

African swine fever outbreak and surveillance update report



agriculture, land reform
& rural development

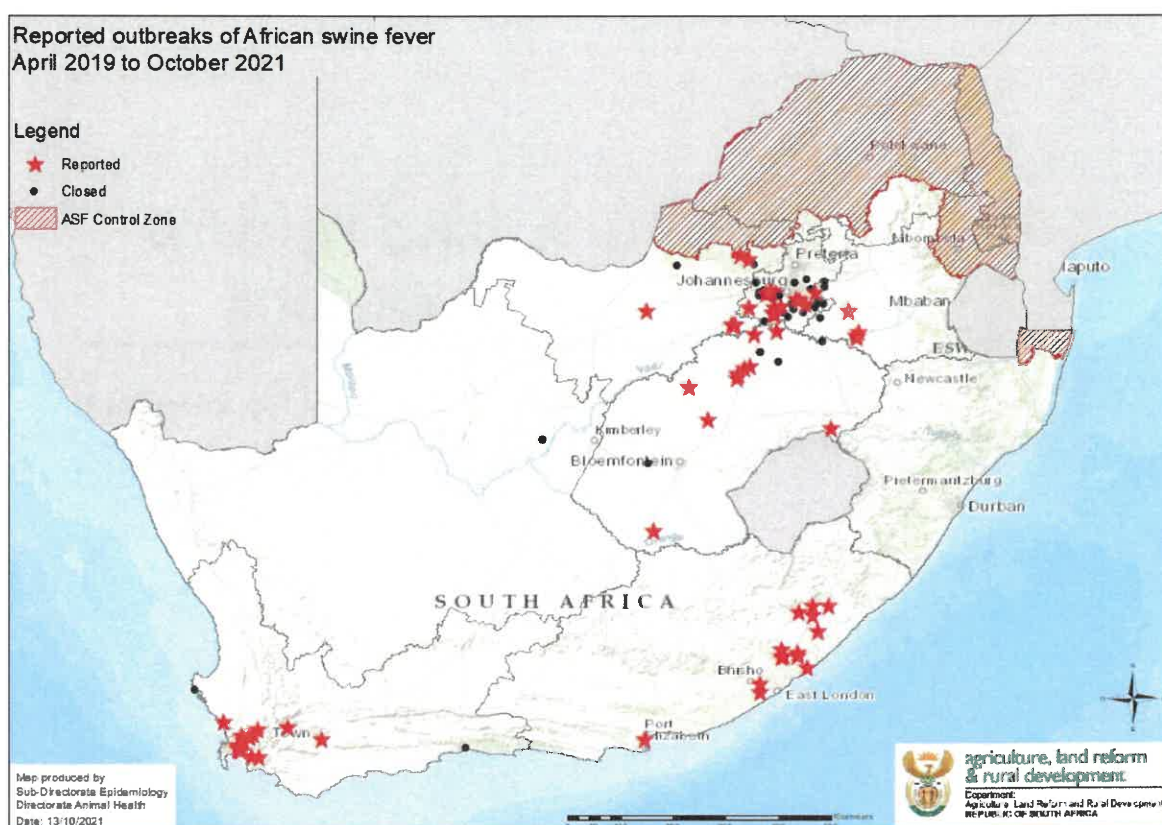
Department:
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Report compiled by:
Directorate: Animal Health
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* This report includes all information as available by close of business on the indicated date. All the updates contained in this report may not currently reflect on the OIE WAHIS system due to technical difficulties with the OIE reporting system

1. Introduction and summary

South Africa currently has three active outbreak events. The first started in 2019 and is affecting Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and North West provinces, with a total of 75 reported outbreaks (27 open and 48 resolved). The second outbreak event started in 2020 and is located in the Eastern Cape Province with 14 reported outbreaks (all open). The third outbreak event started in 2021 and is located in the Western Cape Province with 34 outbreaks (25 open and 9 resolved).



