



FIJI is African Swine Fever (ASF) Free and We want to maintain Our Freedom from ASF

Part 2

Prevention and control of ASF

Currently there is no approved vaccine for ASF.

Prevention of ASF depends on implementation of appropriate import policies and biosecurity measures, ensuring that neither infected live pigs nor pork products are introduced into areas free of ASF. This includes ensuring proper disposal of waste food from aircraft, ships or vehicles coming from ASF affected countries and policing illegal imports of live pigs and pork products from affected countries.

During outbreaks and in affected countries, classic sanitary measures may be employed including early detection and humane killing of pigs (with proper disposal of carcasses and waste); thorough cleansing and disinfection; zoning/compartimentalization; movement controls; surveillance and detailed epidemiological investigation; strict biosecurity measures on farms.

Biosecurity is the most important tool we have to prevent transmission of ASF. Strict implementation of basic biosecurity measures can greatly reduce the risk of ASF introduction to free areas.

However, implementing biosecurity requires a lot more than improving physical infrastructure, such as building a fence or installing a footbath. Effective biosecurity requires a change in the mindset, and therefore, the behaviours, of all people involved. Changing mindsets starts by building a good understanding of the risk factors for ASF transmission. Effective biosecurity relies on a combination of three key principles. These are the physical or management measures necessary to prevent disease introduction.

1. Segregation

Segregation is the most effective pillar of biosecurity. Segregation means preventing contact between a susceptible pig and a potentially contaminated animal, object or person. Newly introduced pigs should not immediately mix with current flock and they can quarantine for nearly 2 weeks in separated pens.

2. Cleaning

It is not practical to always prevent all contact between susceptible pigs and a potentially contaminated location, person or object. This is where cleaning and disinfection are important.

Cleaning is the removal of foreign material (e.g. soil and organic material) from objects and is normally accomplished using water with detergents or enzymatic products. Cleaning is a vitally important step. Disinfectants cannot work on surfaces that are dirty and contaminated with organic matter.

3. Disinfection

Disinfection plays key role in removing potential pathogens and disinfectants needs to,

- applied after a thorough cleaning;
- effective and approved for use against ASF;
- mixed to the recommended concentration;
- applied for an adequate contact time.

After the disinfectant has been applied for sufficient contact time it should be rinsed off thoroughly. This process is important because the disinfectant may have a harmful effect on new animals entering the disinfected area.

What we need to prevent ASF?

The list of essential biosecurity measures is not long. This list should be seen as the main goal of biosecurity in the backyard sector. From here, according to the farm size and the risk level, biosecurity requirements can be adapted.



Containment of pigs

In some areas, pigs (usually local breeds) are allowed to roam freely around the household and surrounding area, scavenging and feeding in the street, from garbage dumps, or from neighbouring land or forests around villages, sometimes only for a few hours a day, sometimes for days. Keeping them confined at all times is a crucial biosecurity step. However, it may be difficult to enclose pigs and change these traditional systems, since they allow farmers to grow pigs with minimum feed inputs, often the main reason why they keep pigs in the first place.

How you can help BAF prevent ASF incursion in Fiji

- Seek BAF Approval prior to importation of any Pork and Pork Products from Oversea Countries into Fiji.
- Currently personal importation of pork and pork products as personal allowance is prohibited thus requesting to passengers traveling to Fiji adhere to this BAF requirement to safeguard Fiji from ASF incursion.
- All importation of pork and pork products requires a BAF import permit and adherence to its conditions prior to importation, hence, kindly consult with your nearest BAF Office or use the below BAF contact details to seek BAF advice.



For Further Information Please Contact:

Biosecurity Authority of Fiji on 3312512 or Short Codes:
General Enquiries - 5994, Termites - 5996, Giant Invasive Iguana (GII) - 5995,
Animal Disease Surveillance - 5997 or email info@baf.com.fj,
visit BAF website www.baf.com.fj
f : Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
in : Biosecurity Authority of Fiji
t : @BAF40532394