

DISCLAIMER

The OIE, after performing an administrative and technical screening of a self-declaration concerning the disease-free status of a country, a zone or a compartment ("self-declaration"), as described in the standard operating procedures for self-declarations, reserves the right to publish or not the self-declaration on its website. There shall be no right of appeal from this decision nor any recourse of any kind.

The publication by the OIE of a self-declaration on its website does not reflect the official opinion of the OIE.

Responsibility for the information contained in a self-declaration lies entirely with the OIE Delegate of the Member concerned.

Neither the OIE nor any person acting on its behalf may be held responsible for:

- (i) any errors, inaccuracies or omissions in the content of a self-declaration,
- (ii) the use which may be made of the information contained in a self-declaration;
- (iii) any direct or indirect consequences of any nature arising from or relating to the use of the information contained in a self-declaration.

Self-declaration of historical freedom from African swine fever by Canada

Self-declaration submitted to the OIE on 03 July 2019 by Dr Jaspinder Komal, OIE Delegate for Canada, Vice President of the Science Branch and the Chief Veterinary Officer at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)

I. Introduction

In accordance with the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) procedure for self-declaration of freedom from a disease, the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) is submitting the following document for publication by the OIE, attesting that Canada is historically free from infection with African Swine Fever (ASF) virus, effective immediately.

II. Evidence that African Swine Fever is notifiable to the Competent Authority

The veterinary authority in Canada is the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA). The [Health of Animals Act](#) (the Act) and [Health of Animals Regulations](#) (the Regulations) are the principal legislation that the veterinary authority applies to regulate animal and zoonotic diseases in animals in Canada. The purpose of the Act and its Regulations is to prevent, control and/or eliminate animal diseases in Canada that affect the health of animals or humans or could have a significant economic effect on the Canadian livestock industry, and to ensure that animals in Canada are transported humanely. The Feeds Act, Plant Protection Act, Safe Food for Canadians Act and their associated regulations also provide authority relevant to the prevention and control of animal diseases.

Since 1991, ASF has been included in the list of reportable diseases prescribed in the [Reportable Disease Regulations](#) promulgated under subsection 2(2) of the Act (Annex 2). Under the Act and Regulations, owners (or anyone caring for or having control over animals), veterinarians and/or laboratories are obligated to immediately notify the CFIA when ASF, or any fact indicating the presence of ASF or any other [reportable disease](#), is suspected.

III. History of absence of African Swine Fever in Canada

There has never been any registered case of ASF in Canada, and no evidence exists of its occurrence in wildlife as indicated in reporting from Canada to the [World Animal Health Information System \(WAHIS\)](#) in accordance with Article 1.1.3 point 3) of the *Terrestrial Code*, Canada complies with the provisions of Articles 15.1.3 and 15.1.4 point 1 of the *Terrestrial Code*, as well as point 2 b) of Article 1.4.6.

Regulatory measures for the early detection, prevention and control of ASF have been in place for at least the past 10 years, as detailed in [section V](#) of this document, and importation of pigs and pig commodities has been carried out in accordance with Chapter 15.1 of the *Terrestrial Code*, as detailed in section VI of this document.

IV. Population susceptible to African Swine Fever in Canada:

Pig production is a vital component of Canada's agricultural economy. As the 3rd largest pork exporter in the world, in 2017, Canada exported over 1.2 million tonnes of pork and pork products valued at \$4 billion to 87 countries, according to the [Canadian Pork Council](#).

In 2017, there were 6,920 pig farms in Canada with 14.3 million head ([Canadian Pork Council](#)). While pig farms exist across the country, the swine industry is most concentrated in Quebec, Ontario and the Prairie provinces (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) (Figure 1).