Summary of active outbreaks per province:

Province	Number of open outbreaks	Number of resolved outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Last reported outbreak
Eastern Cape	14	0	14	23 September 2021
Free State	10	4	14	30 September 2021
Gauteng	8	37	45	9 September 2021
Mpumalanga	3	6	9	17 May 2021
North West	6	1	7	3 September 2021
Western Cape	25	9	34	28 September 2021
Total	66	57	123	

2. Details of open outbreaks

2.1 Affected localities

Western Cape

The first outbreaks of African swine fever (ASF) were reported in the Western Cape Province in February 2021. The initial area of infection were small holding farms in Mfuleni, north of Khayelitsha, but has since spread to various areas in the City of Cape Town, also affecting Stellenbosch, Drakenstein, Breede Valley, Langeberg and Theewaterskloof. Mainly small farmers and informal pig farmers have been affected, with the latest reported outbreaks in September 2021.

Eastern Cape

The first reported outbreaks of ASF in the Eastern Cape were reported in Mquma municipality from May 2020. Further in 2020 Great Kei and Buffalo City Municipalities were affected. Since the start of 2021 King Sabata Dalindyebo municipality as well as Ngobo municipality have been affected. These outbreaks occurred in the free-roaming and smallholder pig sector, with the latest outbreak reported in a communal area in the Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality in September 2021.

Gauteng

Since October 2020 Gauteng has experienced numerous ASF outbreaks, with the original cases implicating pig trade at auctions as a probable source of infection. A wide variety of pig keepers have been affected, including informal, smallholder and commercial piggeries and pig traders. The last reported outbreaks being in the Germiston state veterinary area in informal piggeries in September 2021.

Mpumalanga

The initial outbreaks started in April 2019 and were associated with auctions and trade in pigs, primarily affecting smallholder and informal pig keepers. The outbreaks in Victor Kanye and Dipaliseng local municipalities have been closed and open outbreaks remaining in Govan Mbeki and Lekwa local municipalities. In Mpumalanga only communal and smallholder farmers have been affected. No further outbreaks have been reported since the last in the Lekwa local municipality in May 2021 on a smallholder farm.

North West

ASF outbreaks were reported in the Potchefstroom area from February 2021, the index case being a smallholder that experienced high pig mortalities. Subsequently two further farms in this area experienced outbreaks, including a commercial piggery. Outbreaks were reported in May and June 2021 in free-roaming pigs in the Rustenburg area. The latest outbreak was reported in the Tswaing area on a farm in September 2021.

Free State

From April - July 2021 five outbreaks have been reported Kroonstad area in Moghaka local municipality with communal and smallholder farms affected. One outbreak was also reported in the Philippolis area in July 2021 in pigs that roam freely at times, with suspected contact with warthog. The latest outbreaks were reported amongst communal and smallholder farmers in the Qwaqwa (July 2021) and Sasolburg (September 2021) areas.

2.2 Confirmation of diagnosis

For all reported outbreaks, confirmation of disease was done by positive PCR on organ samples (in some cases whole blood samples) at the ARC Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Transboundary Animal Diseases laboratory (OVR-TAD).

2.3 Control measures implemented

Control measures are based on quarantine and movement controls. Awareness drives highlighting essential biosecurity measures to enable pig owners to prevent infection of their pigs have been ongoing including the following recommendations:

- Confining pigs to prevent contact with other pigs or wildlife;
- Only buying pigs directly from healthy herds;
- Only feeding safe feed to pigs;
- Not allowing visitors contact with pigs;
- Before having contact with pigs, wash hands, only use clean clothes, shoes, equipment and vehicles (that have not been in contact with other pigs).

3. Epidemiology

Most of the reported outbreaks have had the ASF virus sequenced. OVR-TAD has determined two genotypes involved:

Currently the outbreak event in Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and North West have been affected by both Genotype I and II viruses.

The Eastern Cape and Western Cape outbreak events are affected only by Genotype II.

The below figures show the trend of ASF outbreaks reported per week per outbreak event series.

