out of the 47 countries/territories reporting FMD outbreaks in 2025, 20 provided information through six-monthly reports only. While six-monthly reporting to WAHIS contributes to periodic global situational overviews and supports monitoring under the Global Framework for the Progressive Control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs), the inherent time lag may limit its usefulness for timely risk assessment and rapid response. In the context of FMD, notification through the WAHIS animal disease events module ensures early warning, prompt risk mitigation and effective regional coordination. In this regard, WOAHA agreed with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to promote monthly reporting of endemic diseases, including FMD, through the WAHIS animal disease events module. Indonesia and Malaysia have already adopted this monthly reporting approach. Strengthening timely event-based reporting would further enhance transparency and improve the responsiveness of global control efforts.

**Table 2.** Summary of FMD outbreaks that occurred between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and were reported through the animal disease events module and six-monthly reports.

Region	Serotype	Animal category	No. of outbreaks reported	No. of countries/territories reporting	No. of cases	No. of losses	No. vaccinated
Africa	Untyped	Domestic	95	12	4090	401	23,247
	A	Domestic	5	4	20	1	58,721
	O	Domestic	192	10	26,662	773	6999
	SAT 1	Domestic	67	7	8539	58	42,206
	SAT 2	Domestic	583	5	27,770	7	58,525
	SAT 3	Wild		1			
Asia	Untyped	Domestic	1156	8	22,052	1319	285,169
	A	Domestic	8	3	247	20	23,463
	Asia 1	Domestic		1	3183	482	33,579
	O	Domestic	8423	13	60,545	12,664	995,005
		Wild	1	1	3	3	
	SAT 1	Domestic	1669	4	52,714	3669	615,651
Europe	SAT 2	Domestic	75	1	2804	300	328,001
Europe	O	Domestic	12	3	11,421	15,970	6177

## Official FMD-free status

As a result of the outbreaks summarised above, the officially recognised FMD-free statuses of Germany, Slovakia, Hungary and Eswatini were suspended. At the time of publication of this report, Germany, Slovakia and Hungary had regained their officially recognised FMD-free status.

Table 3 provides an overview of the time between suspension and recovery of FMD-free status in Germany, Hungary and Slovakia, in relation to the recovery strategies adopted by each country. Germany applied the containment zone (CZ) approach in accordance with Article 8.8.10 of the *Terrestrial Code* and recovered FMD-free status for areas outside the CZ within 62 days, and for the CZ within 95 days. In contrast, Hungary and Slovakia applied the pathway described under Article 8.8.11 and recovered their FMD-free status after 191 and 226 days, respectively.

**Table 3.** Overview of time for recovery of FMD-free status by Germany, Hungary and Slovakia.

Country	Date of suspension	Strategy for recovery	Date of recovery of status		Time from suspension to recovery of status	
Germany	9 January 2025	Article 8.8.10 Establishment of a containment zone (CZ)	Area outside the CZ	12 March 2025	Area outside the CZ	62 days
			Area within the CZ	14 April 2025	Area within the CZ	95 days
Hungary	3 March 2025	Article 8.8.11	10 September 2025		191 days	
Slovakia	20 March 2025		31 October 2025		226 days	

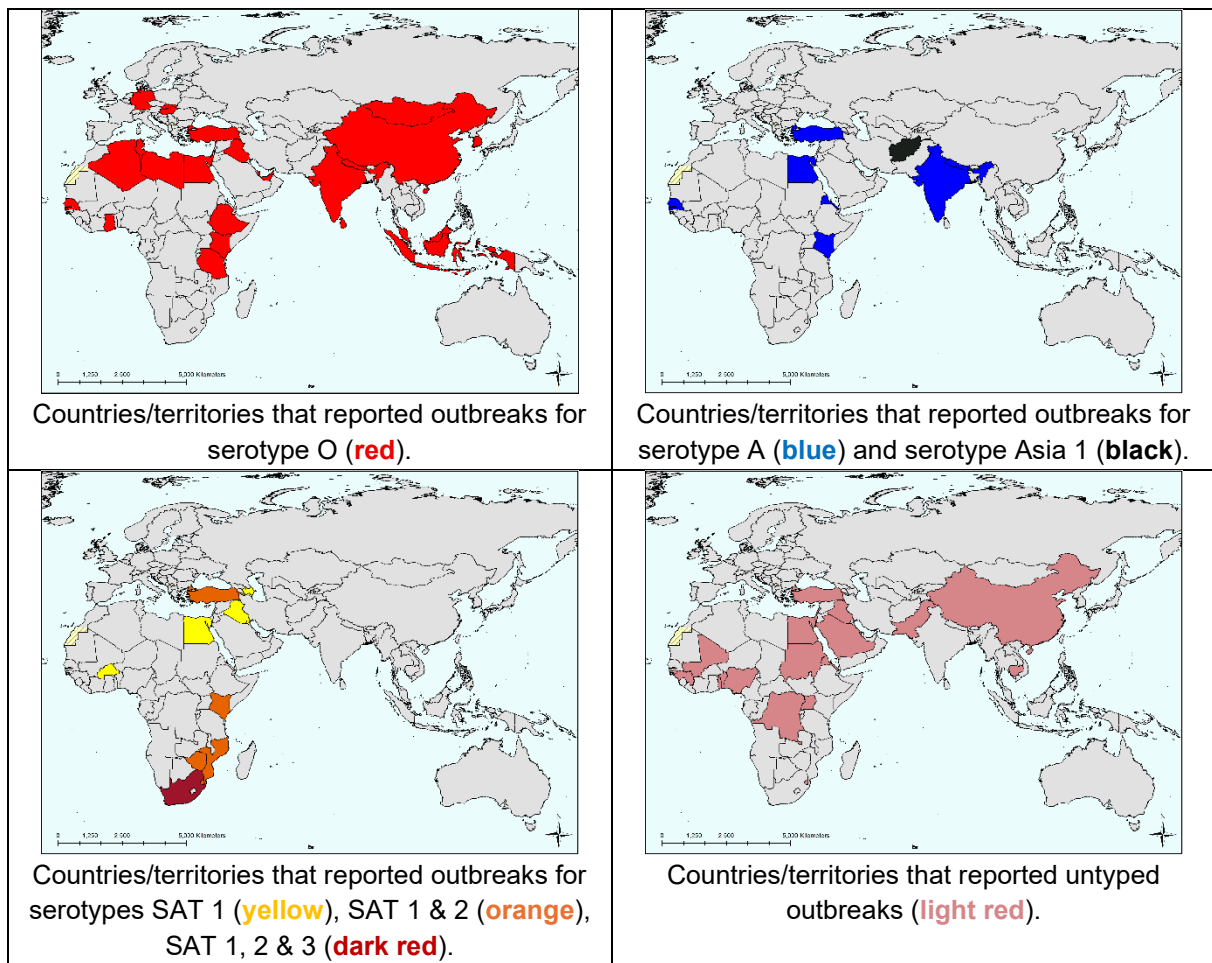
While decisions on the choice of recovery strategy depend on multiple epidemiological and operational factors, Members are encouraged to refer to the *Terrestrial Code* for detailed guidance on the available pathways for recovery of FMD-free status, and to the Standard Operating Procedures<sup>3</sup> for suspension and recovery for relevant guidelines on the procedures. Maintaining appropriate levels of surveillance to prevent virus incursion and ensure early detection, together with coordinated regional efforts, remains essential to minimise the risk of FMD.

At the WOAHA General Session in May 2025, the World Assembly officially recognised a zone of Bolivia as FMD-free without vaccination, a zone of Brazil as FMD-free without vaccination, a merged zone of Argentina as FMD-free with vaccination, a zone of Korea (Rep. of) as FMD-free with vaccination and a zone of Russia as FMD-free with vaccination, and endorsed the official control programme for FMD of Mongolia<sup>4</sup>. For Brazil and Bolivia, this marks having their entire territories officially recognised as free from FMD without vaccination after decades of efforts for FMD control and eradication. In 2025, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Peru and Türkiye informed WOAHA of their simulation exercises for FMD<sup>5</sup>.

