

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF)

Introduction:

African swine fever (ASF) is a highly contagious economically devastating hemorrhagic viral disease of pigs, warthogs and wild boar with high rates of morbidity and mortality. The disease is caused by *Asfivirus* which is a double-stranded DNA virus. **AFRICAN SWINE FEVER does not infect humans or other livestock species (No Zoonotic implications).**

Transmission:

- Direct contact via the oro-nasal route.
- Indirect transmission through contaminated feed and fomites.
- Vector borne transmission through soft tick

Susceptibility:

- Pigs of all age group are susceptible to the disease.

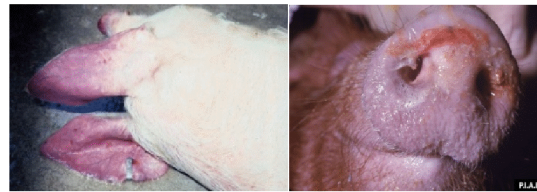
Susceptibility of Virus:

- It is inactivated by heat at 60°C for 20 minutes and by 2% sodium hydroxide, hypochlorites-2.3 percent chlorine (30 minutes), 1% formalin (30 minutes), 3 percent ortho-phenylphenol (30

minutes), sodium hypochlorite and iodine compounds.

Clinical Signs:

Acute form: fever (42°C), anorexia, listlessness, cyanosis, in coordination, increased pulse and respiratory rate, vomiting, diarrhea, and abortion in pregnant sows. Any survivors become carriers for life.



Cyanosis

Respiratory Sign

Sub-acute form: less intense symptoms as described for the acute form.



Sudden death

In coordination

Chronic form: weight loss, irregular temperature spikes, respiratory symptoms, necrosis of skin, chronic skin ulcer, arthritis and swelling of the joints. Pigs with chronic ASF will experience recurring episodes of

acute disease, which could eventually lead to death.

Prevention and Control

- Immediate quarantine of infected and suspected farms until diagnosis is confirmed.
- Establish disinfection points at entrances and exits of the pig farm/pig sty. Foot dip with disinfectant should be made mandatory at the entry point of each pig shed. Pig shed should be disinfected daily with 1% formaldehyde or 2% NaOH or paraphenylphenolic disinfectants.
- Personnel and visitors leaving the farm should ensure that shoes, clothing and equipment are disinfected.
 - Pigs should not allow them to comingle with other pigs, wild boar and other animals.
 - No diseased pigs should be sold to traders/ butchers. Stringent environment friendly measures should be adopted for proper disposal of farm waste.

- Proper disposal of dead carcass with deep burial of 6 feet deep using lime/bleaching powder.
- Purchase of new pigs from known sources only. Newly purchased pigs/piglets should be housed separately in quarantine shed for about 4 weeks.
- Swill feeding should be restricted and if practiced, it should be boiled properly before feeding.
- Farm utensils used for feeding of diseased pigs should not be used for feeding of healthy pigs.
- Movement of animals from one household to another/ animal fairs should be strictly prohibited.
- Movement of personnel (veterinarians and farm workers) to one farm premises to another is prohibited. No visitor should be allowed to go inside the farms.
- Management of animal health including regular deworming and minerals and vitamins supplements.

- If any pig suffers from disease, it should immediately be separated from the healthy stock and should be reared in quarantine shed till it is fully recovered.
- Proper record keeping of animal health and entry and exit of visitors should be maintained.
- Any suspected cases of ASF should be immediately reported to Veterinary doctors and to the District Veterinary Officer.

Note: Controlling the disease is a shared interest and must be considered a shared responsibility. There is no treatment and no vaccine available for ASF till date. The use of foreign manufactured hog cholera vaccine for CSF vaccination is strictly prohibited until prohibited.



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