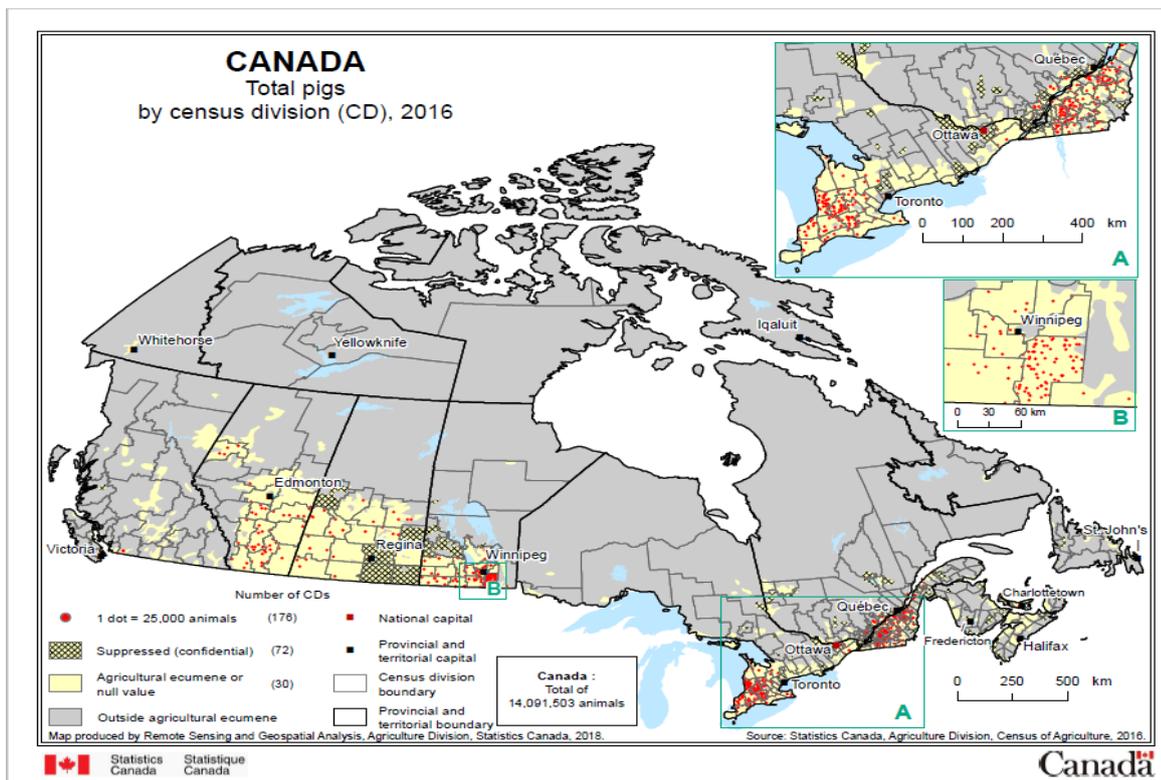


Figure 1: Total pigs by census division, 2016 (source: [Statistics Canada](#))

Farmed (captive) wild boars were introduced in the 1980's and 1990's as part of an agricultural diversification effort. The production of farmed wild boar in Canada has been steadily decreasing since 1996. In 2011, there were 150 farms reporting a total of 9,778 captive wild boars in Canada (Statistics Canada [Table 32-10-0427-01](#); due to the low number of farms, reporting of wild boar as a separate category was discontinued ("terminated") after 2011.

There are no indigenous wild porcine species in Canada, however there are wild (non-captive) pigs, wild boar and hybrids of the two that have escaped or been released from farms. Wild pigs have been sighted in all but the four Eastern provinces, and Their range appears to be expanding (Figure 2) (Aschim & Brook, 2019)¹.

¹ Aschim RA & Brook RK, 2019. Evaluating Cost-Effective Methods for Rapid and Repeatable National Scale Detection and Mapping of Invasive Species Spread. Scientific reports 9: 7254.