<sup>3</sup> The Standard Operating Procedures for suspension and recovery of officially recognised animal health status can be found here: [SOP on suspension, recovery or withdrawal of officially recognised animal health status and withdrawal of the endorsement of official control programmes - WOAHA - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)

<sup>4</sup> For more information about countries and zones officially recognised as FMD-free please see the WOAHA dedicated site: [Foot and mouth disease - WOAHA - World Organisation for Animal Health](#).

<sup>5</sup> For more information about simulation exercises, please see the WOAHA dedicated site: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/disease-data-collection/simulation-exercises/>



**Figure 4.** Distribution of FMD serotypes based on information reported in WAHIS between 1 January and 31 December 2025.

#### 4.1.2 Infection with lumpy skin disease (LSD) virus

The disease spread for the first time to Western Europe in 2025, with the first occurrences in Italy, France and Spain, and reappeared in Malaysia where no cases had been reported since 2023. This expansion follows the first detections in 2024 in Algeria, Tunisia and Japan, and marks a major epidemiological event in Europe for a disease traditionally associated with Africa and parts of Asia.

While the exact source remains unknown based on official reporting, the 2025 spread of LSD in France, Italy and Spain is likely linked to several key factors:

- primary introduction: long-distance movement of infected vectors from North Africa, driven by record-high temperatures and favourable winds;
- genetic advantage: the clade 1.2 lineage (Nigeria 2018 strain) identified in Italy was highly virulent in naïve European cattle and environmentally stable, enabling sustained transmission;
- vector proliferation: the 2025 heatwave created optimal conditions for mechanical vectors, extending their active season and accelerating spread;
- human-mediated dispersal: illegal or uncontrolled movement of infected animals despite regulatory bans, particularly in France.

Of 146 countries/territories having submitted at least one six-monthly report for 2025 for terrestrial animal diseases at the time of writing, 42 reported the presence of LSD. Of these, six countries reported the disease occurrence as an exceptional event, suggesting that in most affected countries, LSD may be considered established. However, to date this is not well reflected by the presence of stable event markers in the animal disease events module. Detailed information is given in Table 4, and the geographical distribution of the outbreaks reported through the animal disease events module during the period is shown in Figure 5.

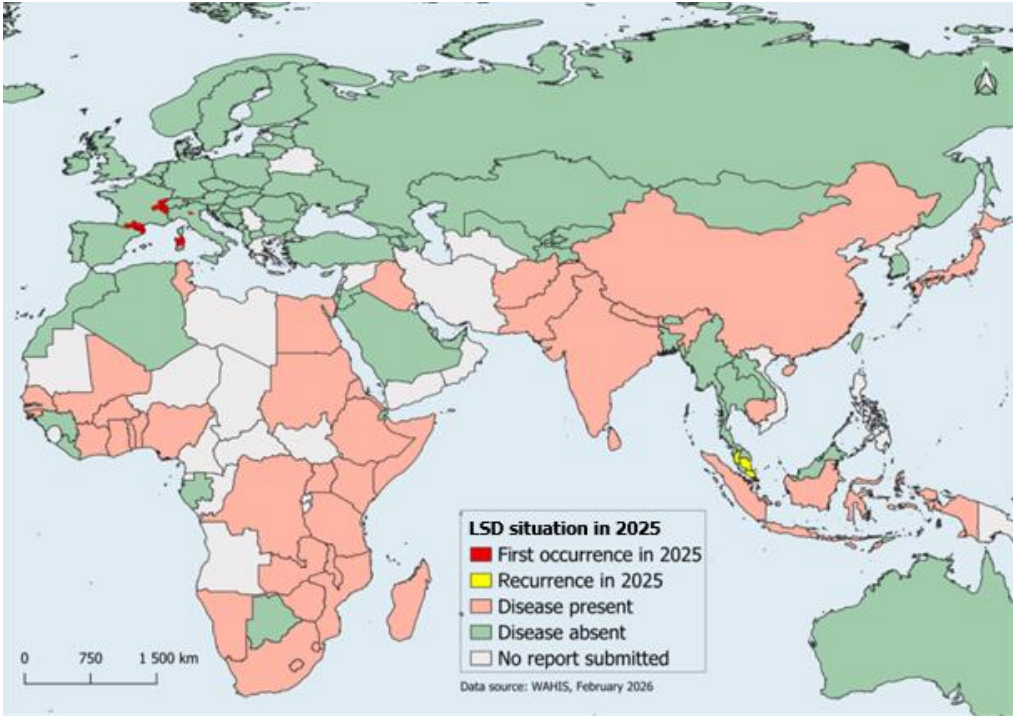
Effective LSD control relies on strong biosecurity, early detection through reinforced surveillance, movement restrictions and rapid mass vaccination with high-quality vaccines. Vaccine quality is critical as recombinant strains involving both wild and vaccine-attenuated viruses can make diagnosis challenging as well as leading to vaccine-derived infections, as detected in 2017 in parts of Asia.

Poor-quality or contaminated live vaccines can lead to insufficient immunity and genetic recombination with field strains, potentially resulting in novel recombinant viruses with unexpected virulence or altered epidemiology. WOAHA highly recommends using LSD vaccines that have been through a science-based and independent quality control (QC) procedure to demonstrate the quality, safety, and efficacy of the product.

**Table 4.** Summary of lumpy skin disease outbreaks that occurred between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and were reported through the animal disease events module and six-monthly reports.

Region <sup>1</sup>	Animal category	No. of outbreaks reported	No. of countries/territories reporting	No. of cases	No. of losses	No. vaccinated
Africa	Domestic	827	18	9513	625	171,235
Asia	Domestic	1269	12	7340	143	1,719,427
Europe	Domestic	215	3	830	4826	

<sup>1</sup> Outbreaks reported by countries/territories in Africa and Asia were mainly reported in the six-monthly report module and reflect data during the first half of 2025 in those regions.



**Figure 5.** LSD global situation in 2025.

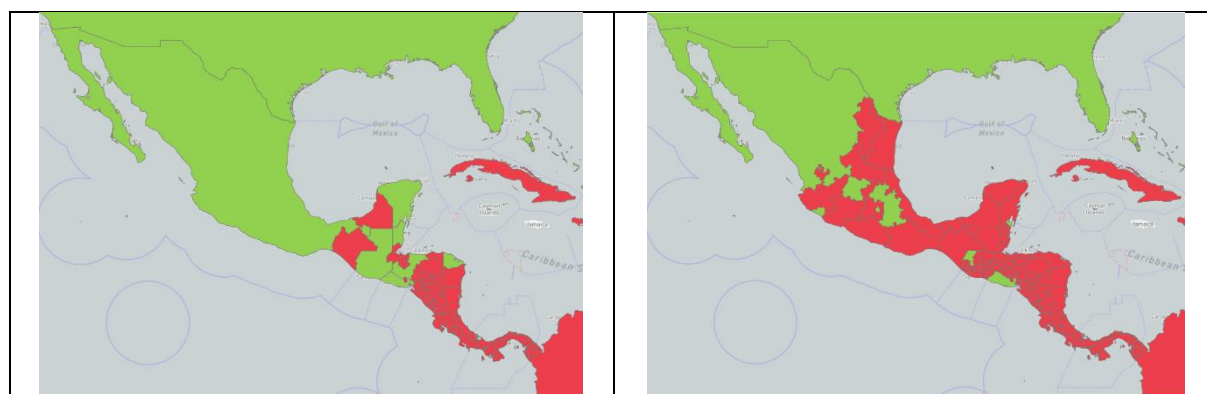
#### 4.1.3 Infestation with *Cochliomyia hominivorax* (New World screwworm [NWS])

The infestation continued to spread in 2025, affecting countries in Central America, where it reoccurred towards the end of 2024 (see Figure 6). During the year, over 16,000 outbreaks were reported by countries/territories in South America, the Caribbean and Central America (see Table 5). A total of 3201 outbreaks were reported through the animal disease events module, involving 22 exceptional epidemiological events.

