



Voluntary Report - public distribution

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Spain

Livestock and Products

Classical Swine Fever in Spain

2001

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Report Highlights:

The GOS has reported 29 outbreaks of Hog Cholera (Classical Swine Fever). No outbreak has been reported during the last 50 days. About 155,000 hogs have been destroyed in the control program since the first outbreak. With increasing confidence that this episode of the disease is winding down, the Ministry of Agriculture has loosened its controls on movements of hogs to market. The free movements of most Spanish animals in the EU has been reestablished. The impact of Hog cholera on Spanish production has been minimal. The last census dated in August 2001 shows increases of about 7.2 percent in the total stocks and 4.9 percent in sows number in comparison with the previous year. Pork production could rise to about 3.04 million tons in CY 2001.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Madrid [SP1], SP

Executive Summary

Following the first detection of case of Hog Cholera on June 14, 2001, Spain's Ministry of Agriculture reported in total 29 cases. The last three cases were reported Bellmunt province of Lerida in September. No cases have been reported since September 19, 2001. Random serological tests have been carried out in the surveillance area (10 km belt) and in the protection area with negative results.

The lack of cases during the last 50 days has raised the confidence of animal health officials in both the EU and Spain. According to official sources the disease could be under control. Their control efforts so far have included the destruction of about 155,000 hogs, of which about 30,348 animals were located in farms affected with outbreaks and about 125,000 animals in quarantines areas.

During October 2001, the quarantine areas in most of Spain have been discontinued. Only three counties in province of Lerida (la Noguera, Pla de Urgel and Urgel) remain with restrictions on the movement of animals. The number of animals in these areas is about 25,000 head. In these three counties, movements from to farm within the quarantine area and to the slaughterhouse are authorized. According to trade sources, the quarantine on these three counties could be lifted this week.

France lifted the ban on imports of live pigs from Spain several weeks ago.

According to the Spanish Health Authorities, they believe that Classical Swine Fever is eradicated in Spain.

The impact of the outbreak on Spanish pork production and consumption has been minimal. The new census of August 2001, reflects increases of about 7.2 percent in total animal number and about 4.5 percent of increase in production. Pork production could rise to about 3.04 million tons in CY 2001. Sow stocks have increased by about five percent. As a result of this increase in production, prices have declined from 250 (\$1.37) in July 2001 to 160 pesetas (\$0.87) per kilogram of live animal in November 2001. Currently the production cost are about 150 pesetas per kilogram of live animal. According to swine farmers low prices are expected for the next few months.