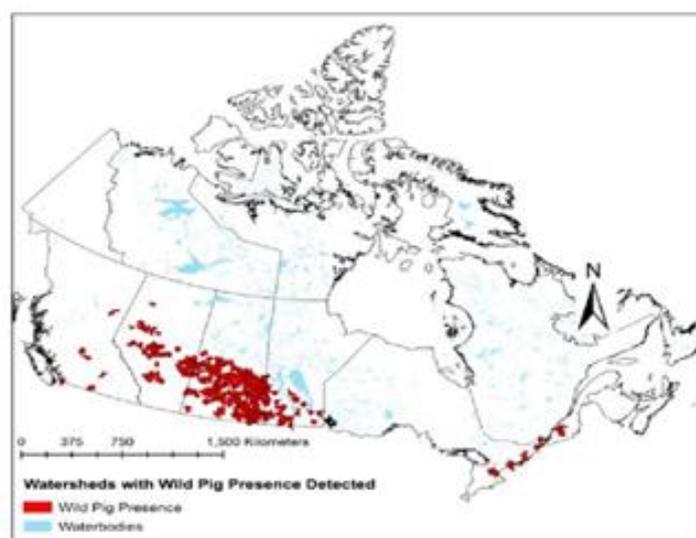


Figure 2 : Distribution of wild pigs in Canada from 2011-2017. Adapted from Aschim and Brook, 2019.

V. Surveillance and early warning system for African Swine Fever in Canada

Canada has a national swine traceability program ([PigTRACE](#)), detection capabilities, reporting systems, regulatory measures and emergency response procedures in place to prevent and control the spread of ASF or any other diseases exotic to Canada. The early detection system, described below, has been in place for more than 10 years.

a. Passive surveillance

Over 12,500 licensed veterinarians constitute the “front line” of Canada’s disease surveillance system. Canada has on-going passive surveillance for ASF, based on the requirement to report clinical signs that may indicate a possible infection with ASF. In addition, there is general surveillance for foreign animal diseases via ante- and post-mortem inspection of every animal at slaughter at Federal establishments as per the sections 139(1) and 149(1) of the [Safe Food for Canadians Regulations](#).

Passive surveillance in domestic swine results occasional reports of suspect cases of ASF or other exotic diseases of swine, which are followed up with laboratory testing. When appropriate, contact herds are also traced and investigated. On some occasions, ASF testing is conducted for export purposes or to confirm Specific Pathogen Free (SPF) status. A summary of samples tested for ASF since 2012 is provided in Table 1. All results were negative.

Table 1: Number of samples tested for ASF between 2012 and 2019

Year		2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
<i>Number of:</i>	<i>Suspect premises sampled</i>	8	2	4	2	4	4	1	6
	<i>Pigs tested for surveillance</i>	10	5	4	4	9	9	1	8
	<i>Pigs tested for export or SPF-status</i>	0	0	0	5	20	20	0	0

Pig farmers in Canada are aware and motivated to report any suspicion of unusual clinical sign of disease to their herd veterinarian or directly to a CFIA District Veterinarian, as was exemplified by the

outbreak of porcine epidemic diarrhea (PED)² in Canada which was promptly reported to the Provincial authorities.

Government officials have the responsibility for investigating all reported cases of suspected exotic diseases. The CFIA currently employs approximately 620 full time veterinarians. Additionally, there are about 2,260 accredited veterinarians in Canada, authorized under the Health of Animals Act to perform certain duties and functions in support of the National Animal Health Program.

Awareness of veterinarians, producers and the public, including travellers, is enhanced and maintained through:

- [Information about ASF is available on the CFIA website](#), including a description of the most common clinical signs (African Swine Fever - Fact Sheet), a list of the Animal Health Offices that can be contacted for more information and specific information directed to travellers and importers.
 - The CFIA also undertakes additional activities on an *ad hoc* basis, such as webinars, exercises and meetings about ASF, to raise the awareness of key stakeholders including private veterinarians and the swine industry.
- The [website of the Canadian Pork Council](#) includes several resources to educate producers about ASF.
- The National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease delivers a Foreign Animal Disease course for veterinarians each year. Each course averages 19 participants, the majority of which are CFIA employees, and is delivered with assistance from the provincial veterinary services and academia.