Of the total number of outbreaks reported through the animal disease events module, 75% were notified by Mexico, with the remaining outbreaks having been reported by Guatemala (13%), Belize (9%) and Honduras (3%). Several Members in Central America continue to report challenges in controlling the infestation and have opted to declare the infestation as stable at the country level (Costa Rica and Nicaragua) or within specific zones (Belize, Honduras, Mexico, and Panama).

**Table 5.** Summary of New World screwworm outbreaks that occurred between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and were reported through the animal disease events module and six-monthly reports.

Region	Animal category	No. of outbreaks reported	No. of countries/territories reporting	No. of cases	No. of losses	No. vaccinated
Americas	Domestic	16,648	7	42,568	118	0
	Wild	8	5	9	1	0



**Figure 6<sup>1</sup>.** Disease situation in Central America obtained from information reported through WAHIS in 2024 (left) and 2025 (right).

<sup>1</sup>Red means presence of outbreaks, and green absence of outbreaks.

#### Preparedness and response

The recurrence of new world screwworm (NWS) in Central America has prompted Members in the Americas region to strengthen coordinated regional actions under the GF-TADs framework, including the establishment of the Standing Group of Experts on NWS (SGE-NWS), to align technical and policy responses. Veterinary Services of Members in the Americas region have enhanced early detection and surveillance systems, including the use of improved monitoring technologies across livestock, wildlife and companion animals, alongside strengthened animal movement controls and border measures.

The sterile insect technique (SIT) remains central to eradication efforts and is supported by expanded sterile fly releases and the development of new production facilities in Mexico to increase regional capacity. Field-level actions have included intensified surveillance, wound treatment, larvicide distribution, veterinary training, and the integration of companion animals into official control protocols, supported by public awareness campaigns.

These efforts, reinforced through strong regional cooperation among international and regional organisations in association with GF-TADs, reflect a One-Health-oriented commitment to contain NWS, protect animal and public health, and advance towards renewed eradication in the Americas.

4.1.4 Infection with peste des petits ruminants (PPR) virus

PPR has long been endemic across large parts of Africa, the Middle East and Asia. In Europe, further to first occurrences in 2024 in Greece and Romania, PPR continued spreading in 2025 to new countries where it had been historically absent: Albania, Croatia and Hungary. The disease also first occurred in Vietnam, reappeared in Israel and spread to new zones in China (People’s Republic of) (see Figure 7). This represents a clear shift in the global epidemiological profile of the disease, with a significant geographical spread, particularly in Europe.

These evolutions heighten awareness of the risk posed by illegal animal movements and trade and have highlighted once more the need for sustained vigilance, reinforced biosecurity, rapid detection and coordinated disease management to prevent further spread of the disease.

Globally, out of the 39 countries/territories reporting PPR as present in 2025, 32 did so via six-monthly reports, implying that the disease was stable in those countries/territories (Table 6).

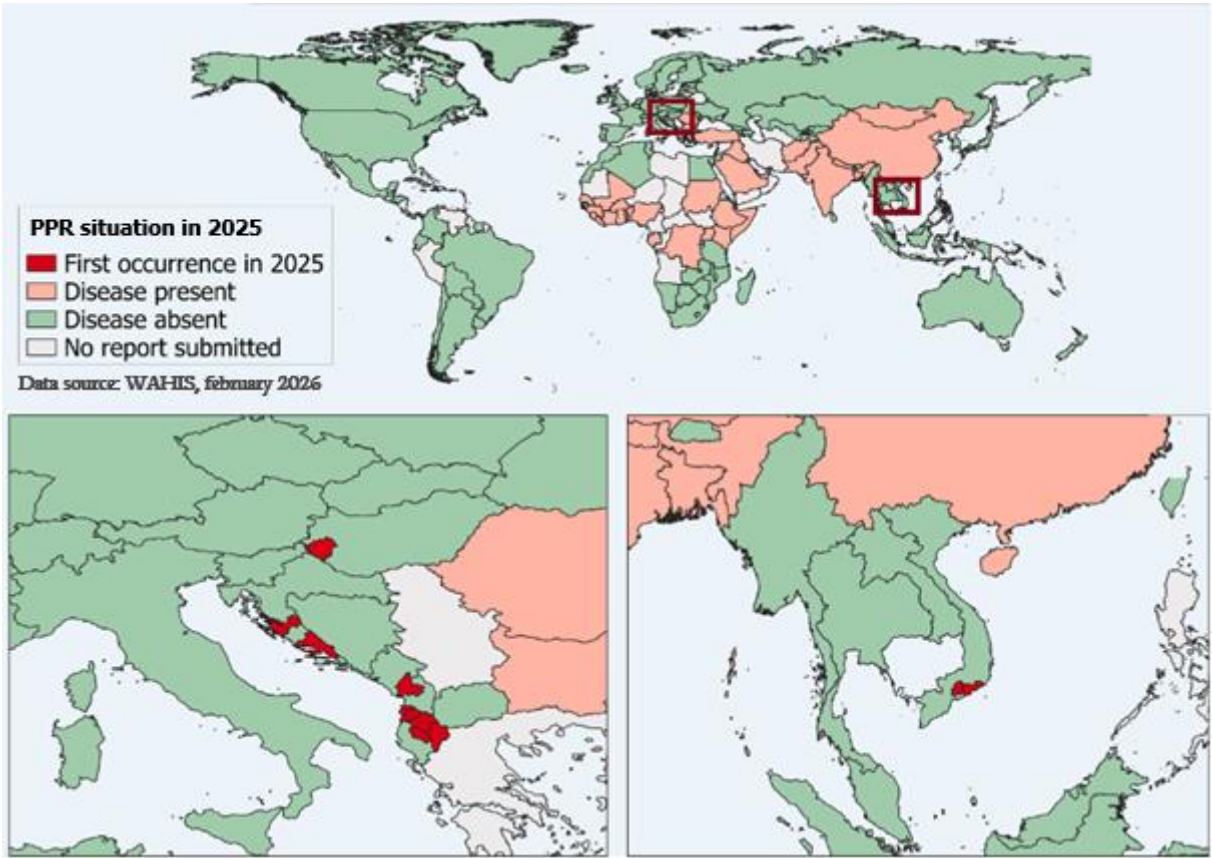


Figure 7. PPR global situation in 2025.

In Africa, 2025 saw the launch of a continent-wide Pan-African Programme for the Eradication of PPR, led by the African Union with support from the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WOA. This programme aims to align national strategies, improve vaccine availability and quality, and strengthen Veterinary Services across the continent in line with the global eradication target for 2030.

Regarding the prevention and control of PPR, WOA recommends strengthened surveillance and early detection to update risk assessments and ensure rapid detection and reporting of new cases, targeted vaccination in infected and high-risk areas, control of animal movements and reinforced biosecurity to limit cross-border spread, awareness-raising to encourage reporting of PPR suspected cases, and transparency and regional cooperation.

**Table 6.** Summary of PPR outbreaks that occurred between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and were reported through the animal disease events module and six-monthly reports.

Region <sup>1</sup>	Animal category	No. of outbreaks reported	No. of countries/territories reporting	No. of cases	No. of losses	No. vaccinated
Africa	Domestic	560	21	26,839	10,663	9,666,646
Asia	Domestic	238	13	18,149	3852	33,301
Europe	Domestic	20	5	1540	5795	

<sup>1</sup> Outbreaks reported by countries/territories in Africa and Asia were mainly reported via the six-monthly report module and reflect data during the first half of 2025 in those regions.

