Joint work to eradicate African swine fever in the Caribbean

Mexico and the United States will support the veterinary services of the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

According to data from the World Organization for Animal Health (WOAH), since 2007 there have been roughly 55 thousand infection focuses of African swine fever (ASF) in 56 countries, the majority of which are in Africa and Asia.

Since 2018, the disease quickly spread through the world, and in 2021 the virus reached the Americas, oddly enough to La Española Island, the first territory where Europeans landed in 1492, and which currently is the territory of the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

North America, which is recognized as one of the main producer and exporter regions of pork meat products, has been prepared for over three years to prevent the introduction of this pig farming disease.

The work group called Porcinorte was established through two forums (one held in Canada, and other in Mexico), which has held 65 local meetings with the WOAH and, together with their respective industries, the veterinarian services of the three North American countries have carried out simulations to assess their response reaction.

This experience is now on service of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, since the United States (APHIS-USDA) and Mexican (SENASICA) health agencies will create technical work groups to reinforce the veterinary services in both Caribbean nations, to advance in the control and eradication of ASF in the island.

See more information at: <u>Mexico, the United States, the</u> <u>Dominican Republic, and Haiti agree to a joint strategy to</u> <u>eradicate the African swine fever in countries of the region</u>