

About this dossier

Output on: 2021/02/01 15:51
(Europe/Luxembourg)

Status: closed (submitted)

Created: 2020/03/09 08:11

Last updated: 2020/04/21 15:50

Eradication: Final report for African Swine Fever 2019

For each approved annual or multi-annual programme Member States shall submit to the Commission by the 30 April each year an annual detailed technical and financial report covering the previous year. That report shall include the results achieved and a detailed account of eligible costs incurred (Art 14 of Regulation (EU) No 652/2014).

This form is for information only, no submission possible.

ID: 20200309-SFYEJ78S

Country code: FI

Reporting period

From: 2019

To: 2019

Year of implementation: 2019

1. Technical implementation of the programme

1.1 Description and evaluation of the evolution of the epidemiological situation, the technical implementation of the activities foreseen under the programme and the cost-effectiveness of the programme.

African swine fever (ASF) has never been detected in Finland. Continuous surveillance and monitoring for ASF is carried out by the Finnish Food Authority. A total of 683 wild boar (passive 15 and active 668), 96 domestic pigs (passive) and 29 farmed wild boar (active) have been tested for ASF in 2019, all with negative results.

The population of wild boars in Finland is relatively small, and according to Natural Resources Institute Finland, LUKE, www.luke.fi wild boar population has decreased (estimated 1500-2660 animals in January 2019 and 1100-1750 in January 2020). See appendix wild boar population 2020.

Active surveillance in wild boars

The surveillance programme covers the whole territory of Finland. The enhanced surveillance programme is performed in the South-Eastern area of Finland. The sampling scheme of hunted wild boar is aiming to get as many wild boars for sampling as possible. Samples from hunted wild boar are collected in cooperation with the Finnish Wildlife Agency and local hunters and hunters' associations. Samples (spleen, kidney, blood) of hunted wild boar will undergo virological tests (PCR). The Finnish Food Authority pays hunters for sampling ■■■ € / one hunted wild boar. Finnish Food Authority sends sampling and packaging material directly to hunters' associations.

Passive surveillance in wild boars

Target population of the programme is the wild boar population and the surveillance programme covers the whole territory of Finland. Hunters and general public have been instructed to report each dead or sick wild boar to the municipal veterinary officer. The sampling scheme of wild boar is aiming to get all found dead (min. 10 % of dead wild boar) and sick wild boars for sampling. Samples are collected by the municipal veterinary officer in cooperation with local hunters. Samples (spleen, kidney, entire long bone) of dead wild boar will undergo virological tests (PCR). The Finnish Food Authority pays for reporting █████ € / one dead found/sick wild boar.

Active surveillance in farmed wild boar

Surveillance programme covers the whole territory of Finland. Keepers of farmed wild boar are asked to take samples (blood) from slaughtered farmed wild boar. The sampling scheme of farmed wild boar is aiming to get as many farmed wild boars for sampling as possible. The samples (blood) of farmed wild boar will undergo virological tests (PCR). Finnish Food Authority sends sampling and packaging material directly to keepers of farmed wild boar.

Passive surveillance in domestic pigs and farmed wild boar

The passive surveillance programme covers the whole territory of Finland. If African swine fever is suspected, an official veterinarian will visit the suspected holding, check production and health records of the holding and carry out clinical examination and sampling of pigs, in accordance with the guidelines set by the Commission decision 2003/422/EC approving ASF Diagnostic Manual to confirm or rule out presence of the disease. In 2019 there were one official suspicion about ASF.

Sick or dead pigs will be investigated and tested for ASF even if there is no actual suspicion of the disease, if there is no obvious other reason for the findings. The samples (spleen, kidney, tonsils, lymph nodes, lung) of animal will undergo virological tests (PCR).

The estimated number of tests of wild boars to be carried out in 2019 was based on the number of tests performed in 2018. The number of tests performed in 2019 was slightly lower.

Targeted hunting is encouraged in order to target female wild boars. The Finnish Food Authority pays hunters for targeted hunting █████ € / hunted female wild boar. Hunters send, as proof of targeted hunting, a piece of uterus of hunted female wild boar (in the same package with ASF -samples) to the laboratory.

