Perspectives of an exporting Member where ASF is not present

Dr. Jaspinder Komal, CVO, OIE Delegate, VP Science
Why is Canada concerned about ASF?

Top 3 Markets for Canadian Pork

- **U.S.**
- **Japan**
- **China**

- The Canadian pork industry generates $24 billion CAD in GDP and 103,000 jobs throughout the supply chain.

- Canada exports 70% of its hog production; (including live pigs, germplasm and pork/ pork products).

- In 2020, the Canadian pork industry exported 1.4 million tonnes valued just over $5 billion CAD to 93 export markets.

One positive case in Canada would stop **all** hog and pork exports immediately; markets could take months to years to reopen.
Preparing for ASF and the importance of zoning

- At the ASF Forum held in Canada in 2019, we devised a framework of actions to prevent entry and mitigate the impacts.
- Four pillars were identified which included Preparedness Planning, Enhanced Biosecurity, Business Continuity and Communications.
- Zoning is a key component of the business continuity planning strategy.
- With the wide geographic distribution of our commercial swine industry, zoning is a critical tool to ensure a detection in one part of the country does not affect the rest.
The use of zoning and zoning agreements

• The Okanagan Valley in British Columbia was an internationally accepted zone, excluded for the purposes of Bluetongue, for trade with Canada in 1988.
• This was the first example of regionalization/zoning accepted by the European Union.
• Canada has used zoning for Brucellosis and Tuberculosis control and eradication.
• Canada used zoning for trade in the 2004 and 2014 Avian Influenza outbreaks in British Columbia.
• Canada has used zoning in the Aquatic sector.
The use of zoning and zoning agreements for ASF

• For ASF, we have built upon existing, reciprocal arrangements with key trading partners to facilitate the recognition of zones.

• Canada and the US have a zoning arrangement whereby each country agrees to recognize each others’ zones for highly contagious Foreign Animal Diseases.

• A similar agreement is in place with the EU, and additional zoning agreements have been initiated with major trading partners.

• Other increased border controls include mitigation measures for feed grains imported from ASF positive countries, and increased numbers of detector dogs at airports and ports.

Canada, United States agree on application of zones to allow safe trade in the event of an African swine fever outbreak

From: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

Statement

May 22, 2019 – Ottawa, Ontario

Today, Canada’s Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), Dr. Jasprinder Komal, working in collaboration with the United States’ CVO, Dr. Jack Shere, issued the following statement:

“We are pleased to announce that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have agreed to allow safe trade to continue in the event African swine fever (ASF) is reported in either country.
Leadership and collaboration

- Canada holds the presidency of the Regional Steering Committee for Global Framework-Transboundary Animal Disease (GF-TAD) for the Americas and is chair of the Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on ASF.

- To date the SGE has tackled topics concerning prevention of entry such as border controls, risk assessment, and risk communications.

- The next meeting of the SGE will focus on business continuity including zoning.

- Canada has contributed to the global GF-TAD initiative on ASF through financial support for the secretariat at regional and global levels through the OIE World Fund.
Concluding remarks

- Zoning is a critical tool to facilitate continued safe trade, ensure food security, while controlling the spread of disease in domestic and wild swine.

- Veterinary services must be supported to address the threat of ASF regardless of their current disease status.

- The global community needs to work together to optimize tools for early detection, controls at ports of entry, strategies for depopulation and disposal, and the effective implementation of standards to facilitate safe trade.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!
OBJECTIVE: To prevent entry and mitigate the impacts of ASF in the Americas

FOUR PILLARS FOR ACTION BASED ON A FOUNDATION OF SCIENCE

1. PREPAREDNESS PLANNING
Expected outcome: Countries have a high state of readiness to swiftly control ASF should it enter the Americas region.

2. ENHANCED BIOSECURITY
Expected outcome: Key biosecurity measures are in place to prevent the entry of ASF into the domestic and wild pigs populations of the Americas and mitigate its spread within these populations.

3. ENSURE BUSINESS CONTINUITY
Expected outcome: Mitigate the trade impacts of ASF on the swine sector, both nationally and internationally, while controlling and eradicating the disease.

4. COordinated RISK COMMUNICATIONS
Expected outcome: Effective risk communication on ASF with target audiences to encourage informed decision making, behavior modification, and trust in governments and industry.

AREAS FOR ACTION

1. PREPAREDNESS PLANNING
- Increase readiness by validating ASF preparedness plans and testing response capabilities through exercise involving all stakeholders.
- Find solutions to deficiencies in ASF response capabilities and planning gaps.
- Optimize rapid ASF detection in the Americas by ensuring capacity for surveillance.
- Develop the appropriate process and capacity for rapid risk assessment to identify risks for ASF and inform policy decision as situations evolve.
- Continue to collaborate internationally on critical ASF research with particular attention to the development of vaccines and other tools to prevent or respond to an ASF outbreak.

2. ENHANCED BIOSECURITY
- Identify key threats, gaps, and best practices in national border biosecurity, including establishment of appropriate level of activity, informed by risk assessment.
- Establish coherent collaboration to ensure border authorities share intelligence and best practices to mitigate the entry.
- Foster collaboration and compliance to address biosecurity ensuring responsibilities of all stakeholders are identified.
- Involve stakeholders in government, industry, and academia to gain an understanding of the wild pigs populations, and share best management practices at borders and the interface with domestic pigs.

3. ENSURE BUSINESS CONTINUITY
- Ensure risk-based movements of animals and animal products domestically to keep industry viable in the face of or an outbreak.
- To provide guidance and technical support for the development of common standard for zone establishment to gain wider acceptance.
- Proactively negotiate the recognition of zoning approaches with trading partners to reduce impediments to trade.
- Work with international partners and the OIE to develop globally recognized and accepted guidance on the application of compartmentalization for ASF to gain wider acceptance, both in infected and uninfected countries.

4. COordinated RISK COMMUNICATIONS
- Develop a consistent approach and strategies to communicating risk, adapted to the specific needs and circumstances, including disease status of various countries.
- Identity or develop platforms and mechanisms for ongoing coordination of messaging and for sharing of communications-related information between countries.
- Establish mechanisms for monitoring public narrative on ASF to ensure information in media and social media is accurate.
- Develop notification protocols to update partners on disease status.

PARTNERSHIPS
Leverage existing partnerships or build new ones to engage stakeholders in areas which require collaboration to attain expeditious and responsive solutions to manage ASF. Clearly define the roles and responsibilities of the partners and respect their respective mandate.

GOVERNANCE
Optimize the potential of existing governance mechanisms at international, regional, sub-regional and national levels to ensure effective coordination and cooperation among all parties to implement appropriate measures to achieve common objectives for the prevention and control of ASF.