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National Disease Control Centre

African Swine Fever Alert

Number 2 of 2020



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Poland

Poland reported its first outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in domestic pigs this year on 20th March. The outbreak occurred on a farm containing over 23,000 pigs in the Nowosolski area where the disease had been detected in wild boar previously. This represents the first outbreak of ASF to occur in western Poland since the disease first entered the country in 2014 (see figure 1 below). 135 pigs died with an estimated 229 pigs affected in the herd.

Poland continues to report cases of ASF in wild boar in affected areas in both eastern and western parts of the country. The nearest confirmed case of ASF in western Poland reportedly occurred just 13km from the German border.

Figure 1 below: Location of African swine fever outbreak in Poland on 20th March 2020



Rest of European Union

11 EU Member States remain affected by ASF. Romania and Bulgaria have reported 190 and 15 ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs respectively in 2020 to date. Both countries have both reported cases of ASF in wild boar also. Greece has not reported any further outbreaks in domestic pigs

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since its first confirmed outbreak on 5th February and the disease has not been detected in wild boar there.

Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Hungary, Slovakia, the island of Sardinia and Belgium have all reported cases of ASF in wild boar in 2020 but have not had any domestic pig outbreaks this year to date (see figure 2 below). Belgium reported finding 3 dead wild boar in the infected area. One of the carcasses found in January was determined to have died 3 to 6 months prior to discovery and two found in March had died more than 6 months prior to discovery.

Figure 2: African swine fever in the European Union (1st January - 27th March 2020)

Country	Date of last outbreak in domestic pigs	ASF Domestic Pigs No. outbreaks	Date of last cases in wild boar	No. of ASF positive wild boar events (involving 1 or more animals)
Belgium	N/A	0	10/03/2020	3
Bulgaria	17/03/2020	15	17/02/2020	207
Estonia	N/A	0	12/03/2020	18
Greece	05/02/2020	1	N/A	0
Hungary	N/A	0	14/03/2020	1042
Latvia	N/A	0	19/03/2020	77
Lithuania	N/A	0	18/03/2020	67
Poland	20/03/2020	1	20/03/2020	1428
Romania	20/03/2020	190	19/03/2020	356
Sardinia	N/A	0	07/02/2020	32
Slovakia	N/A	11	18/03/2020	40
TOTAL	-	218	-	3270

Source: Animal Disease Notification System

Conclusion

Vigilance is essential to preventing an ASF outbreak in Ireland. Biosecurity measures should be implemented by all pig owners which includes ensuring a pig free period of 72 hours is observed by anyone travelling from an ASF affected region and not allowing pigs to come into contact with contaminated clothing, vehicles or equipment. Pigs should never have access to food waste.

Further information including disease factsheets, biosecurity advice, posters, videos and updates are available to view and download from the African swine fever page of the Department website: <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/asf/>

