African Swine Fever (ASF)

What is ASF?

- It is a highly contagious viral disease of domestic and feral swine that is not currently found in the United States.
- There is currently no cure or vaccine for animals infected with ASF.



How can pigs become infected?

- By eating uncooked/undercooked contaminated pork products.
- By direct contact with an infected pig or its waste.
- Via contact with contaminated clothing, farm equipment, or vehicles.
- o Ornithodoros species ticks may transmit the ASF virus by feeding on pigs.

What are some signs of pigs infected with ASF?

- High fever
- Red, blotchy skin or skin lesions
- Diarrhea and vomiting
- Decreased appetite and weakness
- o Respiratory difficulty and coughing

Can humans become infected with ASF?

 No, ASF does not affect humans and is not a public health threat. ASF cannot be transmitted to humans through contact with pigs or pork products.

Are there food safety concerns?

- No, pork products from animals with ASF are safe for humans to consume.
- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) does not allow the importation of swine or pork products into the U.S. from countries/regions that have the ASF virus.
- o U.S. pork is safe to eat. U.S. pork is not affected by the ASF outbreaks in other countries.

Tips for protecting pigs in the United States:

- Do not bring any pork or pork products into the United States after international travel to ASFaffected countries.
- Practice good biosecurity around pigs: wear clean clothes and shoes when entering a pig premises, and do not visit multiple pig farms in a single day without changing clothes between.
 - If you own pigs, work with your veterinarian to assess your biosecurity plans.
 - See USDA's <u>Protect Our Pigs website</u> for biosecurity plan ideas.
- If you notice a pig acting sick, especially with the signs noted above, contact a veterinarian, or state or federal animal health official.