Canada's national wildlife health surveillance program is coordinated by the [Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative](#) (CWHC), an organization encompassing Canada's veterinary colleges and the British Columbia Animal Health Centre. The CWHC acts on reports of sick and dead wildlife from the public, and also has a network of engaged wildlife health professionals to identify sick or dead wild pigs and a team of wildlife diagnosticians who would be in a position to diagnose ASF should it occur. The CWHC also provides educational programs, information, and consultation to both government and non-government agencies, as well as to the public. In 2007, the CWHC was designated an OIE Collaborating Centre dedicated to wildlife disease surveillance and monitoring, epidemiology and management.

b. Laboratory testing

Laboratory testing for ASF is the responsibility of the CFIA's National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD) in Winnipeg. Diagnostic tests available to identify the ASF virus include real-time and conventional PCR, Sanger sequencing, virus isolation and whole genome sequencing. Detection of antibodies to ASF virus would be done by blocking ELISA and confirmed with immunoblotting strips.

Laboratory testing capacity is enhanced and supplemented by the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance Network (CAHSN). This network, established in 2004, links the CFIA to all provincial and territorial veterinary services, the Canadian Wildlife Health Cooperative, and the veterinary colleges. If a foreign animal disease is suspected, specific procedures are in place for submission of specimens, reporting of results and activation of the CFIA's Emergency Operations Centres.

VI. Measures implemented in Canada to maintain freedom from African Swine Fever

The CFIA hosted an international forum on African Swine Fever in Ottawa on April 30 and May 1, 2019 to advance regional cooperation in the prevention and mitigation of the impact of ASF in the Americas. The output of the forum was an agreed [framework](#) for the prevention and control of African Swine

² http://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=15161

Fever, including areas for action (Annex 3). In addition, an industry/government executive management board focused on ASF prevention and preparedness meets on a weekly basis.

Other measures implemented in Canada are described below. Unless noted, all of the measures have been in place for more than 10 years.

a. Biosecurity on Farms

Commercial pig producers have very comprehensive and stringent biosecurity practices in place to maintain health and prevent the contact between domestic pigs and wild pigs. The Canadian Pork Council promotes biosecurity through various initiatives, such as the voluntary [National Swine Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard](#) and the [PigSAFE component of the Canadian Pork Excellence Platform](#). These initiatives are supported by biosecurity factsheets, protocols and other resources, all available on the [Canadian Pork Council website](#).

Virtually all large-scale commercial pig production in Canada takes place in a controlled environment which implies that, at all times of the year, animals are kept in buildings specialized to the farrowing, growing and finishing stages of raising market pigs. This typical hierarchical production system involves the mostly unidirectional movement of pigs between these specialized facilities.

In addition, in accordance with the [National Swine Farm-Level Biosecurity Standard](#), most commercial swine producers use all-in/all-out placement of pigs within a barn or site and conduct cleaning and disinfection between batches of pigs to prevent the introduction and spread of disease.

Regarding wild pigs, as ASF is not present in any domestic or wild pig populations in the USA or Canada, the potential for wild pigs to contact pigs or material infected with ASF is extremely low.

b. Import Controls and Biosecurity at Borders

Canada does not border on any country where ASF is present. The United States of America is the only foreign country having a land border with Canada.

To protect Canada’s ASF free status, the importation of pigs or their products is prohibited from countries or zones not recognized by the CFIA as free of ASF, unless the products are processed or treated as per CFIA approved processes to inactivate the ASF virus. The approval to import a particular porcine commodity is dependent on the commodity itself, as well the country of origin, the processing it has undergone, and the end use in Canada (more details are available on the [CFIA website](#)). Table 2 summarizes the import permit and health certificate requirements. Specific import requirements, based on the applicable animal health policies, can be reviewed in the [Automated Import Reference System \(AIRS\)](#).

