

Stop swine fever!

Checklist for employees working at piggeries



19.10.2023

African swine fever is one of the most serious diseases that pigs can contract. There is no treatment for the disease. It requires all of the pigs to be put down and the piggery to be overhauled and kept empty in accordance with official regulations.

1. **Know the properties of the ASF virus**
 - **THE VIRUS IS ENDURING:** It remains infectious for months in meat and unheated meat products (salami, ham), wild boar carcasses and pig excreta (blood, faeces, urine, saliva) and for years in frozen meat.
 - **THE VIRUS IS DIFFICULT TO ELIMINATE:** The virus can only be destroyed by agents with a pH below 4 or above 13.5 or by treatment at temperatures of over 60°C for at least 30 minutes.

2. **Know where it is prevalent**
 - Spreads from the east: from Russia, Belarus and Ukraine to Poland and the Baltic states and Germany. Check the [current situation in EU](#).

3. **Know how the virus is spread**
 - Meat or unheated meat products, such as wild boar meat, salami-type sausages or smoked pork (from ASF countries), containing the virus end up in piggeries.
 - Food waste or excreta (blood, faeces, urine, saliva) containing the virus finds its way into piggeries on footwear, clothing, work or transportation equipment, supplies or vehicles.

4. **Know how to prevent the virus from entering the piggery**
 - Always use the hygienic lock and the protective clothing provided in-house. Wash and disinfect your hands before you enter the piggery.
 - Never give any leftover food to the pigs.

5. **If you travel to a country where ASF has been identified:**
 - Do not enter a piggery
 - Do not participate in wild boar hunts
 - Do not bring meat or meat products to Finland
 - Go for a sauna as soon as possible upon your return to Finland
 - Wait 48 hours before you enter a piggery in Finland
 - If you travel by car, wash your car when you arrive in Finland → At the car wash, select a programme that cleans the underside of the vehicle and also disinfect the mats.

The owner/foreman of the piggery is to go through this list with the employees/relief workers.