1.2 Details on the level of achievement of the targets set in the approved programme and technical difficulties.

The surveillance programme aims to early detection of African swine fever in case the disease would enter into Finland. The estimated number of ASF -tests of wild boar to be carried out in 2019 was based on the number of tests performed in 2018. Changes in wild boar population have brought about the change in numbers of the wild boar samples. The number of tests performed in 2019 was slightly lower than previous years.

Finnish Food Authority's report on the ASF-information distribution program 2019

In cooperation with the Customs and Finnish Border Guard, the Finnish Food Authority intensified border control and increased information for tourists in 2019. Information billboards and waste bins for food waste were added at several border stations. The Finnish Food Authority's leaflet on the restrictions on private imports of food of animal origin was actively distributed at border stations and on passenger trains running between Russia and Finland.

The Finnish Food Authority gained more visibility e.g. by acquiring digital advertising displays of short informational videos on the restrictions on private imports of food of animal origin. The visual media appearance of the Finnish Food Authority was renewed in port terminals. There the announcements were also given on Adshel-surfaces and posters. A digital display at the Helsinki-Vantaa Airport was introduced for distribution of information on the restrictions on personal import.

In collaboration with the Finnish Pig-Keeper Association, The Finnish Food Authority produced an awareness campaign against the African Swine Fever consisting of six animated informational videos about the matter. The videos were targeted to pig farm owners, hunters, vets, tourists, hikers, and forestry workers. Produced with a media office and using programmatic media buying, marketing, and advertising, the content of the six-week-long, targeted media campaign was shared on Finland's largest online media and social media channels. These campaign videos were displayed for the Finnish online audiences more than 6 million times and were viewed by a total of about 1.3 million Finns.

The Finnish Food Authority revised the brochures for travelers about the restrictions on personal imports of food of animal origin. The matter was also announced with paid advertisements in the industry's magazines like the Finnair Blue Wings airline magazine and the Baltic Guide magazine & online media targeted for travelers between Estonia and Finland. Tourism operators such as the VR Group (a government-owned railway company) and some bus companies distributed the ASF-guide booklet on the

restrictions on personal imports to their customers.

To communicate about the import restrictions and the risks of the ASF, the Finnish Food Authority also had a booth in Matkamessut (Nordic Travel Fair), which is the largest event of the tourism industry in Northern Europe. The Finnish Food Authority participated also in the OKRA Maatalousmessut Fair (Agriculture Fair) and the Eläinlääkäripäivät Congress (Annual Veterinary Congress). Several operators in the meat industry were met with to discuss the preparations for the African Swine Fever. Also, the Mini-pig hobbyists were reminded of the ASF risks through their member magazine.

The Finnish Food Authority prepared road panels warning of the ASF risk. The panels are designed to prohibit motorists and long-haul truck drivers from throwing the privately imported food or its remnants into the roadsides for wild boars. The panels are destined in lay-bys of the roads and parking lots on traffic stations but have not yet been installed since negotiations with the associated parties are still ongoing. Truck drivers were informed about ASF through articles and announcements published in trade journals of the field.

The collection of samples from hunted wild boars as well as the reporting of dead wild boars were intensified in co-operation with Game Management Associations, Natural Resources Institute Finland (LUKE) and hunting organizations. The aforementioned actions were prompted by reminding, informing and paying fees for hunters against the samples. The Finnish Food Authority also published announcements about ASF in trade journals of the field.

Seasonal farmworkers and foreign berry pickers were informed about ASF on the website of the Finnish Immigration Service (MIGRI). The Finnish Food Authority websites on African Swine Fever were improved and the information available in different languages was complemented. ASF-related information was promoted through various channels on social media.

1.3 Epidemiological maps for infection and other relevant data on the disease/activities (information on serotypes involved,...) (Please attach files of data using the PDF attachment feature) Use the textbox below to provide clarifications for the maps you attach, if needed.

African swine fever (ASF) has never been detected in Finland.

