

African swine fever outbreak and surveillance update report



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

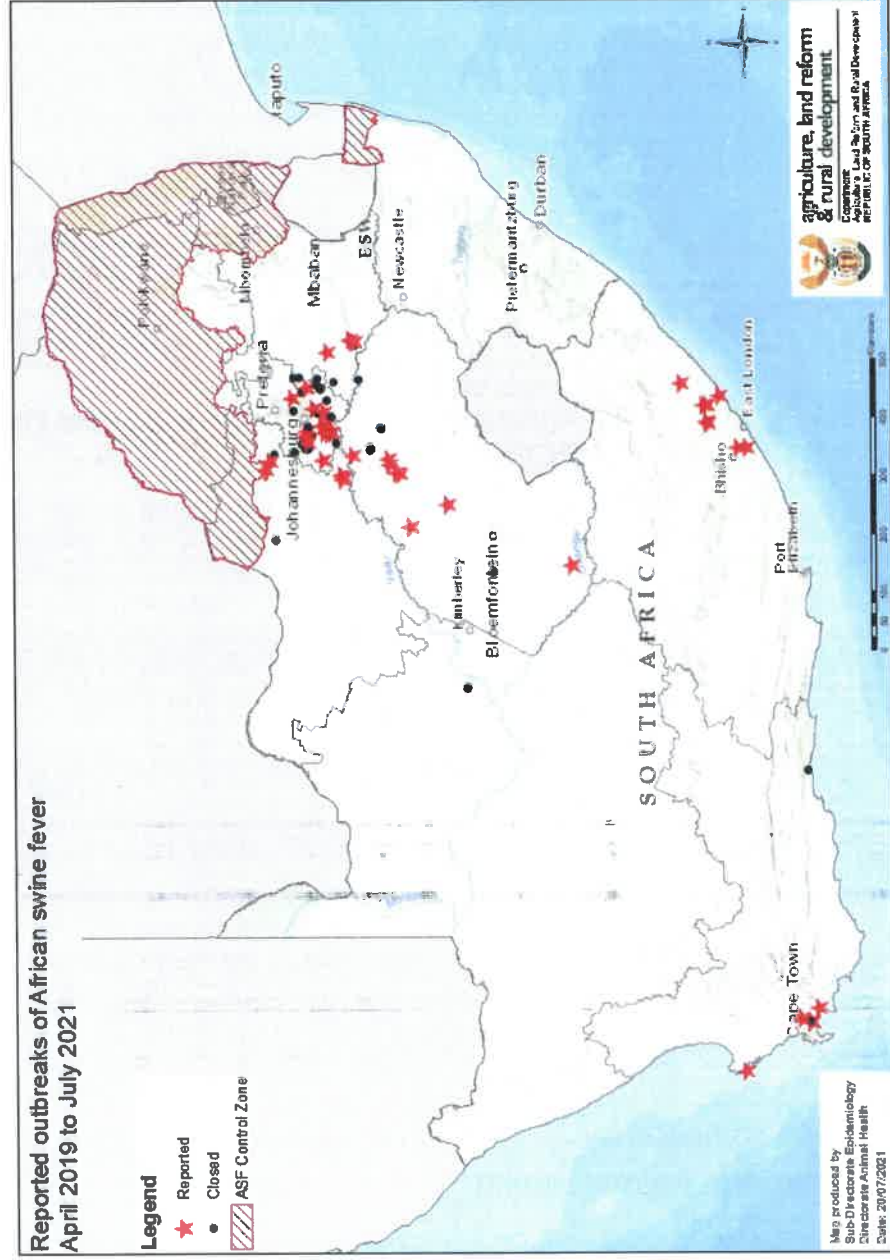
Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Report compiled by:
Directorate: Animal Health
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* This report includes all information as available by close of business on the indicated date

1. Introduction and summary

Since April 2019 South Africa has reported a hundred and one (101) outbreaks of African Swine Fever (ASF) outside the ASF controlled area of South Africa (52 open and 49 resolved as reported to the OIE) and one outbreak inside the controlled area. Current open outbreaks are situated in Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, North West, Limpopo and Western Cape Provinces.