Table 2: Requirements for the importation of pigs and pig products

	USA	Designated* country/zone	Non-Designated country/zone
Live swine	Health certificate +/- Import permit +/- Quarantine	Import permit Health certificate Quarantine	Prohibited
Semen and embryos	Health certificate Import permit	Health certificate Import permit	Prohibited
Pork (fresh or cured), pork products and by-products	Health certificate	Health certificate +/- Import permit	Prohibited
Processed (cooked pork, pork products and by-products)	Health certificate	Health certificate +/- Import permit	Health certificate
Pet food (processed)	Health certificate	Health certificate	Import permit Health certificate

*Recognized by Canada as free of CSF, foot and mouth disease, swine vesicular disease, and African swine fever

Additionally, [import restrictions](#) on unprocessed grains, oilseeds and associated meals intended for use in livestock feed from certain countries were put into place in March 2019, to reduce the risk of ASF introduction to Canada.

The CFIA maintains [lists](#) on its official website of the countries and zones officially recognized by Canada as free of ASF and other serious diseases. These lists are updated as events occur worldwide. Disease status evaluations of countries or zones are based on the assessment of information and data on the livestock demographics, veterinary infrastructure, legislative support, disease reporting, active and passive surveillance, import and border controls, quarantine and eradication procedures, animal origin feedstuffs, and vaccination. An on-site visit to the country or zone is conducted to verify the disease status information and access other information relevant to the freedom/eradication of reportable diseases, including ASF.

Federal inspectors ensure border protection at land and sea access points as well as international airports. The Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) is represented at every international land, sea and airport. Specially-trained dogs are employed to support the CBSA to detect illegally imported food products. CBSA inspectors have the ability to issue monetary penalties up to \$1300 CDN if illegal products are found. The CBSA has direct communication links with the CFIA Headquarters and CFIA offices across Canada.

c. Garbage feeding controls

As per the [Health of Animals Regulations, Sections 112 – 113](#), the CFIA enforces regulations that exclude feeding meat, meat by-products or food that is suspected to contain meat or meat by-products to pigs. Recycling of non-meat origin food products is permitted under very strict controls and [guidelines](#). Under the [Feeds Act, section 3](#), a livestock feed cannot be manufactured, sold or imported into Canada unless the feed has been registered as prescribed. The [Feeds Regulations](#), Schedule IV lists approved livestock feed ingredients.

d. International Waste

The CFIA [International Waste Directive](#) prohibits entry of international waste into Canada because of the risk of introducing plant diseases, pests, and important animal diseases of concern including, but not limited to, African swine fever. Waste from aircraft and ships, and commodities regulated by the CFIA that are prohibited or do not meet the import requirements (including things from international travelers) are subject to the International Waste Directive. The policy applies to International Waste (IW) originating in all countries with the exception of domestic waste from the USA entering via land borders or refuse from ships originating in the USA. This exemption for USA-origin items does not apply to items confiscated due to Plant Protection concerns or other CFIA program requirements.

The International Waste Directive contains provisions for the disposal of international waste in Canada if a CBSA inspector is satisfied that the off-loading and discharge of such material meets the requirements of the policy and thus would not likely result in the introduction or spread within Canada of a vector, disease, or toxic substance.

The authority to mandate specific methods of disposal for IW and disinfection of containers is derived from the [Health of Animals Act, section 17](#), and the [Health of Animals Regulations, section 47](#) and [subsection 105\(3\)](#), as well as the [Plant Protection Act, section 8\(3\)](#) and the [Plant Protection Regulations](#) and all associated Regulations.

VII. Conclusion

Based on the information provided in this report and in accordance with the provisions of point 1 of Article 15.1.4 and point 2 b) of Article 1.4.6 of the OIE *Terrestrial Code*, this self-declaration provides documented evidence that:

- ASF has been a notifiable disease;
- ASF has never been reported in the country
- an early warning system has been in place for all relevant species;
- surveillance has been in place in domestic pigs and captive wild pigs;
- ASF is not known to be established in wildlife.
- pigs and pig commodities are imported in compliance OIE Standards.

