

Voluntary Report – Voluntary - Public Distribution

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Report Name: African Swine Fever Update

Country: Romania

Post: Bucharest

Report Category: Agricultural Situation, Livestock and Products, Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

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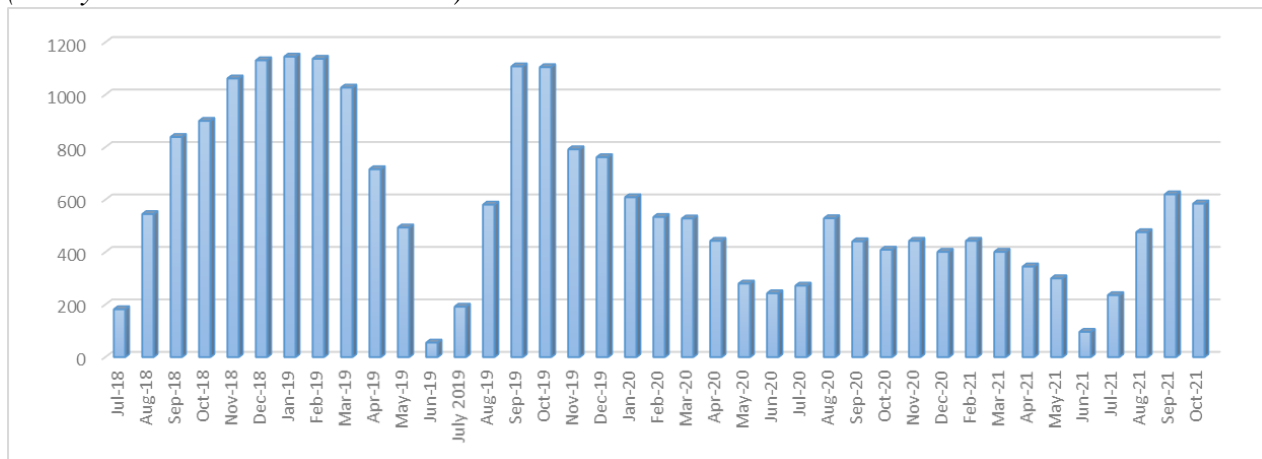
Report Highlights:

The number of active African Swine Fever (ASF) outbreaks in Romania continues to remain high. At the end of October 2021, there was a 43 percent surge in the number of outbreaks from the same time in 2020. Commercial farms continue to be impacted directly when the virus is confirmed at the farm level, or indirectly by restrictions imposed on animal movement. The draft ASF surveillance and control action plan is still pending the Romanian government's approval.

ASF Status

According to the data published by the National Veterinary and Food Safety Authority (ANSVSA), 4,255 outbreaks have been confirmed since 2019 through the end of October 2021. The number of ASF-positive wild boars reached 5,895 cases throughout Romania. As may be observed in chart 1, the number of outbreaks in 2021 remains above 2020's figures, although below the levels of 2018 and 2019. Currently, there are 585 ASF active outbreaks, including 24 in commercial farms. Three quarters of these outbreaks are in the south and south-east of Romania. Backyard holdings remain dominant in terms of the number of outbreaks (over 90 percent), but commercial farms are the most affected in terms of culled inventories and impact on supply chain. Based on the reports submitted to the World Organization for Animal Health, since the first ASF detection in July 2017, the number of culled hogs under the ASF eradication program exceeded one million in October 2021.

Chart 1: Romania – Monthly Number of Active Outbreaks
(Backyard and Commercial Farms)



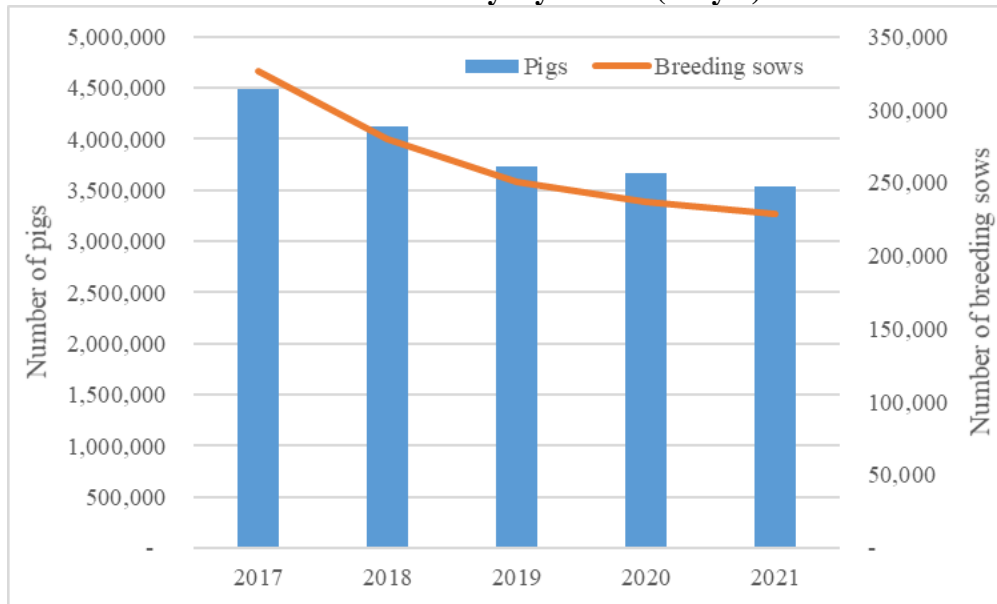
Source: ANSVSA

In terms of regulatory framework, no notable changes occurred over the past several months. The draft emergency ordinance, posted by ANSVSA for public consultation in March 2021, has not moved through the approval chain to the disappointment of the domestic hog industry. At the same time, at the end of June 2021, a few members of the Romanian Parliament submitted for debate a draft law for swine farms and for fighting the ASF. The first chamber to debate the bill is the Senate and several committees are to provide input before the text is submitted for debate and approval to the second chamber, the Chamber of Deputies.

Swine Inventory

Romania's hog inventory continues to trend downward, with a 3.5 percent year-on-year decline in May 2021 (Chart 2). The declining trend, which started in 2016, accelerated in 2018 and 2019 due to the risk of ASF infection. The decline seemed to get milder over the past two years. Nevertheless, the commercial hog sector witnessed an avalanche of ASF confirmations in the second part of 2021, which may be reflected in the December 2021 survey. Similarly to pigs, the pace of decline in case of breeding sows slowed down, falling by 3.24 percent in May 2021 over the previous year, as compared to 15 percent or 10 percent drop in 2018 and 2019, respectively.

Chart 2. Romanian Swine Inventory Dynamics (May 1)



Source: National Institute of Statistics

Previous reports on this topic:

[Romania: ASF Continues to Plague Romania's Hog Sector | USDA Foreign Agricultural Service](#)

[Romania: African Swine Fever Update | USDA Foreign Agricultural Service](#)

Attachments:

No Attachments.