Summary of outbreaks per province since April 2019:

Province	Number of open outbreaks	Number of resolved outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Last reported outbreak
Eastern Cape	8	0	8	26 February 2021
Free State	8	5	13	19 July 2021
Gauteng	13	28	41	7 July 2021
Limpopo	1	0	1	12 February 2021
Mpumalanga	4	5	9	17 May 2021
Northern Cape	0	1	1	11 September 2019
North West	5	2	7	2 June 2021
Western Cape	13	8	21	13 July 2021
Total	52	49	101	

2. Details of open outbreaks

2.1 Affected localities

Western Cape

The first outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF) were reported in the Western Cape Province in February 2021. The main area of infection are small holding farms in Mfuleni, north of Khayelitsha, thus far 17 properties in Mfuleni have been affected as well as one in the Wilderness area, one in the Saldanha area and one in the Strand area. The latest outbreak was reported in July 2021 in Wallacedene area of the City of Cape Town after suspected movement of pigs from the Mfuleni area.

Eastern Cape

The first reported outbreaks of ASF in the Eastern Cape were reported in the Amathole District in May 2020. The areas affected in 2020 were the Butterworth, Centane, Komga and Bongweni areas. The latest outbreak was reported in February 2021 in the Mqanduli area (King Sabata Dalindyebo local municipality). These outbreaks occurred in the free-roaming and smallholder pig sector.

Gauteng

Since October 2020 Gauteng has experienced numerous ASF outbreaks, with the original cases implicating pig trade at auctions as a probable source of infection. A wide variety of pig keepers have been affected, including informal, smallholder and commercial piggeries and pig traders. The last reported outbreaks being in the Randfontein state veterinary area in informal piggeries in July 2021.

Pig keepers in Gauteng are advised to be on high alert and practice strict biosecurity to prevent infection.

Mpumalanga

In total nine outbreaks have been reported in Mpumalanga province in four local municipalities from April 2019. The initial outbreaks were associated with auctions and trade in pigs, primarily affecting smallholder and informal pig keepers. The outbreaks in Victor Kanye and Dipaliseng local municipalities have been closed and open outbreaks remaining in Govan Mbeki and Lekwa local municipalities. The last reported outbreak in the Lekwa local municipality was in May 2021 on a smallholder farm.

North West

ASF outbreaks were reported in the Potchefstroom area from February 2021, the index case being a smallholder that experienced high pig mortalities. Subsequently two further farms in this area experienced outbreaks, including a commercial piggery. The latest outbreaks were reported in May and June 2021 in free-roaming pigs in the Rustenburg area. Investigations into the source and spread of these outbreaks are ongoing.

Free State

In March 2021 an outbreak in the Wesselsbron area (Nala local municipality) of the Free State was reported in a communal pig project. There may have been contact with wild pigs but the source of infection is being investigated. In April 2021 an outbreak was reported on a smallholder pig farm in the Parys (Heilbron) area in Ngwathe local municipality with other pig mortalities seen in the community, as well as an outbreak in a commonage in the Theunissen area in Masilonyana local municipality. From April - July 2021 five outbreaks have been reported Kroonstad area in Moghaka local municipality with communal and smallholder farms affected. One outbreak was also reported in the Philippolis area in July 2021 in pigs that roam freely at times, with suspected contact with warthog.

Limpopo

Within the ASF controlled area a single outbreak was also reported in a semi-intensive pig farm with some pigs kept free-range in the Thabazimbi area of Limpopo in February 2021 where contact with warthog is viewed as the probable source of infection.

2.2 Confirmation of diagnosis

For all reported outbreaks, confirmation of disease was done by positive PCR on organ samples (in some cases whole blood samples) at the ARC Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Transboundary Animal Diseases laboratory (OVR-TAD).

