

African Swine Fever

Join the actions to prevent its entry to Mexico

[Report on activities and results of the African Swine Fever Mega drill](#)
[Proceedings of the II African Swine Fever Forum](#)

Az afrikai sertéspestis

African swine fever is a highly contagious viral disease that affects domestic and wild pigs; it is characterized by causing purple or purplish coloration in the skin of affected animals.

What is its geographical distribution?

This disease is endemic in most of the African continent, although outbreaks have recently occurred in some countries in Europe and Asia. It is not present in America.

What or who originates it?

It is caused by a virus of the *Asfivirus* genus of the *Asfarviridae* family.

How is the virus transmitted?

The virus is found in secretions and excretions of infected animals (nasal fluid, genital exudate, semen, urine and feces), although the highest levels are found in the blood.

It can be transmitted by contact with people, vehicles, material or equipment, also by insects such as ticks of the *Ornithodoros moubata* genus.

What are the clinical signs?

In the acute form, pigs have fever, lack of appetite, vomiting, nasal discharge, difficulty breathing, mucous or bloody diarrhea, purple or purplish coloration of the skin (mainly in the ears, abdomen and thighs), weakness and occasionally abortions.

In the chronic form the signs are not so severe, the animals only show vomiting, diarrhea, thinness, inflammation of the joints and ulcers in the body.

Death of affected pigs occurs 7 to 10 days after the onset of the disease. Although there are cases in which they recover and remain carriers of the virus for the rest of their lives

How is the disease diagnosed?

It is necessary to make the diagnosis in an official laboratory, since it is difficult to distinguish clinically from diseases such as classical swine fever, Aujeszky's disease, porcine respiratory and reproductive syndrome, erysipelas, salmonellosis and warfarin intoxication, since the signs are similar.

How can it be prevented?

In our country there have been no cases of African swine fever, so it is necessary to control the importation of pigs, products and by-products, as well as strengthen biosafety measures in the Swine Production Units (UPP; *Unidades de Producción Porcina*), for example:

- Establish health protocols for people entering the UPP

- Wash and sterilize all vehicles that enter the Production Unit.

- Use sanitary mats at the main entrance and in each of the stations.

- Check the herd daily, in order to detect pigs with suggestive clinical signs.

- Do not move sick or dead pigs outside the Swine Production Unit, they must be isolated or, where appropriate, disposed of sanitarly.

- Periodically wash and sterilize facilities, material and equipment.

- Consider a period of sanitary vacuum between each production cycle.

- Implement procedures for the control of wild fauna and elimination of harmful fauna.

SENASICA carries out epidemiological surveillance on a permanent basis, with the purpose of detecting diseases in animals that could put the livestock heritage and public health of our country at risk.

Immediately notify the official veterinary services of any suspicious case; an official veterinary doctor will visit the production unit, obtain the samples for laboratory diagnosis and give the corresponding instructions.

For more information or to report suspected cases, contact us:

01 (800) 751 2100 (24 hours - 365 days)

01 (55) 5905 1000 ext. 51235 (Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.)

sive.dgsa@senasica.gob.mx

gestioncpa.dgsa@senasica.gob.mx