Therefore, the Delegate of Canada to the OIE declares that Canada is a country historically free from ASF and this declaration is fully in compliance with the provisions of Articles 15.1.4 point 1) and point 2 b) of Article 1.4.6 of the *Terrestrial Code* (2019).



Annex I

Statement to be included in the self-declaration document.

I, the undersigned,

.....Dr. Jaspinder Komal.....

Delegate of Canada.....

to the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), takes responsibility for the self- declaration of freedom from

..African Swine Fever.....

.....(disease)

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Drawn up on 2 / 07 / 2019

Signature of the Delegate:

SCHEDULE—Concluded

REPORTABLE DISEASES—Concluded

Item	Disease
21.	avian pneumoencephalitis (Newcastle disease)
22.	pseudorabies (Aujeszky's disease)
23.	pullorum disease
24.	rabies
25.	vesicular stomatitis
26.	scrapie
27.	trichinosis
28.	tuberculosis
29.	fowl typhoid
30.	varroasis

REGULATORY IMPACT
ANALYSIS STATEMENT

(This statement is not part of the Regulations.)

Description

These Ministerial Regulations are designed to resolve differences between the new *Health of Animals Act* and the previous Acts, the *Animal Disease and Protection Act* and Part III of the *Livestock and Livestock Products Act*.

The regulations do not change either present policy or programs but are required to allow the programs to continue when the *Health of Animals Act* is brought into force.

The Ministerial Regulations do the following:

1. Hatchery Exclusion—This regulation is necessary to continue to exclude certain small hatcheries which are currently excluded by the definition of hatchery in the *Livestock and Livestock Products Act*.

2. Export Inspection exemption—This regulation exempts most animals from the requirement for exporters to declare animals to Customs, to have them inspected by a veterinary inspector and to present a certificate of inspection before the animals leave Canada.

The *Health of Animals Act* requires exemptions be made under Ministerial Regulations and the attached regulation ensures that the present policy on inspection of animals does not change.

This exemption does not change any requirement for inspection that may be imposed by the importing country nor reduce the authority of an inspector to inspect specific shipments.

3. Reportable Diseases—These are currently found in the definition section of the *Animal Disease and Protection Act*. The *Health of Animals Act* requires them to be listed in a Ministerial Regulation.

The only change between this regulation and the current list is to remove fowl plague in favour of avian influenza to reflect

ANNEXE (suite et fin)

MALADIES DÉCLARABLES (suite et fin)

Article	Maladie
21.	pneumoencéphalite aviaire (maladie de Newcastle)
22.	pseudorage (maladie d'Aujeszky)
23.	pullorose
24.	rage
25.	stomatite vésiculeuse
26.	tremblante
27.	trichinose
28.	tuberculose
29.	typhose aviaire
30.	varroase

RÉSUMÉ DE L'ÉTUDE D'IMPACT
DE LA RÉGLEMENTATION

(Ce résumé ne fait pas partie des règlements.)

Description

Les présents règlements ministériels visent à concilier les différences entre la nouvelle *Loi sur la santé des animaux* et les lois antérieures, la *Loi sur les maladies et la protection des animaux* et la partie III de la *Loi sur les animaux de ferme et leurs produits*.

Ces règlements ne modifient pas la politique ni les programmes actuels, mais sont censés permettre à ces derniers de continuer après l'entrée en vigueur de la *Loi sur la santé des animaux*.

Les règlements ministériels ont les résultats suivants:

1. Exclusion de la définition de «couvoirs»—Ce règlement est nécessaire pour continuer d'exclure certains petits couvoirs qui sont actuellement exclus de la définition de couvoir dans la *Loi sur les animaux de ferme et leurs produits*.

2. Exemption de certaines exportations de l'inspection—Ces règlements soustraient la plupart des animaux à la nécessité pour l'exportateur de les déclarer aux douanes, de les faire inspecter par un inspecteur-vétérinaire et de présenter un certificat d'inspection avant qu'ils ne quittent le Canada.