2.3 Control measures implemented

Control measures are based on quarantine and movement controls. Awareness drives highlighting essential biosecurity measures to enable pig owners to prevent infection of their pigs have been ongoing including the following recommendations:

- Confining pigs to prevent contact with other pigs or wildlife;
- Only buying pigs directly from healthy herds;
- Only feeding safe feed to pigs;
- Not allowing visitors contact with pigs;
- Before having contact with pigs, wash hands, only use clean clothes, shoes, equipment and vehicles (that have not been in contact with other pigs).

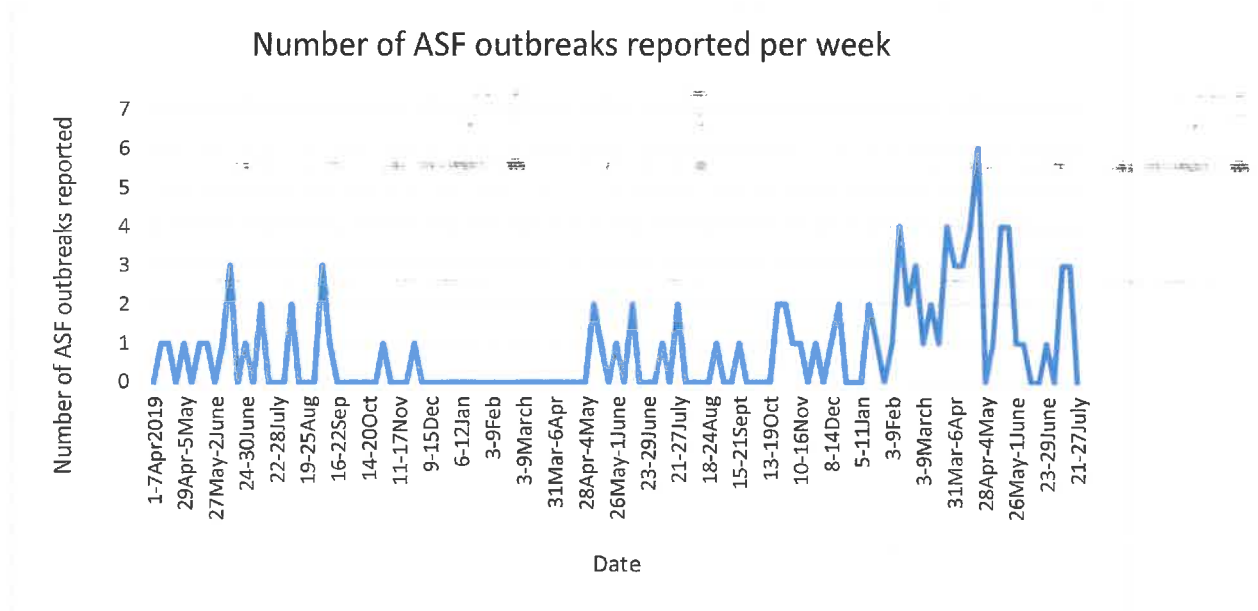
3. Epidemiology

Most of the reported outbreaks have had the ASF virus sequenced. OVR-TAD has determined two genotypes involved:

Genotype I was isolated from outbreaks in North West, Mpumalanga, Gauteng, Free State and Northern Cape.

Genotype II was isolated from outbreaks in North West, Gauteng, Eastern Cape and Western Cape.

The below figure shows the trend of ASF outbreaks reported per week since the first reported ASF outbreaks in 2019 in South Africa. Currently a rise in reported outbreaks per week is noted.



4. Surveillance

Surveillance for ASF remains ongoing. All movements of pigs from infected properties and areas during the period prior to and following diagnosis are traced and any suspect disease outbreaks in pigs investigated. If suspect clinical signs are observed, samples are collected to confirm the diagnosis. Some serological surveillance has also been undertaken in surrounding areas from clinically healthy animals.

The following is a summary of surveillance done on pig keeping properties, including follow up investigations of suspect pig herds with negative results:

Province	Number of properties visited and sampled	Number of samples collected
North West	92	355
Mpumalanga	51	196
Gauteng	49	157
Free State	17	24
KwaZulu-Natal	13	15
Northern Cape	2	43
Limpopo	7	40
Eastern Cape	41	210
Western Cape	24	38
Total	296	1078


Director Animal Health

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