

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

What is African Swine Fever?

- ASF is a highly contagious viral disease of pigs. ASF affects only members of the pig family (Suidae). There is no treatment or cure other than supportive care for the animals and there is no vaccine.
- ASF virus can persist for long periods in uncooked pork products. The virus is often introduced into a swine herd after the feeding of uncooked/undercooked contaminated pork products which are ingested by a pig. The virus is then easily spread to other pigs through direct contact with infected pigs or their waste, contaminated clothing, feed, equipment and vehicles, and in some cases, by blood-sucking insects, including some tick species (Ornithodoros).
- ASF does not affect humans and is not a public health threat. ASF cannot be transmitted to humans through contact with pigs or pork.
- There is no food safety concern. The United States Department of Agriculture does not allow importation of swine or pork products into the U.S. from countries or regions that are reported positive for the ASF virus. Even with this precaution, pork products from animals with ASF is safe for humans to consume.
- U.S. pork is safe to eat. U.S. pork is not affected by the ASF outbreaks in other countries.



For more information on ASF, please click on this link: www.aphis.usda.gov/animalhealth/swine/asf

One million pounds of illegal Chinese pork seized

On March 15, 2019, USDA-trained detector dogs played a major role in the seizure of roughly 1 million pounds of pork smuggled from China where there is an outbreak of African swine fever (ASF). Read more at <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/237c928>