La *Loi sur la santé des animaux* exige que des exemptions soient prévues par des règlements ministériels, et le règlement ci-joint voit à ce que l'actuelle politique sur l'inspection des animaux ne change pas.

Cette exemption ne modifie pas les exigences relatives à l'inspection qui peuvent être imposées par le pays importateur et ne réduit pas non plus le pouvoir que détient un inspecteur d'examiner certains envois.

3. Maladies déclarables—On les trouve actuellement dans l'article des définitions de la *Loi sur les maladies et la protection des animaux*. La *Loi sur la santé des animaux* stipule qu'elles soient énumérées dans un règlement ministériel.

La seule modification qui distingue ce règlement de la liste actuelle est le remplacement de «peste aviaire» par «influenza

the currently accepted name. Other changes to the list may be made in the future after consultation.

Alternatives Considered

There is no other alternative since all these changes are required before the *Health of Animals Act* comes into force.

Consistency with Regulatory Policy and Citizens' Code

The Ministerial Regulations result from changes to the methods used to provide powers under the new *Health of Animals Act*. They are part of the total package which will allow for more flexibility in controlling animals, diseases and toxic substances. They will allow the government to regulate smarter while at the same time providing assurance that diseases are still controlled.

Anticipated Impact

The anticipated impact of these Regulations will be minimal since they are designed to maintain the status quo.

Consultation

Consultation with industry and other interested groups is ongoing to ensure they are aware of the changes resulting from the passage of the *Health of Animals Act* and of these specific regulations.

Compliance Mechanism

These Ministerial Regulations do not have specific requirements that must be enforced. They do support other sections of the Act and regulations which are enforced and the *Health of Animals Act*, S.C. 1990, c. 21, section 65, provides for punishment on conviction of refusing or neglecting to perform a duty imposed by this Act or the regulations.

For further information, contact:

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Room 303, Halldon House
2255 Carling Avenue
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0Y9
(613) 995-5433, ext. 4605

aviaire» pour tenir compte de l'appellation actuellement reconnue. D'autres changements pourront être apportés ultérieurement à la liste après consultations.

Solutions de rechange envisagées

Il n'y a pas d'autres solutions, car tous ces changements doivent être apportés avant que la *Loi sur la santé des animaux* n'entre en vigueur.

Compatibilité avec la Politique de réglementation et le Code du citoyen

Les règlements ministériels résultent de changements apportés aux méthodes utilisées pour fournir des pouvoirs découlant de la nouvelle *Loi sur la santé des animaux*. Ils font partie de tout l'ensemble qui permettra d'exercer une plus grande souplesse dans le contrôle des animaux, des maladies et des substances toxiques. Ainsi, le gouvernement pourra appliquer une réglementation plus intelligente tout en garantissant la poursuite de la lutte contre les maladies.

Répercussions prévues

On s'attend à ce qu'elles soient minimales, car ces règlements visent à maintenir le statu quo.

Consultation

On poursuit les consultations avec le secteur et d'autres groupes intéressés pour s'assurer qu'il sont conscients des changements découlant de l'adoption de la *Loi sur la santé des animaux* et des présents règlements en particulier.

Mécanisme de conformité

Il n'y a pas, dans ces règlements ministériels, d'exigences précises qui doivent être appliquées. Ces règlements renforcent en fait d'autres articles de la Loi et du règlement qui sont en vigueur, et l'article 65 de la *Loi sur la santé des animaux*, L.C. 1990, ch. 21, prévoit des peines sur déclaration de culpabilité pour avoir refusé ou négligé d'accomplir une obligation imposée par la présente loi ou les règlements.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, veuillez communiquer avec :

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Solutions de rechange envisagées

Il n'y a pas d'autres solutions, car tous ces changements doivent être apportés avant que la *Loi sur la santé des animaux* n'entre en vigueur.

