

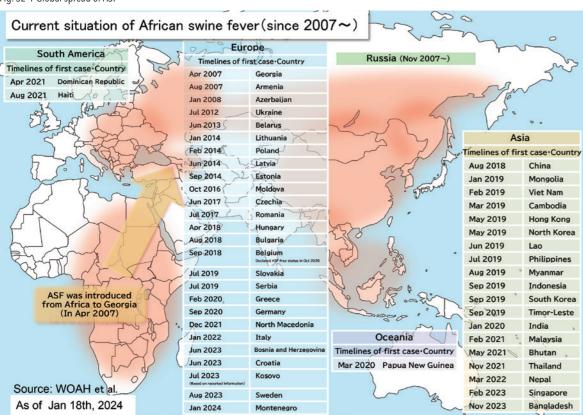
## **Preparedness for African swine fever**

rican swine fever (ASF) is a highly pathogenic disease with no effective treatment or prevention methods, and once it spreads, it will cause a long-term decline in productivity in the livestock industry and threaten the stable supply of livestock products to the public. In the Asian region, since the first outbreak was confirmed in China in August 2018, the affected area has continued to spread, increasing the risk of invasion into our country. Although there has never been an outbreak of ASF in Japan, various preparedness efforts are underway.

### Situation in Asia

ASF invaded the Caucasus region and Russia in 2007 from the continent of Africa, where it is endemic. Subsequently, outbreaks expanded from Eastern Europe to Western Europe, and in 2018, an outbreak was confirmed in China. Since then, outbreaks have expanded throughout Asia, including South Korea and Vietnam. In particular, in our neighboring country of South Korea, the first outbreak was confirmed in September 2019, and ASF is gradually spreading in domestic pigs and wild boars.

Fig. S2-1 Global spread of ASF



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## Reinforcement of border control measures

The most important countermeasure against ASF in our country is to prevent the virus from entering. For this reason, the Animal Quarantine Service conducts promotional activities to prevent meat products from being brought into Japan from overseas, as well as border control measures at air and sea ports. In Japan, monitoring tests for the ASF virus are conducted on some pork products carried by passengers on air flights, cruise ships, ferries, that have been detected during animal quarantine inspections at airports, etc. To date, more than 100 cases of ASF virus genes have been detected, and the live virus has been isolated in some cases. For this reason, inspection at the time of entry is being strengthened, including detection activities by animal and plant quarantine dogs and oral question-

ing by animal quarantine officers. The 140 animal and plant quarantine dogs are engaged in detection activities at air and sea ports throughout Japan and at international post offices. The number of animal quarantine officers was also increased to 526 by the end of FY2022.

In addition, from April 2019, the measures against the importation of illegal livestock products from overseas have been tightened. As of August 2023, there have been 6 cases of 10 arrests for violation of the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Disease Control on importation of prohibited products for passengers who brought meat products into Japan. In addition, inspections of international postal items have been strengthened in cooperation with Japan Post, resulting in the arrest of four persons in two cases.

Table S2-1 Countries of origin of illegal livestock products detected from passengers' luggage and international postal items

OPassengers' luggage as of 2022 (preliminary data)

	country	cases	weight
1	Vietnam	8,121 (14.9%)	7,869 (22.0%)
2	Philippines	7,411(13.6%)	5,184(14.5%)
3	South Korea	4,907(9.0%)	3,297(9.2%)
4	China	4,217(7.7%)	2,690 (7.5%)
5	Thailand	4,059 (7.5%)	1,787(5.0%)
6	United States of America	3,802(7.0%)	1,346(3.8%)

## OInternational postal items

	country	cases	weight
1	China	42,020 (79.4%)	46,811 (54.6%)
2	Vietnam	5,743 (10.8%)	33,750 (39.4%)
3	United States of America	1,095 (2.1%)	496 (0.6%)
4	Mongolia	952(1.8%)	691 (0.8%)
5	Thailand	891 (1.7%)	387(0.5%)
6	South Korea	288 (0.5%)	373 (0.4%)

Fig. S2-2 Detecting activity by the animal and plant quarantine dog



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## Improvement of animal hygiene management and preparedness for outbreaks

Thorough on-farm hygiene management is a basic measure for combating livestock infectious diseases, especially ASF, which cannot be prevented with a vaccine; it is necessary to improve on-farm biosecurity to prevent the virus from entering farms in case it enters

In addition to providing farmers with key information on on-farm biosecurity, livestock hygiene service centers (LHSCs) implement quarterly self-inspections at all pig farms nationwide to ensure that they are in full compliance with the standards for animal feeding and hygiene management. Farms that fail to comply will be given guidance, advice, recommendations, and orders based on the Act on Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Control.

Regarding emergency preparedness, the "Guidelines for the Prevention of Specific Domestic Animal Infectious Diseases Related to African Swine Fever" (published by the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries on July 1, 2020) has been established, which stipulates measures to be taken in the event of an outbreak. A diagnostic manual for ASF has also been developed, and ASF tests are conducted on domestic pigs and wild boars by prefectural and national laboratories. Although there has been no outbreak of ASF in Japan, MAFF and prefectural governments are conducting simulation exercises to prepare for a future outbreak of ASF. Moreover, we are strengthening our preparedness for the occurence of ASF in wild boars by, for example, conducting practical exercises on preventive operations such as proper disposal of wild boar carcasses.

Fig.S2-3 Key points on on-farm biosecurity

# Key points of biosecurity measures in pig farms for disease prevention ①Prevent the introduction of viruses through people, objects and vehicles **2Wildlife control measures** [hygiene control area] Disinfect the area inside weaning revention of wildlife (e.g.: Fencing erection (e.g.: netting erect Use dedicated shoe and clothing

①Prevent the introduction of viruses through people, objects and vehicles •Regular disinfection when entering the hygiene control area and the barn

- Keeping records on visitors who entered into hygiene control area
- ·heat treatment of the feed (above 90 °C, 30min.with stirring )which possibly contains meat

#### **②Wildlife control measures**

- Prevention of wild animals from entering using fences
- Prevention of contamination of feeding and watering facilities by feces
- of wild animals ·Tidying and cleaning around barns
- Properly store carcasses to prevent contact by wildlife until disposal

## Surveillance and measures on wild boar

Prefectures conduct on-site inspections of pig farms once a year in principle to monitor the introduction of ASF. The purpose of these inspections is to detect abnormal conditions in pig populations and to conduct diagnostic tests on such pigs. In addition, all cases of pathological appraisal at the LHSCs are tested for antigens of ASF after autopsy examination.

Since early identification of infection in wild boars through surveillance is crucial in the fight against ASF, each prefecture has been conducting antigen testing for both CSF and ASF in pigs or dead wild boars since September 2018. A new test method has been developed that allows for easier and faster genetic testing for CSF and ASF, and efforts are underway to strengthen surveillance. Furthermore, in preparation for the case of a positive test in a wild boar in Japan, specific response procedures have been established, and video materials are provided to wild boar trappers and hunters to inform precautions against cross-contamination. In addition, information on the prevention of disease spread among wild animals through human activities is disseminated to the public who enter mountain forests for the purpose of outdoor activities such as trekking.

Fig.S2-4 Study of burial method (above) and training of burial (below) of dead wild boars as preparedness for ASF outbreak in Japan



Fig.S2-5 Poster targeting hunters



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