

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 20 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

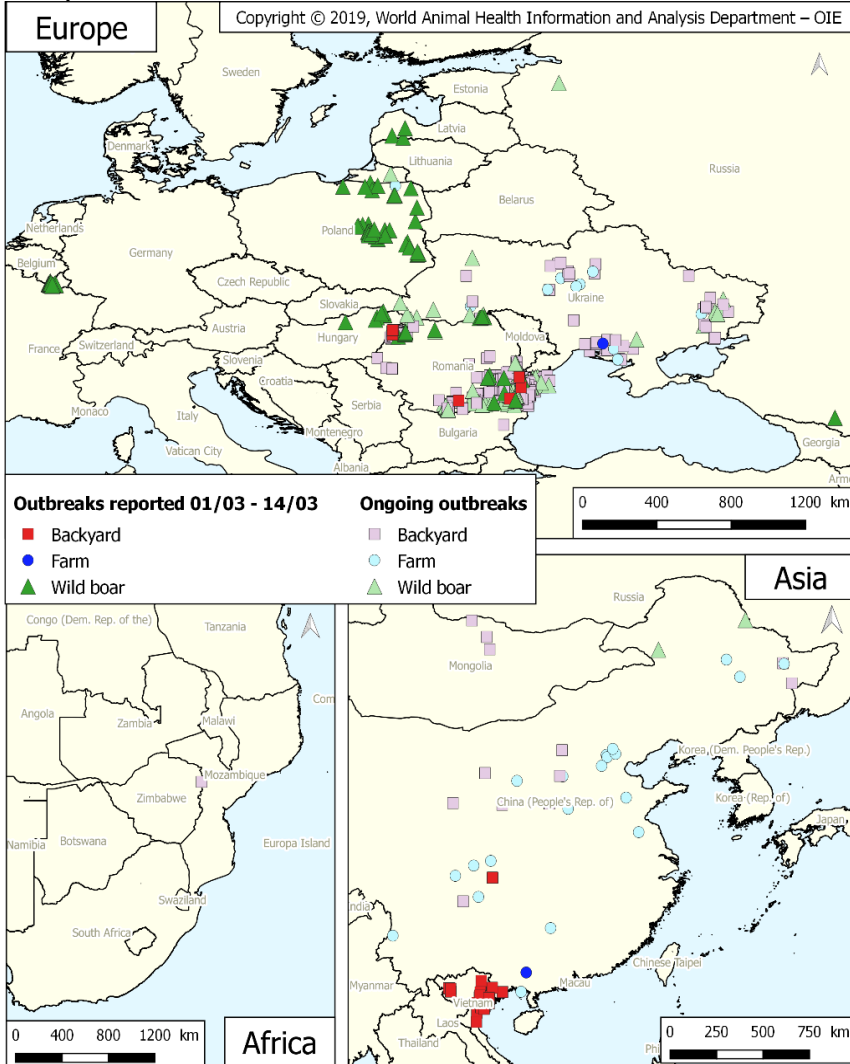


Figure 1. ASF outbreaks reported through the EWS within the period. The outbreaks notified between the 1st and the 14th of March are pointed with a higher color intensity compared to the ongoing outbreaks (lighter colors).

In this period, a total of **1,320** ongoing outbreaks and **289** new outbreaks were notified. In the previous report **1,233** outbreaks were notified as ongoing and **264** as new.

2. Impact of the disease

In this period, **96%** of all losses (8,918 of 9,266 animals) occurred in Asia, where China (People's Republic of) notified 3,322 losses. In the other hand, China (People's Republic of) notified 3,322 losses, which represents a decrease of 87%, compared to the previous period. In Vietnam the losses are a strong indicator of the extent of the situation as they increased from 2,022 to 5,596. All losses reported in Europe (348) were notified by Romania and Ukraine. In Africa, no new outbreaks were reported.

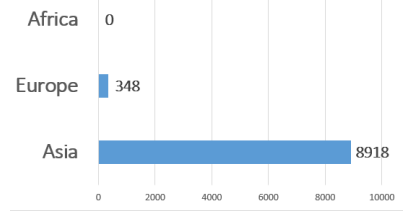


Figure 2. Losses* due to ASF outbreaks notified through WAHIS within the period (March 1 - 14, 2019)

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: 12 countries notified ASF through immediate notifications and follow-up reports, 8 in Europe (Belgium, Bulgaria, Hungary, Latvia, 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.

Asia

The spread of the disease in Vietnam is evident, as a total of 17 administrative divisions have been affected, compared to only 4 in the previous period. In China (People's Republic of) no new administrative divisions were affected. Mongolia submitted a single FUR, where they closed 8 out of their 11 outbreaks, leaving only 3 outbreaks as ongoing (see Figure 1).

Europe

It is important to highlight that Moldova closed the last ongoing outbreak in the country the 5th of March. In this region, a targeted surveillance program is continuing. Often, a single case in wild boar is notified as a single outbreak.

Africa

There are no new outbreaks in Zimbabwe, a single outbreak is still open.

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, Uganda and Zambia.
² WAHIS interface