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ASF & Feedstuffs

There is concern with the advent of ASF in Asia that the virus could be introduced into North America with feedstuffs sourced from China. The Swine Health Information Center has come up with a list of questions producers and distributors should be considering.

- Describe the facility's biosecurity program to minimize the spread of pathogens from people, vehicles and ingredients.
- Describe the facility's employee training on feed safety.
- Describe the facility's pest and bird control program.
- Describe the facility's traceability program.
- Describe the facility's supplier approval program.
- Is the facility certified by a third-party certification body for food safety?
 - Third-party certification programs may include
 - Feed Additives Manufacturers (FAMI-QS)
 - International Organization for Standardization (ISO)
 - Safe Quality Food (SQF)
 - Safe Feed/Safe Food, etc.
- Does the facility utilize ingredients that were manufactured or packaged outside of the United States?
 - List the products manufactured/packaged in USA and those manufactured/packaged in China

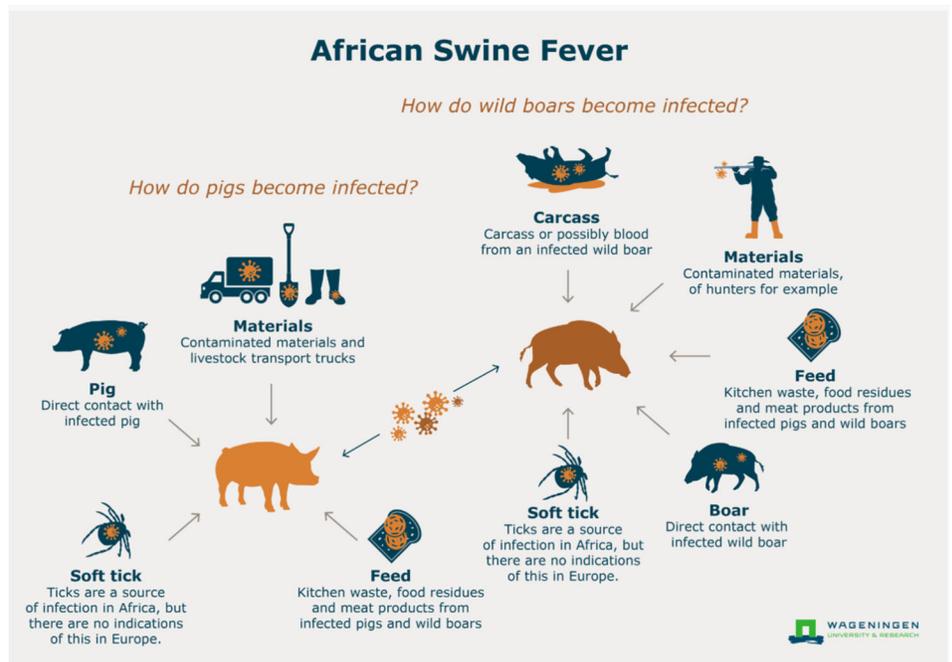
Resilience of ASFV across a variety of environmental conditions

Item	ASFV survival time
Meat with and without bone and ground meat	105 days
Salted meat	182 days
Cooked meat (minimum of 30 minutes at 70°C)	0
Dried meat	300 days
Smoked and deboned meat	30 days
Frozen meat	1000 days
Chilled meat	110 days
Offal	105 days
Skin/Fat (even dried)	300 days
Blood stored at 4°C	18 months
Feces	11 days
Putrefied blood	15 weeks
Contaminated pig pens	1 month

Journal, 2010; 8(3):1556. The times given reflect the known or estimated maximum duration and will depend strongly on environmental temperature and humidity.

What do we know about African Swine Fever today?

- ASF is a virus that causes high mortality (in domestic and wild pigs)
- No effective vaccine has been developed to date.
- Risk Factors for transmission into the U.S.?
 - Feed ingredients
 - Vitamins
 - Amino acids
 - Antibiotics
 - Imported products
 - Organic soybean meal.
 - Animal products from affected regions
 - Pork products from affected regions (pork hams, bellies and sausage from Europe or China)
 - People (although people can't contract the disease)
 - Meat products brought back into the country from affected regions
 - Fomites (Vehicles, clothing and footwear, equipment, etc.)
- The virus is hearty and can survive at room temperature for an extended period of time.



What can U.S. Producers do to mitigate risk of bringing in African Swine Fever?

African Swine Fever was the main topic of conversation at Leman Conference both in the lectures and outside in the hallways. The question asked is what can producers do today to mitigate risk given many feed ingredients are sourced from China if unable to source from the USA?

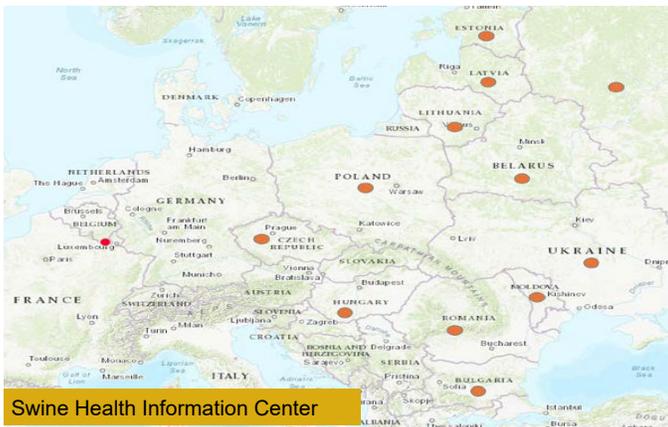
One option discussed is to quarantine and hold all feedstuffs originating from affected regions for a period of time post arrival into the United States. The length of time needed to hold these products and render any virus no longer viable will depend on the temperature and relative humidity at holding. Dr. Brad Freking of New Fashion Pork is imposing a 45 day quarantine for all Chinese sourced ingredients in his system. The hope would be that we as an industry can develop and impose a set of standards to follow.

Further research is currently underway looking at the effectiveness of feed additives in rendering ASF virus inactive. This would be best used in combination with quarantine & hold times.



← China

As of September 18th there has been 20 reported cases of African Swine Fever in China. The most recently reported case occurring in Anhui province of China on September 17th. See map to the left outlining cases.



← Europe

On September 13th ASF was confirmed in 2 wild pigs in southern Belgium, 8 miles from the border with France and 11 miles from the Luxembourg border. Two days later on September 15th another case of ASF was confirmed from wild pigs in the same region.

This is very concerning considering the distance between Belgium and previously known ASF positive countries in Eastern Europe. The red dots indicate countries where ASF has been confirmed.

Allen D. Leman Swine Conference

Once again, our Swine Vet Center veterinarians made a great showing at the Allen D. Leman Swine Conference, an international acclaimed educational event focused on science-based solutions to complex problems in the swine industry.

Dr. Paul Yeske

- Presented: "Effective gilt acclimation programs".
- Co-presented with Dr. Jose Angulo: "Understanding PRRSV infection dynamics in growing pigs in control and elimination programs".
- Panel discussion member: "Barriers to implementation of effective gilt management programs in the industry".
- Chairman of the Disease Research Session: "Swine Mycoplasma in the field".

Dr. Mike Eisenmenger

- Presented: "Transport biosecurity - the final step of marketing pigs".

Dr. Laura Bruner

- Presented: "Investigation of the role of PCV3 on reproductive losses".

Dr. Alyssa Betlach

- Presented: "Evaluating *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* detection by PCR using various sample types".