#### 4.1.5 Sheep pox and goat pox

Sheep pox and goat pox remains endemic in parts of Africa, the Middle East and Asia. The expansion of the infection in Europe in 2023 and 2024 continued in 2025, when it was reported for the first time in Serbia and for the first time in three zones (administrative divisions) of Romania (see Figure 8). A total of 2210 outbreaks were reported in 2025, of which 87% were notified by four countries in Europe, namely Bulgaria, Greece, Romania and Serbia, through the animal disease events module (see Table 7). Other countries reporting a recurrence of the disease in 2025 included Türkiye, Libya, Israel and Mongolia, also through the animal disease events module. Other countries and territories outside of Europe report the infection directly in their six-monthly reports; consequently, most of the data from other regions reflect the situation in the first half of 2025.

In Europe, the disease has caused serious economic losses, with more than 160,000 animals culled during the period. Effective control relies on awareness and early detection, timely reporting, strengthened surveillance and rapid implementation of measures such as movement restrictions, biosecurity and vaccination where appropriate. FAO recently published a manual<sup>6</sup> for veterinarians to support detection and control measures in the field.

Coordinated regional efforts and adherence to international standards improve preparedness and mitigation strategies, underscoring the role of transparent reporting and capacity building. In this regard, WOA is actively supporting Members through the update of the disease-specific chapter in the *Terrestrial Code* and capacity-building events to harmonise approaches and strengthen veterinary response frameworks.

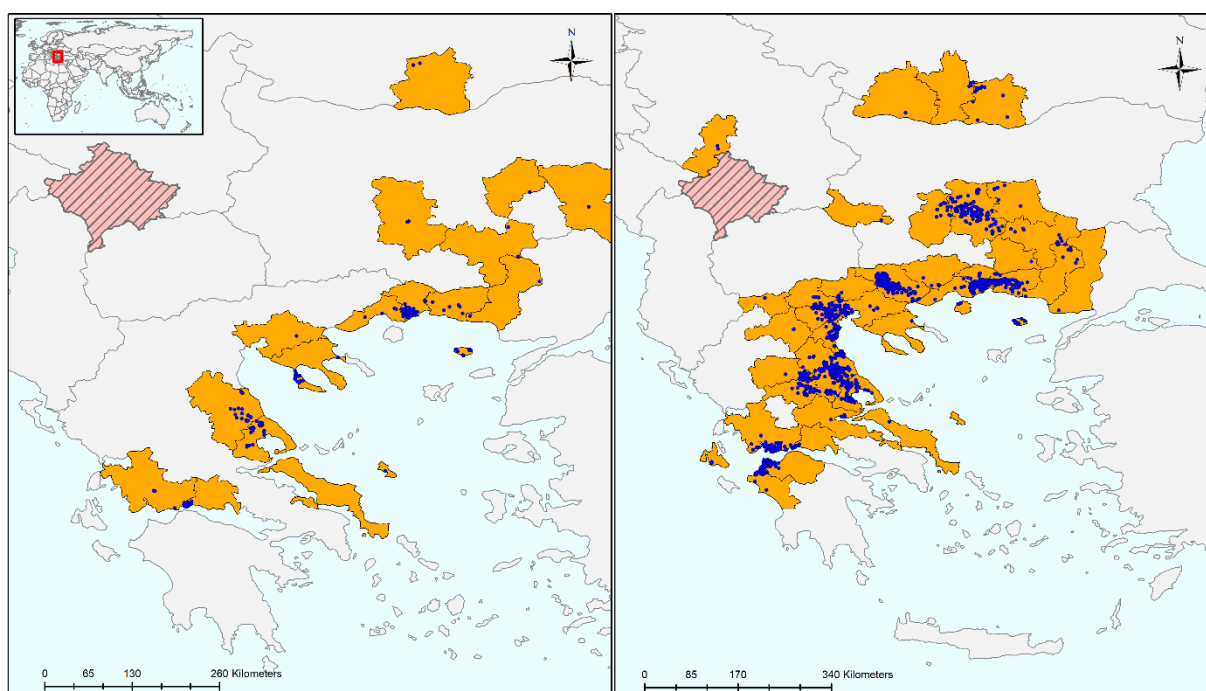
<sup>6</sup> FAO sheep pox and goat pox field manual for veterinarians is available here: <https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/eeab32bd-f9ea-4721-80dc-7a2b6b6f1ab2>

**Table 7.** Summary of sheep pox and goat pox outbreaks that occurred between 1 January and 31 December 2025 and were reported through the animal disease events module and six-monthly reports.

Region <sup>1</sup>	Animal category	No. of outbreaks reported	No. of countries/territories reporting	No. of cases	No. of losses	No. vaccinated
Africa	Domestic	81	12	4921	558	81,873
Asia	Domestic	209	8	6241	2506	604,661
Europe	Domestic	1920	4	26,493	166,934	

<sup>1</sup> Outbreaks reported by countries/territories in Africa and Asia were mainly reported in the six-monthly report module and reflect data during the first half of 2025 in those regions.

In 2025, Cyprus and Czech Republic informed WOA of their simulation exercises for sheep pox and goat pox<sup>7</sup>. As of 31 December 2025, Spain and Chinese Taipei had active self-declarations of freedom from sheep pox and goat pox<sup>8</sup>.



**Figure 8<sup>1</sup>.** Sheep pox and goat pox outbreaks that started in the first semester of 2025 (left) or the second semester of 2025 (right) and were reported by countries/territories in Europe through the animal disease events module.

<sup>1</sup>Blue points represent outbreaks, and areas in gold represent the administrative divisions where those outbreaks were located.

<sup>7</sup> For more information about simulation exercises, please see the WOA dedicated site: <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/disease-data-collection/simulation-exercises/>

<sup>8</sup> For more information about self-declarations, please see the WOA dedicated site: [Self-declared Disease Status - World Organisation for Animal Health](#)

## 4.2 Summary of disease situation reports

As part of its mission to promote transparency and raise awareness of animal diseases worldwide, WOAAH regularly publishes situation reports providing up-to-date information on significantly evolving diseases across the globe. These reports, based on WAHIS data, currently cover diseases of global concern and impact (on animal health, public health or biodiversity conservation), such as infection with ASF<sup>9</sup> and infection with HPAI<sup>10</sup>. These two reports are released monthly due to the widespread impact and rapidly changing epidemiology of these diseases. Additionally, WOAAH produces quarterly reports on wildlife<sup>11</sup> and aquatic animal diseases<sup>12</sup>, aligning with global frameworks and strategies. All these reports support WOAAH's broader mission of improving animal health and disease management. The Organisation has put in place a feedback mechanism for all these reports to ensure they remain relevant and fit for purpose for all our stakeholders. The reports are regularly updated based on user feedback. A major development in the 2025 reporting process was the implementation of an automated reporting pipeline using the R programming language and Quarto documents. This pipeline facilitates the integration of data from multiple sources, enhances reproducibility and traceability, and substantially reduces the time required for report production and publication, while also decreasing the likelihood of errors in data analysis and visualisation. In general, users have emphasised their usefulness, particularly in terms of keeping the public informed. Report performance is also regularly monitored to measure impact in terms of the number of users accessing and engaging with the reports. For this reason, reports are actively promoted on WOAAH's social media. This section outlines the key elements of each of the 2025 reports.

### 4.2.1 Infection with African swine fever virus

The trend observed in previous years of continued African swine fever (ASF) spread to new countries, territories and areas persisted in 2025, with the disease becoming more widespread and its geographical range further expanding, with notable disease 'jumps'. While the control and eradication of ASF remain increasingly challenging, global control of the disease is still achievable through sustained efforts and coordinated action at national, regional and international levels, as evidenced by areas that have succeeded in eradicating the disease. Given the complexity of ASF, multisectoral and multi-institutional cooperation is required. GF-TADs has identified key roles to be played by countries/territories, WOAAH and FAO for the global control of the disease. To this end, WOAAH and FAO have developed a joint initiative for the global control of ASF. This initiative brings together governments, industry, and technical experts to support Members in controlling this devastating disease of pigs.