2. Tables for SWINE DISEASES PROGRAMMES monitoring outcome of the year
VERY IMPORTANT: Please fill out the following tables with figures corresponding to measures performed during the implementing period (1/1 to 31/12)

Table A - DISEASE SURVEILLANCE IN DOMESTIC PIGS

Region	Number of clinical examined holdings	Number of farms sampled	Type of farm	Number of animals sampled	Number of farms with serologically positive result	Number of farms with active infection detection	Number of outbreaks
Finland nuts FI 1 and 2	0	32	Commercial	93	0	0	0
Finland nuts FI1 and FI2	0	1	Backyard	3	0	0	0
Finland nuts FI1	0	5	Commercial	29	0	0	0
Total	0	38		125	0	0	0

Table B - DISEASE SURVEILLANCE IN WILD BOAR/FERAL PIGS

Region	Type of surveillance	Number of animals tested	Positive	% positive	Number of cases
Finland nuts FI1C5 Etelä Karjala	Active	317	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C4 Kymenlaakso	Active	118	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1B1 Uusimaa	Active	97	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D3 Pohjois-Karjala	Active	41	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI197 Pirkanmaa	Active	16	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C1 Varsinais-Suomi	Active	16	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C2 Kanta-Häme	Active	11	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D2 Pohjois-Savo	Active	15	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C3 Päijät-Häme	Active	9	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FID1 Etelä-Savo	Active	9	0	0 %	0

Finland nuts FI196 Satakunta	Active	7	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI195 Pohjanmaa	Active	4	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D4 Kainuu	Active	3	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D6 Pohjois-Pohjanmaa	Active	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI200 Ahvenanmaa	Active	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D5 Keski-Pohjanmaa	Active	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI194 Etelä-Pohjanmaa	Active	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI193 Keski-Suomi	Active	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C2 Kanta-Häme	Passive	4	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C5 Etelä-Karjala	Passive	3	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C4 Kymenlaakso	Passive	3	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI 197 Pirkanmaa	Passive	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1D6 Pohjois-Pohjanmaa	Passive	1	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1B1 Uusimaa	Passive	2	0	0 %	0
Finland nuts FI1C1 Varsinais-Suomi	Passive	1	0	0 %	0
Total		683	0	0 %	0

Table C - WILD BOAR ORAL VACCINATION

Region/Area	Month	Number of baits	Size of vaccinated area (km ²)
Total		0	0

Table D - DIAGNOSTIC TESTS AND RESULTS

Region	Animal population	Laboratory test used	Number of animals tested	Number of tests carried out	Number of positive results	Comments
Finland nuts FI1 and FI2	domestic pigs	PCR	125	125	0	passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C5 Etelä-Karjala	feral pigs	PCR	317	317	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C4 Kymenlaakso	feral pigs	PCR	118	118	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1B1 Uusimaa	feral pigs	PCR	97	97	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D3 Pohjois-Karjala	feral pigs	PCR	41	41	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI197 Pirkanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	16	16	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C1 Varsinais-Suomi	feral pigs	PCR	16	16	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C2 Kanta-Häme	feral pigs	PCR	11	11	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D2 Pohjois-Savo	feral pigs	PCR	15	15	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C3 Päijät-Häme	feral pigs	PCR	9	9	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D1 Etelä-Savo	feral pigs	PCR	9	9	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI196 Satakunta	feral pigs	PCR	7	7	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI195 Pohjanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	4	4	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D4 Kainuu	feral pigs	PCR	3	3	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D6 Pohjois-Pohjanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI200 Ahvenanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, active surveillance

Finland nuts FI1D5 Keski-Pohjanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI194 Etelä-Pohjanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI193 Keski-Suomi	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, active surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C2 Kanta-Häme	feral pigs	PCR	4	4	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C5 Etelä-Karjala	feral pigs	PCR	3	3	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C4 Kymenlaakso	feral pigs	PCR	3	3	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI 197 Pirkanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1D6 Pohjois-Pohjanmaa	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1B1 Uusimaa	feral pigs	PCR	2	2	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Finland nuts FI1C1 Varsinais-Suomi	feral pigs	PCR	1	1	0	Wild boars, passive surveillance
Total			808	808	0	

COMMENT / ADDITIONAL CLARIFICATION