

# SIGNS OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

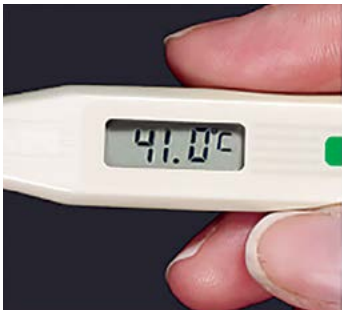
## Antemortem Inspection



Skin discolouration: Cyanosis, erythema, ecchymotic or petechial haemorrhage



Piling or huddling



High temperatures

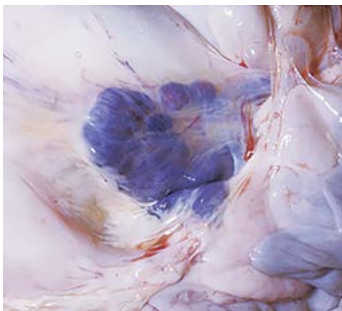


Diarrhoea, possibly bloody



Sudden, high mortality (farm or yards)

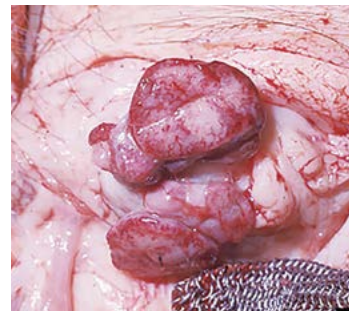
## Postmortem Inspection



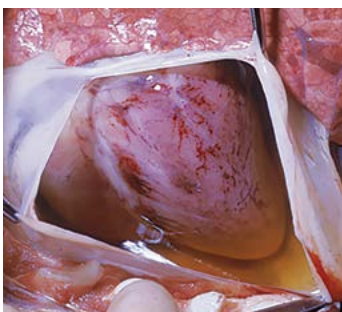
Haemorrhagic lymph nodes, especially gastrohepatic



Enlarged liver and spleen, possible haemorrhages



Swollen and haemorrhagic lymph nodes – anywhere



Areas of haemorrhage, including surface of heart



Petechial or ecchymotic haemorrhage on kidney



Serosal haemorrhage on any organ (bladder shown)

Pigs infected with ASF may look similar to animals infected with other exotic animal diseases including classical swine fever and porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS); as well as some diseases present in NZ such as porcine dermatitis and nephropathy syndrome (part of PCV2 infection), erysipelas, systemic salmonellosis, Glasser's disease, and pleuropneumonia. No single clinical sign or lesion is diagnostic for ASF but presence of multiple signs or lesions increases the odds. If you see any of the signs of ASF call the MPI Exotic Pest and Disease Hotline: 0800 80 99 66 or refer to a vet.

## ASF is spreading overseas

The disease showed up in Eurasia in 2007 and spread rapidly across the region, including Russia and parts of Europe. Late last year, the disease appeared in China and in recent months has spread across the country and infected nearby countries of Vietnam, Cambodia and Mongolia.

Inspections of passenger baggage have turned up ASF test-positive pork in a number of countries, including Australia.\*

The disease is spreading rapidly. ASF can be spread from sick to healthy pigs through contact with infected bodily fluids and excretions. ASF can survive for long periods in the environment and can persist for months to years in fresh and frozen pork.

## Possible routes for ASF transmission (once established)

- Feeding infected pork products
- Direct contact between infected and healthy pigs
- Feral swine
- Illegal food waste feeding
- Improper disposal of infected carcasses
- Biting soft ticks have been identified as a less frequent route of transmission
- Fomites (e.g. contaminated vehicles, equipment, footwear and clothing).

## What clinical signs might you see with an ASF Infection?

- High death loss
- Fever
- Red, blotchy or dark coloured skin
- Piling, reluctance to move
- Off-feed
- Diarrhoea, vomiting and abdominal pain
- Rapid breathing
- Abortions
- Haemorrhage.

\*<http://www.agriculture.gov.au/about/media-centre/media-releases/african-swine-fever>

Information and images courtesy: US National Pork Board and USDA:APHIS Foreign Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at the Plum Island Animal Disease Centre (PIADC).

**REPORT ANY SIGNS  
OF ASF TO MPI:  
0800 80 99 66**