#### Key figures and highlights for 2025

Seventy-two immediate notifications were received in 2025, from 24 countries and territories, relating to events that started during the period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025. During this period, information through immediate notifications or follow-up reports was reported by 29 countries and territories, which declared a total of 9435 outbreaks (1152 in domestic pigs and 8283 in wildlife), 244,043 cases (232,207 in domestic pigs and 11,836 in wildlife), and 331,136 losses (dead animals and animals killed and disposed of) in domestic pigs. Figure 9 presents the spatial distribution of the outbreaks that started in 2025.

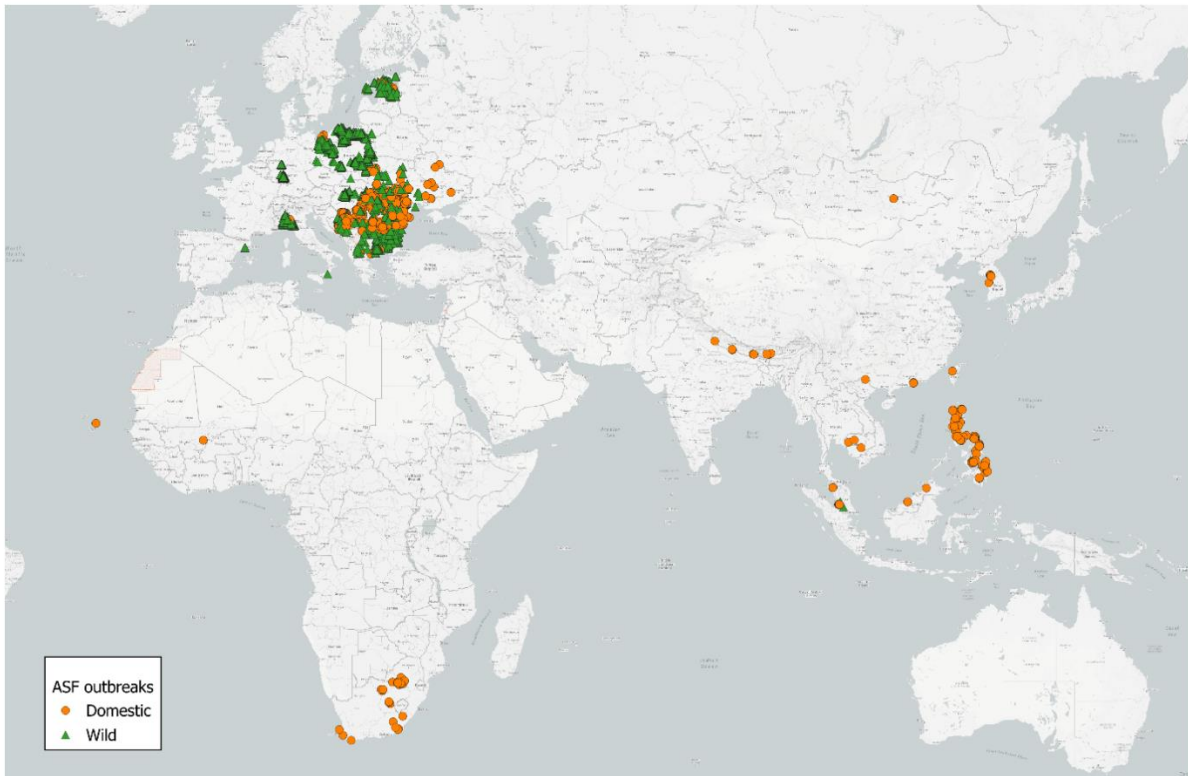
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<sup>9</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/disease/african-swine-fever/#ui-id-2>

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/disease/avian-influenza/#ui-id-2>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/wildlife-health/#ui-id-3>

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/animal-health-and-welfare/aquatic-animals/>



**Figure 9.** Global distribution of ASF outbreaks that started in 2025 and were reported through immediate notifications and follow-up reports.

In 2025, Chinese Taipei reported the first occurrence of the disease. In addition, three countries already affected reported the spread of the disease to new areas: Germany, Hungary and Poland.

The most significant disease ‘jumps’ of the year were the spread of ASF to Chinese Taipei, Spain and Mongolia, with a jump of more than 628, 599 and 428 km, respectively, from the nearest reported ASF outbreaks during the period 2022 – 2025.

The largest number of outbreaks reported in a single event in domestic pigs during the year was reported by Romania (331 outbreaks), while the largest number of outbreaks in a single event in wildlife was reported by Germany (1594 outbreaks).

From a biodiversity conservation perspective, it is important to highlight that all the outbreaks in wildlife were reported only in wild boar *Sus scrofa*, but some outbreaks in wildlife were reported in Malaysia within the range of the Bornean bearded pig (*Sus barbatus*; a vulnerable species according to the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)).

#### ASF vaccination

The continued global spread of ASF remains a major concern for the pig industry due to its significant animal health and socio-economic impacts. For many years, the lack of safe and effective vaccines limited disease control options. Recent research advances have led to the development of modified live vaccine (MLV) candidates, including gene-deleted strains, some of which are undergoing advanced field evaluation or limited use under specific regulatory frameworks in certain countries. These developments have increased interest in vaccination as a complementary tool to existing ASF control measures.

In this context, WOAAH has developed and updated standards for ASF vaccines in the WOAAH *Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals* (latest update in 2025), requiring vaccines to be produced in accordance with established principles of veterinary vaccine production and to demonstrate acceptable safety and efficacy against relevant circulating ASF virus strains. Given the increasing genetic diversity of ASF virus and the risks associated with vaccine virus transmission, reversion to virulence, or recombination with field strains, WOAAH continues to caution against the use of sub-standard or inadequately evaluated vaccines. Vaccination, where applied, should therefore be implemented only within a robust regulatory, surveillance and risk -management framework.

Main recommendations on ASF provided in 2025

Among the most relevant recommendations provided on ASF in the situation reports in 2025, we wish to remind Members of the following:

- WOAAH highlights the importance of implementing strict biosecurity and an early reporting and response system, while maintaining a high level of awareness of the disease among all actors involved in the value chain.
- WOAAH urges its Members to continue to promptly notify the occurrence of ASF and to share the relevant epidemiological information, including information on any newly detected recombinant strains and vaccination trials, which can facilitate transparency and assist the global control of the disease.
- WOAAH urges Members that have a vaccination programme in place to share the information with WOAAH and the international community.
- Any vaccination strategy for ASF should be undertaken as part of a well-designed vaccination programme that considers factors including the local epidemiology of ASF, the circulating strains, the expected objectives and the adequacy and sustainability of the relevant technical, financial and human resources. The vaccination programme should also include post-vaccination surveillance and monitoring as well as an exit strategy for the cessation of vaccination, as per [Chapter 4.18](#) of the *Terrestrial Code*.
- WOAAH urges its Members to strengthen ASF prevention and preparedness of Veterinary Services, local services and wildlife professionals through the eModule [African swine fever in wild boars, biosecurity management and practice](#) (available free of charge in 4 languages on WOAAH's eLearning Platform).

