

MEASURES IF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IS CONFIRMED

Measures if ASF is suspected

- If ASF is suspected, a veterinary inspector from the Department of Agriculture will visit the premises and carry out a clinical examination
- Samples will be taken (in accordance with EU protocols) for testing in the National Reference Laboratory (Central Veterinary Research laboratory, Backweston)
- Restrictions will be imposed on the premises
- No pigs may move on or off the premises. The restrictions will also apply to carcasses, pig genetic material, equipment, vehicles etc.
- A Temporary Control Zone may be declared around the suspect premises

Measures if ASF is confirmed

- Valuation – all pigs will be valued by a DAFM valuer
- Killing – all pigs on the premises will be humanely killed
- Disposal – carcasses will be disposed of, usually through rendering - though other options are available.
- Disinfection – the premises will receive a preliminary and final disinfection
- Veterinary investigation – an epidemiological investigation will be carried out to establish where the disease came from and where it may have spread to
- Compensation – the farmer is paid no more than market value

Controls in the surrounding area

- A Protection and Surveillance Zone will be imposed around an infected premises (a minimum of 3 and 10km radius respectively)
- The movement of live pigs off or on to the premises is restricted
- The movement of pig genetic material such as semen, ova, embryos is restricted
- The movement of other things likely to spread disease such as carcasses, pig products, waste etc. is restricted
- These restrictions will be eased based on the disease situation but EC Directive also sets out minimum periods for allowing movements
- Generally no movements will be authorised in the protection zone before 30 days have elapsed since preliminary cleansing and disinfection of infected premises or 21 days in the surveillance zone.
- The protection and surveillance zones will not be lifted until the following have been satisfied:
 - Cleansing and disinfection of all infected premises within the zone have been completed; and,
 - All holdings with pigs in the Protection Zone and Surveillance Zone have undergone veterinary surveillance and premises in the Protection Zone have had samples tested.
- The final round of veterinary surveillance cannot take place until 30 days in the case of the Protection Zone and 20 days in the case of the Surveillance Zone after the completion of preliminary cleansing and disinfection on the infected premises