

ASF SITUATION

The presence of ASF is notified to the OIE by its Members through the Six-monthly reports (as sufficiently stable) or through Immediate Notifications (IN's) and Follow-up reports (FUR's), when considered as an exceptional event. In 2018, this disease was notified through the six-monthly reports in 3 countries in Europe (Estonia, Italy and Lithuania) and 21 countries in Africa¹. South Africa and Zambia notified the disease in 2018 through the Six-monthly reports and through IN and FUR's. This report presents an overview of the events notified through the OIE's Early Warning System (EWS) by means of IN and FUR's. This information is publicly available². A classification of the affected population (by wild boar, backyard and farm swine) was made considering their different roles in the epidemiology of the disease.

1. Spatial distribution

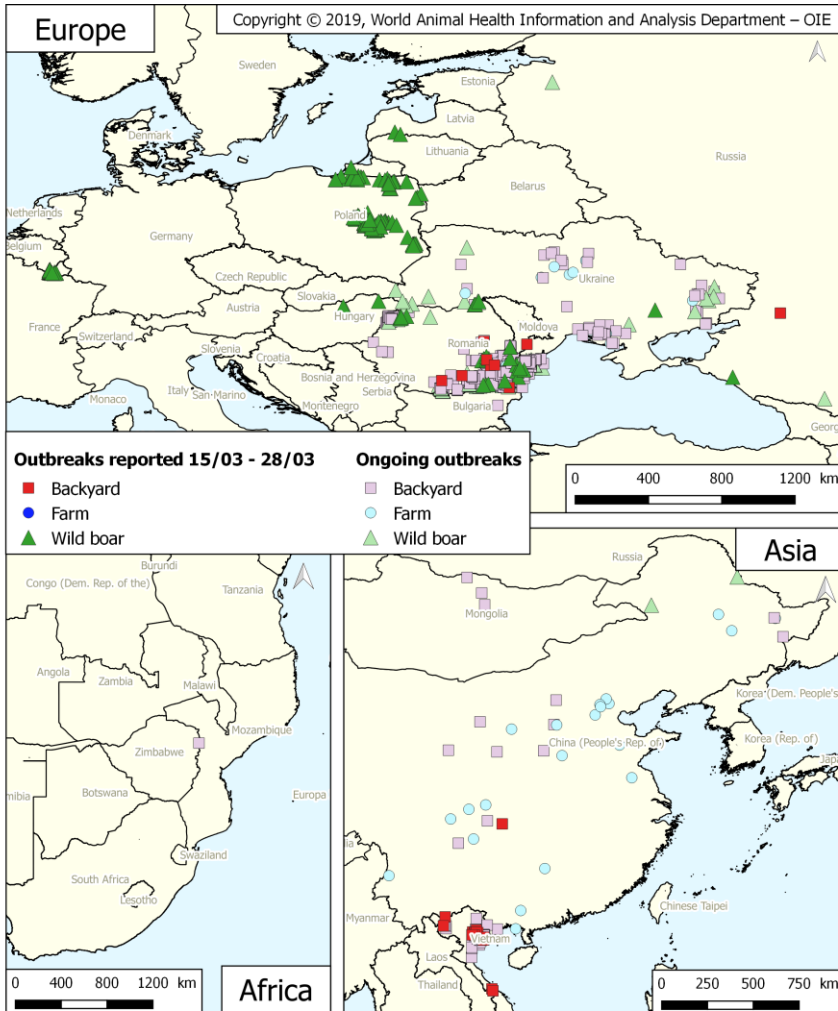


Figure 1. ASF outbreaks reported through the EWS within the period. The outbreaks notified between the 15th and the 28th of March are pointed with a higher color intensity compared to the ongoing outbreaks (lighter colors).

In this period, a total of **1,351** ongoing outbreaks and **265** new outbreaks were notified. In the previous report **1,320** outbreaks were notified as ongoing and **289** as new.

2. Impact of the disease

In this period, **97%** of all losses (2,877 of 2,963 animals) occurred in Asia, where Vietnam notified the majority of all losses (2,876 of 2,963). In contrast, China (People's Republic of) notified only 91 losses from a single outbreak; this portrays a decrease in the impact of the disease in this country considering the 3,322 animals notified as losses in the previous period. In Europe only 86 losses were notified from Moldova, Romania and Russia. In Africa, no new losses were reported.

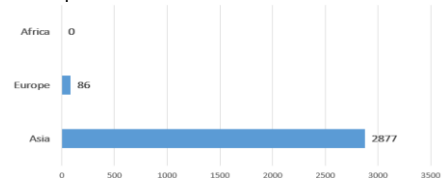


Figure 2. Losses* due to ASF outbreaks notified through WAHIS within the period (March 15 - 28, 2019)

The impact of this disease is measured in terms of losses*, which are calculated by the sum of dead and culled animals from the infected farm or backyard premises of the reported outbreak.

3. Changes in the epidemiological situation

Countries with new or ongoing outbreaks in the current period: 13 countries notified ASF through immediate notifications and follow-up reports, 9 in Europe (Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Latvia, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia and Ukraine) and 3 in Asia (China (People's Republic of); Mongolia and Vietnam). In Africa, Zimbabwe's event is still ongoing. No outbreaks were notified in farmed swine.

Asia

The spread of the disease continues in Vietnam, a total of 23 administrative divisions have been affected. China (People's Republic of) submitted an IN reporting the recurrence of the disease in Chongking. Moreover, Mongolia has not submitted updates to their ongoing situation, 3 outbreaks are still ongoing (see Figure 1).

Europe

In this region, a targeted surveillance program is continuing. Often, a single case in wild boar is notified as a single outbreak. Russia reported the recurrence of the disease in domestic pigs (last outbreak resolved in October 2018). Moldova notified the recurrence of ASF in backyard swine.

Africa

Zimbabwe notified that no new outbreaks occurred. Quarantine and surveillance activities are still ongoing in the country.

Member Countries are reminded that the OIE *Terrestrial Animal Health Code* provides comprehensive guidance to Veterinary Authorities for establishing a country, zone and compartment free of African swine fever (ASF) as well as recommendations relating to the trade of pork and pork products. These products, when handled in accordance with hygienic practices complying with international standards, should not present a risk of infection.

The OIE also encourages Member Countries to implement enhanced national sanitary measures on waste disposal from aircrafts/vessels/passengers and enhanced on-farm biosecurity measures – including the protection of pigs from untreated swill feeding and the effective separation between domestic pigs and wild boar – and stresses the importance of OIE international standards for risk management of transboundary animal diseases (TADs) to reduce the risk of exporting disease to trading partners. For an overview on the historical distribution of the disease since 2016, please refer to the ASF report N° 1 (available in the official website of the OIE).

¹ Benin, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Congo (Democratic Rep. Of), Congo (Rep. Of), Gambia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zambia.
² WAHIS interface