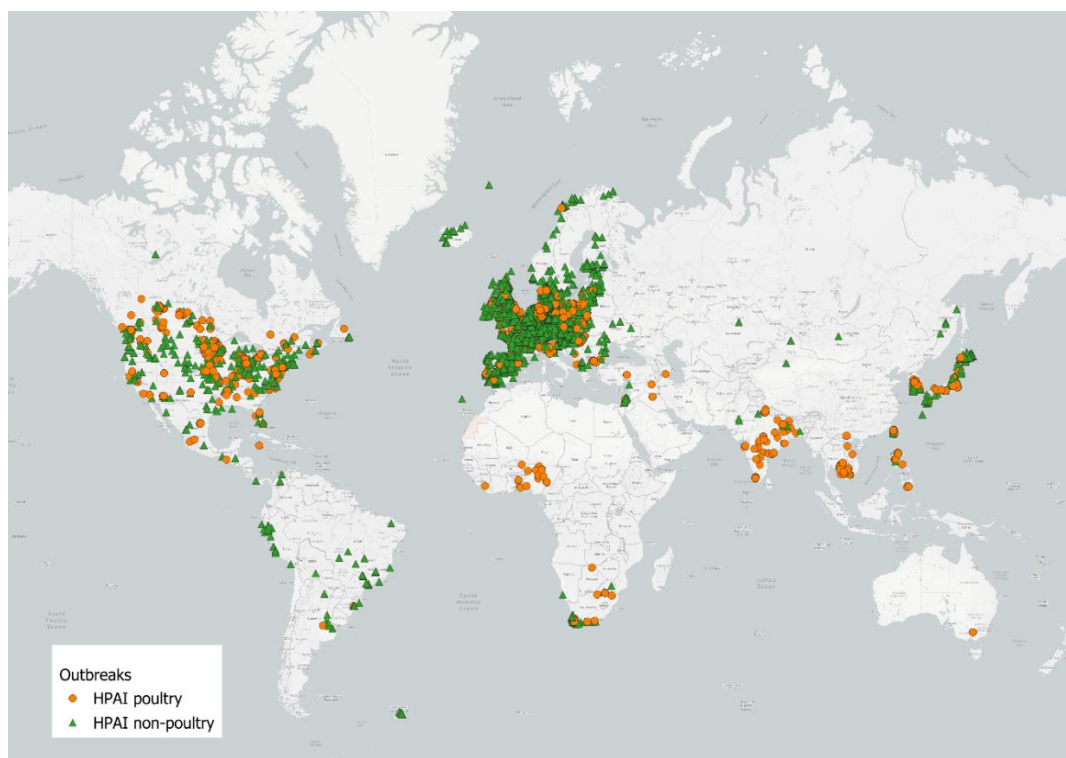
#### 4.2.2 Infection with high pathogenicity avian influenza virus

High pathogenicity avian influenza (HPAI) viruses remain a major global concern, requiring sustained efforts from affected and at-risk countries. In 2024, FAO and WOAAH launched the [Global Strategy for the Prevention and Control of High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza \(HPAI\)](#) for the period 2024 – 2033, for 'achieving sustainable, resilient poultry production systems'. Aimed at preventing disease spread and protecting poultry value chains and livelihoods, the strategy is based on a comprehensive set of pillars, including enhanced surveillance, strengthened biosecurity, vaccination strategies, public awareness and education, appropriate policy and regulatory frameworks, research and development, and a One Health approach. WOAAH continues to closely monitor the evolution of avian influenza and to communicate regularly on global developments and expert-identified risks, based on information provided by Members and the scientific community.

Key figures and highlights for 2025 in poultry and non-poultry birds

In 2025, a total of 44 countries/territories reported new outbreaks of HPAI in poultry, and 50 countries/territories reported new outbreaks of HPAI in non-poultry including wild birds. A total of 1641 new outbreaks of HPAI in poultry were reported.

In non-poultry, 5791 new outbreaks of HPAI were reported. There were almost 15 million cases in poultry and 106 million losses in poultry reported through WAHIS. There were also almost 17,000 cases in wild birds reported through WAHIS. Figure 10 shows the worldwide distribution of new outbreaks of HPAI in poultry and in non-poultry including wild birds in 2025.



**Figure 10.** Global distribution of HPAI outbreaks in poultry and in non-poultry, including wild birds that started in 2025.

As of 31 December 2025, there were 23 countries<sup>13</sup> with active self-declarations of freedom from HPAI in poultry, two countries<sup>14</sup> with active self-declarations of HPAI-free zones in poultry, and three countries<sup>15</sup> with active self-declarations of HPAI-free compartments in poultry. Details are available on the WOA [website](#).

#### Key figures and highlights for 2025 in bovines and other mammalian species

As indicated in the report of the meeting of the WOA Scientific Commission for Animal Diseases (Scientific Commission) in February 2025, the Commission agreed that the occurrence of HPAI viruses in bovines matched the *Terrestrial Code* definition of an emerging disease. In agreement with the Terrestrial Animal Health Standards Commission (Code Commission) and the Director General, Members were requested to report HPAI in bovines as an emerging disease in accordance with Article 1.1.4 of the *Terrestrial Code* from 1 April 2025. Following this decision and in consultation with selected WOA Reference Laboratory experts and OFFLU<sup>16</sup> experts, the Scientific Commission developed a case definition for the purpose of notification, which was published on the WOA website<sup>17</sup>.

<sup>13</sup> Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Honduras, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Paraguay, Peru, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Ukraine.

<sup>14</sup> Türkiye (Rep. of), United Kingdom.

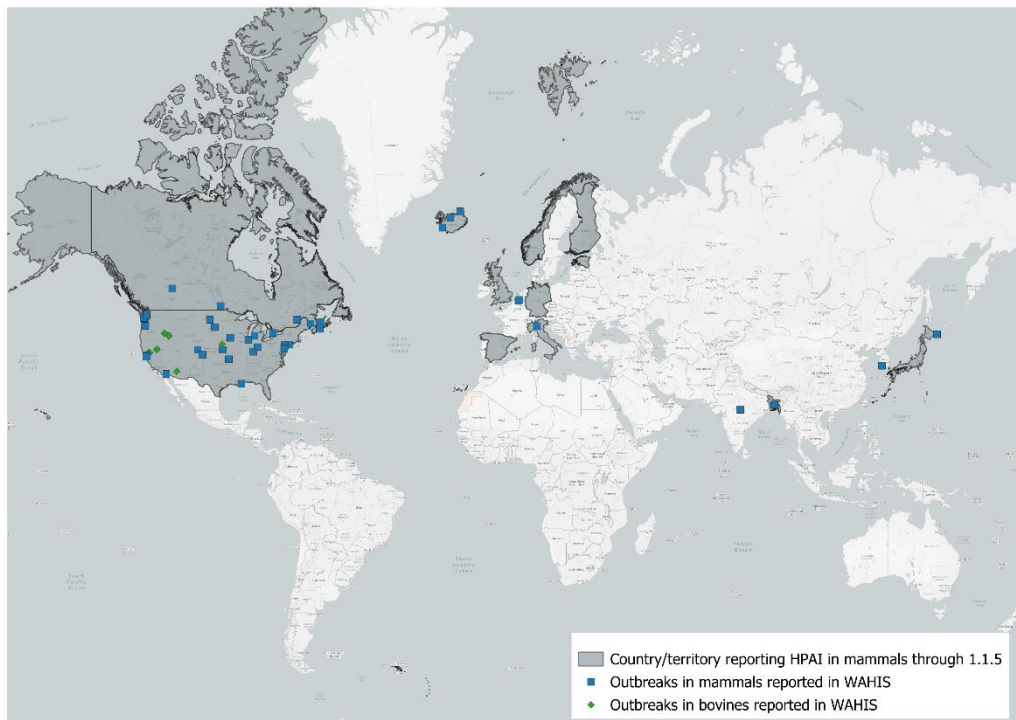
<sup>15</sup> Egypt, India, Indonesia.

<sup>16</sup> OFFLU: WOA/FAO network of expertise on animal influenza

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.woah.org/en/document/case-definition-hpai-cattle/>

Regarding the infection in other mammalian species, the Scientific Commission considers there is currently insufficient scientific evidence to classify the disease as emerging in this case. Members are invited to report cases in other mammalian species to WOAAH against Article 1.1.5 of the *Terrestrial Code*.

