



CCPA Group

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History

African swine fever was first described in 1921 when the causative virus spread from wild African pigs to their domesticated cousins and resulted in 100% mortality. It stayed in Africa until 1957 and then spread to Portugal (again 100% mortality), Spain (1960) and various other European countries in subsequent years. It persisted in Portugal and Spain until 1995 when it was eradicated.

In the 1970s it reached South and Central America including Brazil in 1978 – again it was successfully eradicated. Presently this disease is endemic in Sardinia and many sub-Saharan African countries. In 2007 it moved into the Caucasia region and the Russian federation and, in recent years, has moved slowly westwards into several eastern European countries, especially in wild boar populations. The disease is notifiable to the OIE.

The cause

African swine fever is caused by a large DNA Asfivirus. Complete genomic sequencing of 11 African and European viruses from different regions and hosts (pigs, wart hogs and ticks) and with differing levels of virulence has revealed significant genetic diversity. All of the 22 known genotypes of the virus are present in Africa, although genotype I is primarily present in West Africa. A genotype II, similar to those circulating in south-eastern Africa, was introduced to the Caucasia region in 2007.

Clinical signs

Wild African pigs are very resistant to disease and rarely show clinical signs. The incubation period is 4-19 days. Morbidity is usually 40-85%. Mortality varies from 90-100% with virulent strains and from 20-40% with moderately virulent strains in adult animals. Low virulent viral strains can cause 10-30% mortality.

The acute disease is characterised by loss of appetite, elevated body temperature (40-42°C; 104-108°F), leukopaenia, pulmonary oedema, excessive necrosis and haemorrhage in lymphoid tissues, haemorrhages in the skin, especially of the ears and flanks and mortality. Other signs include nasal bleeding, constipation, vomiting and occasionally diarrhoea. Sometimes melena (haemorrhagic discharge from the anus) occurs.

Abortion often occurs in pregnant females.

Olmix

Special Nutrients

WEDA

Phytosynthese

Technical Systems

Wisium