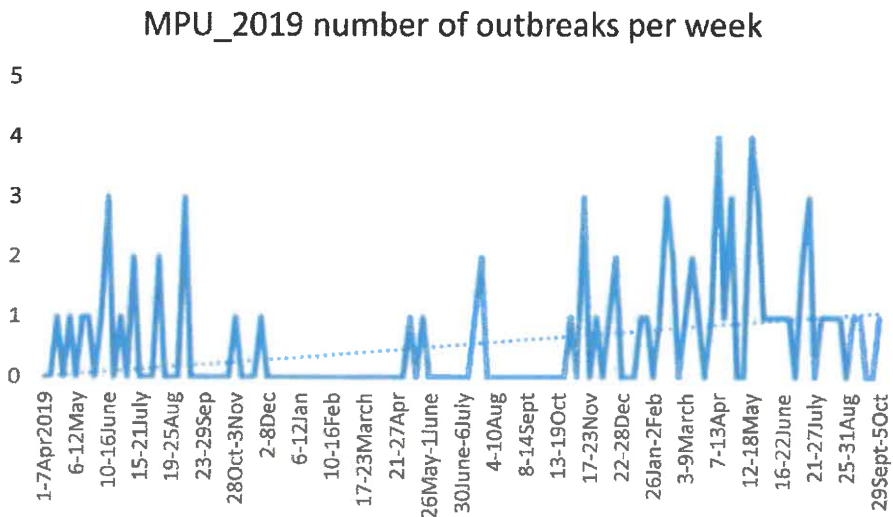


Figure 1: Outbreaks reported per week in the Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and North West Event

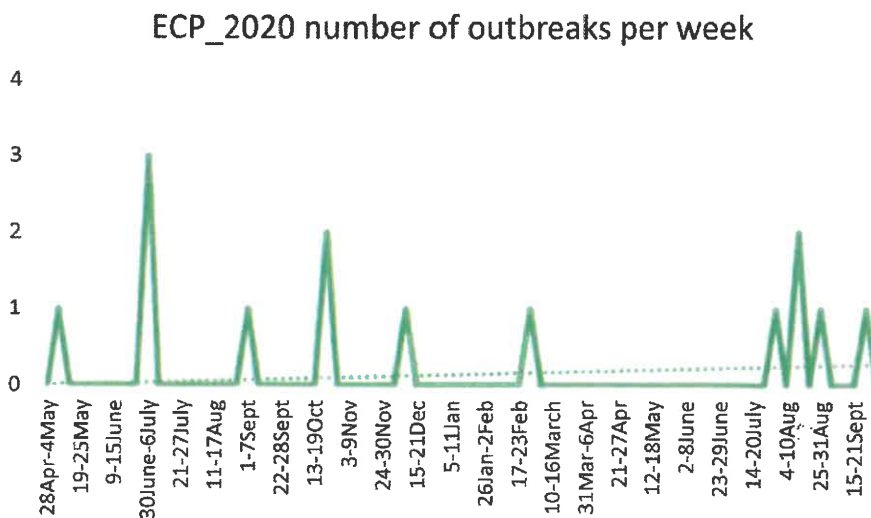


Figure 2: Outbreaks reported per week in the Eastern Cape Event

WCP_2021 number of outbreaks per week

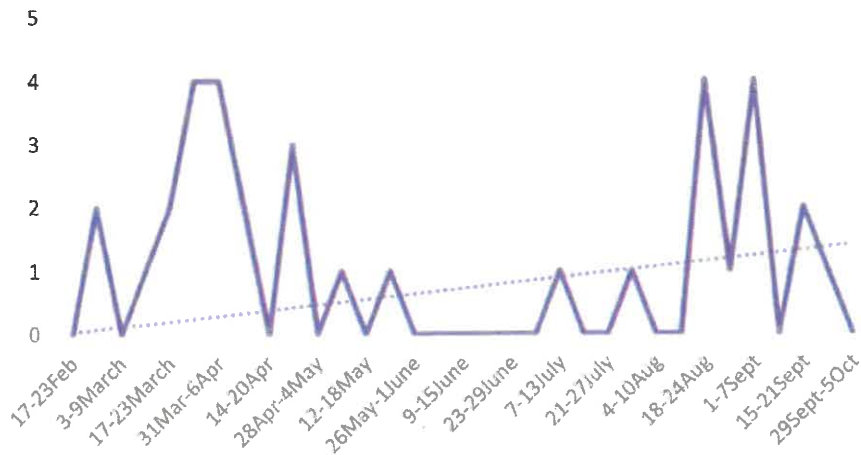



Figure 3: Outbreaks reported per week in the Western Cape Event

4. Surveillance

Surveillance for ASF remains ongoing. All movements of pigs from infected properties and areas during the period prior to and following diagnosis are traced and any suspect disease outbreaks in pigs investigated. If suspect clinical signs are observed, samples are collected to confirm the diagnosis. Some serological surveillance has also been undertaken in surrounding areas from clinically healthy animals.


Director Animal Health
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