Forty-four outbreaks were reported through WAHIS in 12 mammalian species up to May 2025. In addition, in 2025, 14 countries/territories reported the disease against Article 1.1.5 in more than 25 different species. Lastly, in 2025, the United States of America reported 134 outbreaks in bovines (Figure 11).



**Figure 11<sup>1</sup>.** Global distribution of HPAI outbreaks in bovines and outbreaks in other mammals that started in 2025.

<sup>1</sup>The dots show the locations of outbreaks reported through the WAHIS system, while the grey areas show countries that reported information against Article 1.1.5.

#### Current situation of HPAI spread to Antarctica

An unprecedented spread of HPAI to mainland Antarctica (an area previously largely historically free of HPAI) was reported in March 2024, with the virus identified in South polar skua (*Stercorarius maccormicki*). The spread to mainland Antarctica is considered a serious concern, due to the highly probable negative impact that HPAI could have on Antarctic wildlife and biodiversity. The [Updated Biological Risk Assessment and Recommendations for Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Antarctica](#) published on behalf of the SCAR<sup>18</sup> Antarctic Wildlife Health Network on 18 December 2024 presents a summary of the situation as well as recommendations. In addition to the outbreaks published in WAHIS, information on HPAI occurrences in wildlife in and around Antarctica is also available at <https://scar.org/library-data/avian-flu>.

<sup>18</sup> SCAR: Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research

In 2025 and based on the two databases, 45 confirmed cases were detected in Antarctica in 14 different wildlife species (Adelie Penguin, Antarctic shag, Black-browed albatross, Brown skua, Chinstrap penguin, Crab eater seal, Gentoo penguin, Kelp gull, Leopard seal, Skua, Southern elephant seal, Southern fulmar, Southern giant petrel, Weddell seal).

## Recommendations

Given the spread of HPAI across the globe, continued surveillance in wild and domestic species is warranted. As this pathogen is impacting wildlife, livestock and public health, a One Health approach to management is crucial.

WOAH recommends that Members increase their surveillance efforts in domestic and wild birds, implement biosecurity and preventive measures at farm level, and continue timely reporting of avian influenza outbreaks in both poultry and non-poultry species.

Considering the evolving situation of the virus in non-avian species, WOAHA also recommends:

- including avian influenza as a differential diagnosis in non-avian species, including cattle and other livestock populations, at high risk of exposure to the viruses;
- reporting to WOAHA outbreaks of avian influenza in all animal species in the usual hosts through WAHIS and in all other species against Article 1.1.5;
- sharing genetic sequences of avian influenza viruses and associated metadata in publicly available databases;
- protecting humans in close contact with sick livestock or wildlife and their products, while avoiding implementing unjustified trade restrictions;
- establishing close collaboration between the animal health and conservation sectors to share information, resources and a prevention plan.

### 4.2.3 Diseases in wildlife

In 2020, WOAHA expanded its work on wildlife health by promoting the growth of surveillance systems for wildlife health at regional, national and international levels, and advocating Members to re-evaluate the importance and visibility given to wildlife health in their countries through the Wildlife Health Framework (WHF).

After five years of implementation and several achievements – including enhanced training programmes, better integration of wildlife health specificities into WOAHA standards, increased knowledge generation and the update and development of new guidelines focusing on wildlife health – there was a significant increase in awareness of wildlife health issues among Members and an expansion of partnerships with conservation and public health stakeholders.

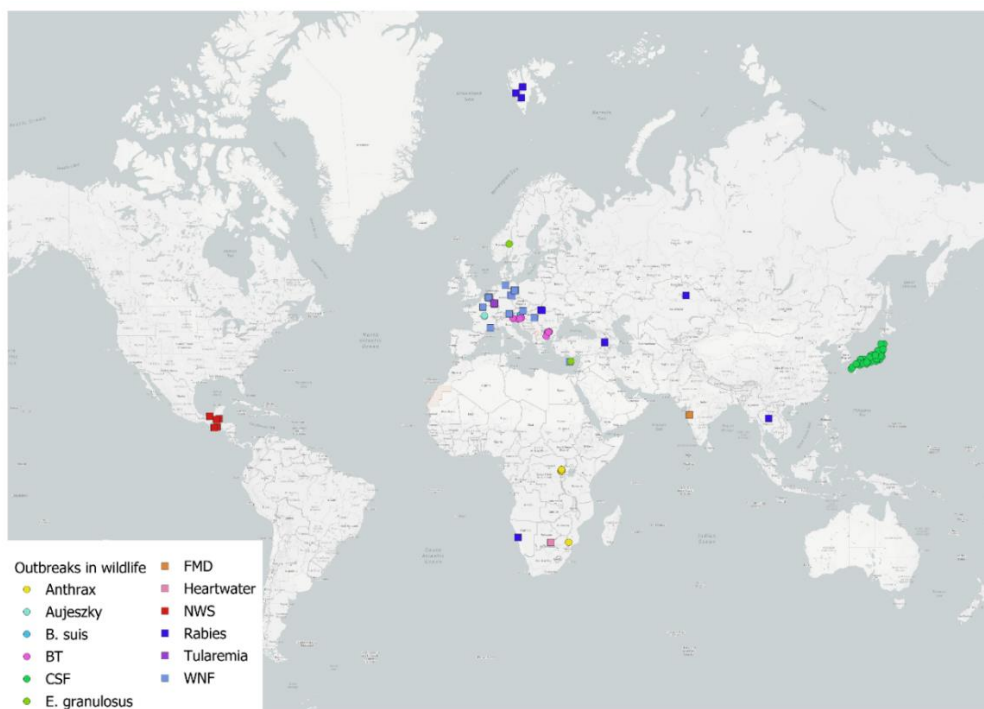
Following these results, an external evaluation was conducted to inform the development of the next phase. Building on the foundations and successes of the WHF, the 5-year revised strategy aims to protect wildlife health, ensuring resilient ecosystems and a safer planet, through leveraging opportunities and intersectoral international collaborations, equipping and empowering Members with practical tools and operational pathways to translate global guidance into actionable on-the-ground initiatives. Focusing on key thematic areas such as wildlife health surveillance systems, health risks associated with legal and illegal wildlife trade, and the impact of climate change on wildlife health, the strategy relies on a One Health and preventative approach to strengthen the resilience of wildlife health.

## Gaps in global wildlife disease surveillance

Accurate reporting on disease situations in wildlife relies on proper surveillance systems being in place at a country level. One way to provide background information on wildlife surveillance and improve understanding of reporting quality and gaps is to evaluate the number of diseases for which surveillance is reported in wildlife among the 81 diseases listed by WOAAH. A study carried out in 2019 found that 165 Members and non-Members had reported surveillance activity in wildlife for at least one listed disease. On average, countries reported surveillance for 19 of the listed diseases (minimum = 0, maximum = 81), with significant differences between regions. This imbalance in surveillance activity is also highlighted by the uneven distribution of reported wildlife outbreaks at a global level (see next paragraph). A similar analysis of data from 2024/2025 highlighted that 163 countries/territories reported surveillance in wildlife for an average of 38 listed diseases (minimum = 0; maximum = 84), marking a notable improvement in the global level of wildlife surveillance. This substantial increase in the average number of diseases for which surveillance is reported in wildlife could be partially attributed to the efforts implemented by WOAAH through the WHF.

### Key figures and highlights for 2025

In 2025, listed disease outbreaks in wildlife species were reported in 169 events by 53 countries/territories: five countries in Africa, three in the Americas, 12 in Asia and the Pacific, and 33 in Europe. In total, 13,229 outbreaks in wildlife were reported during the year. Most of the outbreaks were reported in Europe (96.7%; 12,799/13,229), followed by Asia and the Pacific (2.2%; 287/13,229), the Americas (0.7%, 91/13,229) and Africa (0.4%; 52/13,229). In these outbreaks, a total of 22,740 cases were reported, with a similar balance in terms of regional distribution (Europe: 19,457 cases; Asia and the Pacific: 492 cases; the Americas: 1963 cases; Africa 791 cases) (Figure 12).