Compatibilité avec la Politique de réglementation et le Code du citoyen

Les règlements ministériels résultent de changements apportés aux méthodes utilisées pour fournir des pouvoirs découlant de la nouvelle *Loi sur la santé des animaux*. Ils font partie de tout l'ensemble qui permettra d'exercer une plus grande souplesse dans le contrôle des animaux, des maladies et des substances toxiques. Ainsi, le gouvernement pourra appliquer une réglementation plus intelligente tout en garantissant la poursuite de la lutte contre les maladies.

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REVISED FRAMEWORK FOR THE PREVENTION & CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER



OBJECTIVE: To prevent entry and mitigate the impacts of ASF in the Americas

FOUR PILLARS FOR ACTION BASED ON A FOUNDATION OF SCIENCE

<p>PREPAREDNESS PLANNING 1</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Countries have a high state of readiness to swiftly control ASF should it enter the Americas region.</p>	<p>ENHANCED BIOSECURITY 2</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Key biosecurity measures are in place to prevent the entry of ASF into the domestic and wild pigs populations of the Americas, and mitigate its spread within these populations.</p>	<p>ENSURE BUSINESS CONTINUITY 3</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Mitigate the trade impacts of ASF on the swine sector, both nationally and internationally, while controlling and eradicating the disease.</p>	<p>COORDINATED RISK COMMUNICATIONS 4</p> <p><i>Expected outcome:</i> Effective risk communication on ASF with target audiences to encourage informed decision making, behaviour modification, and trust in governments and industry.</p>
<p>AREAS FOR ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increase readiness by validating ASF preparedness plans and testing response capabilities through exercises involving all stakeholders. ▪ Find solutions to deficiencies in ASF response capabilities and planning gaps. ▪ Optimize rapid ASF detection in the Americas by ensuring capacity for surveillance. ▪ Develop the appropriate process and capacity for rapid risk assessment to identify risks for ASF and inform policy decision as situations evolve. ▪ Continue to collaborate internationally on critical ASF research with particular attention to the development of vaccines and other tools to prevent or respond to an ASF outbreak. 	<p>AREAS FOR ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify key threats, gaps, and best practices in national border biosecurity, including establishment of appropriate level of activity, informed by risk assessment. ▪ Establish coherent collaboration to ensure border authorities share intelligence and best practices to mitigate the entry. ▪ Foster collaboration and compliance to address biosecurity ensuring responsibilities of all stakeholders are identified. ▪ Involve stakeholders in government, industry, and academia to gain an understanding of the wild pigs populations, and share best management practices at borders and the interface with domestic pigs. 	<p>AREAS FOR ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ensure risk based movements of animals and animal products domestically to keep industry viable in the face of an outbreak. ▪ To provide guidance and technical support for the development of common standards for zone establishment to gain wider acceptance. ▪ Proactively negotiate the recognition of zoning approaches with trading partners to reduce impediments to trade. ▪ Work with international partners and the OIE to develop globally recognized and accepted guidance on the application of compartmentalization for ASF to gain wider acceptance, both in infected and uninfected countries. 	<p>AREAS FOR ACTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop a consistent approach and strategies to communicating risk, adapted to the specific needs and circumstances, including disease status, of various countries. ▪ Identify or develop platforms and mechanisms for ongoing coordination of messaging and for sharing of communications-related information between countries. ▪ Establish mechanisms for monitoring public narrative on ASF to ensure information in media and social media is accurate. ▪ Develop notification protocols to update partners on disease status.



PARTNERSHIPS

Leverage existing partnerships or build new ones to engage stakeholders in areas which require collaboration to attain expeditious and responsive solutions to manage ASF. Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the partners in accordance with their respective mandate.



GOVERNANCE

Optimize the potential of existing governance mechanisms at international, regional, sub-regional and national levels to ensure effective coordination and co-operation among all parties to implement appropriate measures to achieve common objectives for the prevention and control of ASF.

