

# African swine fever outbreak and surveillance update report

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## agriculture, land reform & rural development

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

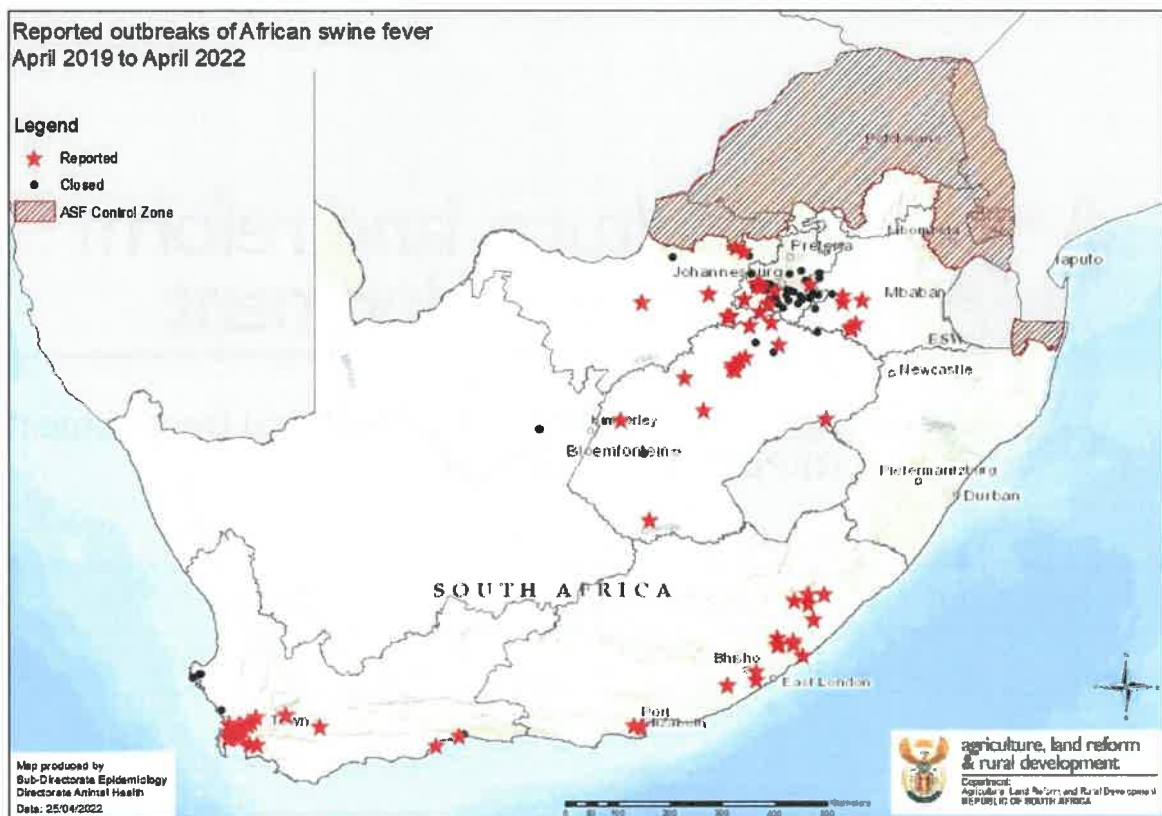
Report compiled by:  
Directorate: Animal Health  
28 April 2022\*

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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 98 reported outbreaks (43 open and 55 resolved). The second outbreak event started in 2020 and is located in the Eastern Cape Province with 16 reported outbreaks (all open). The third outbreak event started in 2021 and is located in the Western Cape Province with 45 outbreaks (33 open and 12 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 | 16                       | 0                            | 16                        | 16 February 2022       |
| Free State   | 15                       | 4                            | 19                        | 14 March 2022          |
| Gauteng      | 14                       | 43                           | 57                        | 30 March 2022          |
| Mpumalanga   | 7                        | 7                            | 14                        | 1 March 2022           |
| North West   | 7                        | 1                            | 8                         | 22 April 2022          |
| Western Cape | 33                       | 12                           | 45                        | 04 April 2022          |
| <b>Total</b> | <b>92</b>                | <b>67</b>                    | <b>159</b>                |                        |

### North West

ASF outbreaks were reported in the Potchefstroom area from February 2021, the index case being a smallholder, with two farms in this area subsequently experienced outbreaks, including a commercial piggery. Outbreaks were reported in May and June 2021 in free-roaming pigs in the Rustenburg area. In September 2021 there was an outbreak on a farm in the Tswaing area and in April 2022 an outbreak took place in the Ventersdorp state veterinary area, which affected a small holder piggery.

### 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. In January 2022 outbreaks were reported in Mossel Bay, George and Cape Town. The latest outbreak is in the City of Cape Town which has affected a commercial piggery (April 2022).

### Mpumalanga

No change since the previous update.

## **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)

## **2. Details of open outbreaks**

### **2.1 Affected localities**

#### Gauteng

In Gauteng a wide variety of pig keepers have been affected, including informal, smallholder and commercial piggeries and pig traders. The affected municipalities in Gauteng with current outbreaks are Ekurhuleni, Emfuleni, Merafong City, Ngwathe, Randwest City, Lesedi and Randfontein. Outbreaks were reported in March 2022 in Germiston and Randfontein state veterinary areas in informal pig traders. The latest outbreaks were reported in April 2022 in the Emfuleni and Randfontein Local municipalities, which affected mainly communal and smallholder piggeries.

#### 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. Outbreaks were also reported amongst communal and smallholder farmers in Sasolburg (September 2021) and Kroonstad area (reported in March 2022) areas with the latest being in the Ventersdorp (April 2022)

#### Eastern Cape

The first reported outbreaks of ASF in the Eastern Cape were reported in Mquma municipality from May 2020, with subsequent reports in Great Kei and Buffalo City Municipalities in 2020, and in King Sabata Dalindyebo municipality, Ngobo municipality and Nelson Mandela Bay Metropolitan Municipality in 2021. These outbreaks occurred in the free-roaming, communal and smallholder pig sector. Outbreaks were reported in villages in the Ngqushwa local municipality in October 2021 with the latest being in Port Elizabeth (February 2022) which affected mainly communal farmers.

### **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.

### **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.



**Dr Mpho Maja**

**Director: Animal Health**

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