**Figure 12<sup>1</sup>.** Global distribution of reported outbreaks of listed diseases in wildlife that started in 2025, by disease (excluding outbreaks of ASF and HPAI, as these are presented in dedicated maps elsewhere in the report).

<sup>1</sup>Abbreviations: *B. suis* = *Brucella suis*; BT = bluetongue; CSF = classical swine fever; *E. granulosus* = *Echinococcus granulosus*; FMD = foot and mouth disease; NWS = New World screwworm; WNF = West Nile fever.

In 2025, 15 different listed terrestrial diseases were reported in wildlife through immediate notifications and follow-up reports.

The most relevant reported diseases of significant public health importance were HPAI (4832 outbreaks), and West Nile fever (28 outbreaks).

In terms of importance for livestock health and food security, after HPAI, ASF was the most frequently reported disease (8283 outbreaks), followed by CSF (30 outbreaks).

Finally, several of the reported diseases were highly relevant from a biodiversity conservation perspective. Out of the 308 species in which outbreaks were reported, 43 species (14%) were classified as: 'Near threatened' (19 species), 'Vulnerable' (15 species), 'Endangered' (7 species), or 'Critically endangered' (2 species), based on the IUCN classification.

## Recommendations

Among the most relevant recommendations relating to wildlife health provided in Wildlife Diseases Situation Reports in recent years, we wish to remind Members of the following:

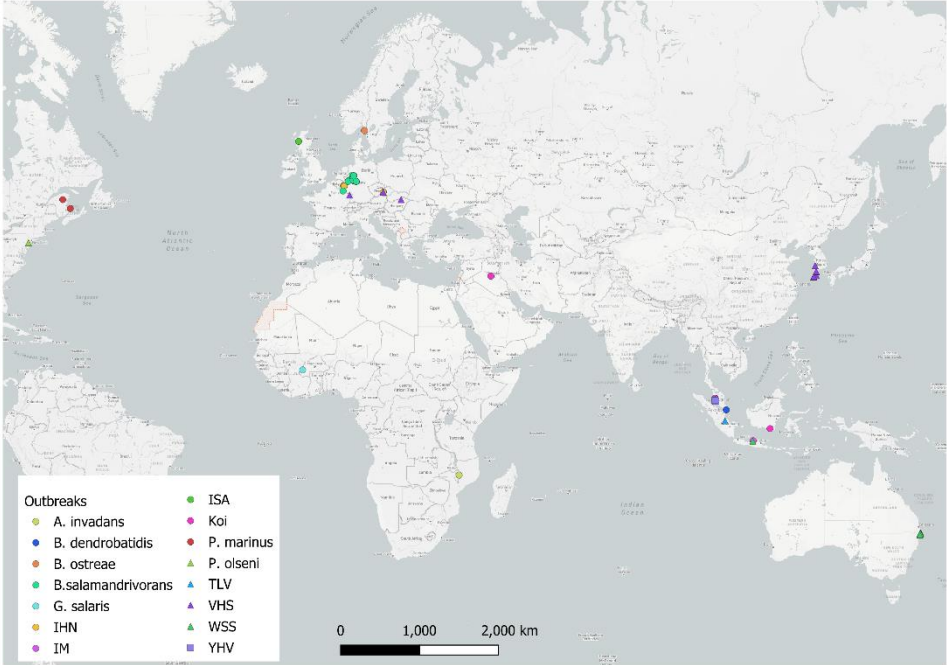
- WOAAH recognises the value of the information provided by Members on wildlife health, considering its potential beneficial impact on animal health, public health and biodiversity conservation.
- WOAAH recognises the importance of supporting Members with improving their surveillance systems at country level, thereby enhancing the quality of the data they provide. This is one of the objectives of the Wildlife Health Programme.
- WOAAH encourages Members to continue to promptly notify the occurrence of significant epidemiological events in wildlife and to share the relevant epidemiological information.
- WOAAH is committed to using, analysing and disseminating data collected by Members to maximise disease surveillance efforts in wildlife and their use for decision-making.
- Fostering strong intersectoral collaboration between animal health and conservation sectors is essential for ensuring effective information exchange, resource mobilisation and coordinated disease prevention.

### 4.2.4 Listed diseases in aquatic animals

WOAAH has been publishing aquatic animal health situation reports since 2023. These reports focus on four categories of aquatic animals, consistent with the classification used in the [WOAAH Aquatic Code](#): fish, molluscs, crustaceans and amphibians. Each issue of the situation report highlights one of these categories, providing targeted insights into its current health situation and associated risks.

Via WAHIS, WOAAH Members are required to notify information on stable diseases on a six-monthly basis and are required to notify information on exceptional events through immediate notifications, followed by weekly follow-up reports. Twenty-four immediate notifications were received in 2025, from 16 countries/territories for 14 diseases, relating to events that started during the period 1 January 2025 – 31 December 2025. Four countries reported the first occurrence of a disease in the country: Burkina Faso reported infection with *Gyrodactylus salaris*, Hungary reported infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus, Malaysia reported infection with yellow head virus genotype 1 and Sweden reported infection with *Bonamia ostreae*. Three other countries reported the first occurrence of a disease in a zone: infection with *Aphanomyces invadans* (epizootic ulcerative syndrome) in Malawi, infection with *Batrachochytrium salamandrivorans* in Belgium and infection with viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus in France. The United States of America reported the occurrence of infection with *Perkinsus olseni* in an unusual host. All other notifications were for the recurrence of a disease.

Fifty-nine outbreaks, relating to 26 events, were notified via immediate notifications and follow-up reports. Of these outbreaks, 20 were for WOA-listed fish diseases, four were for WOA-listed mollusc diseases, 12 were for WOA-listed crustacean diseases and 23 were for WOA-listed amphibian diseases. Details of the geographical distribution of these outbreaks and the diseases concerned are shown in Figure 13.



**Figure 13<sup>1</sup>.** Distribution of aquatic animal disease outbreaks in 2025 notified through WAHIS in immediate notifications and follow-up reports.

<sup>1</sup>Abbreviations: IHN = infectious haematopoietic necrosis; IM = infectious myonecrosis; ISA = infectious salmon anaemia; Koi = koi herpesvirus; TLV = tilapia lake virus; VHS = viral haemorrhagic septicaemia; WSS = white spot syndrome; YHV = yellow head virus.

When interpreting the data presented in Members’ reports, it is crucial to consider production disparities across countries. According to [FAO data](#) from 2023 (most recent year for which information is available), there are notable differences in the production of aquatic animals worldwide. Fish production was reported by 240 countries, crustacean production by 179 countries and mollusc production by 156 countries. There are also considerable geographical disparities. For example, China (People’s Rep. of) is the leading producer in all categories, with the country reporting 9.5 million tonnes of crustaceans, nearly 18.4 million tonnes of molluscs and more than 39 million tonnes of fish. These production figures highlight the need to take production levels into account when analysing the data for aquatic animal species globally and when considering reporting from Members.

Another element to consider when analysing data is surveillance information. Table 8 shows the percentage of WOA Members that notified surveillance measures (general surveillance, targeted surveillance, monitoring or screening) through WAHIS in 2024/2025 for each animal category and type. The data reveal significant disparities between the different categories.

**Table 8.** *Percentage of reporting WOAAH Members that notified surveillance measures through WAHIS in 2024/2025, by animal category and type of aquatic animal.*

	Farmed	Wild
Fish	96%	80%
Crustaceans	88%	77%
Molluscs	82%	68%
Amphibians	73%	65%

To support its Members in their reporting obligations, WOAAH standards are regularly updated.