

# African swine fever outbreak and surveillance update report

---



## agriculture, land reform & rural development

---

Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Report compiled by:  
Directorate: Animal Health  
3 August 2023\*

---

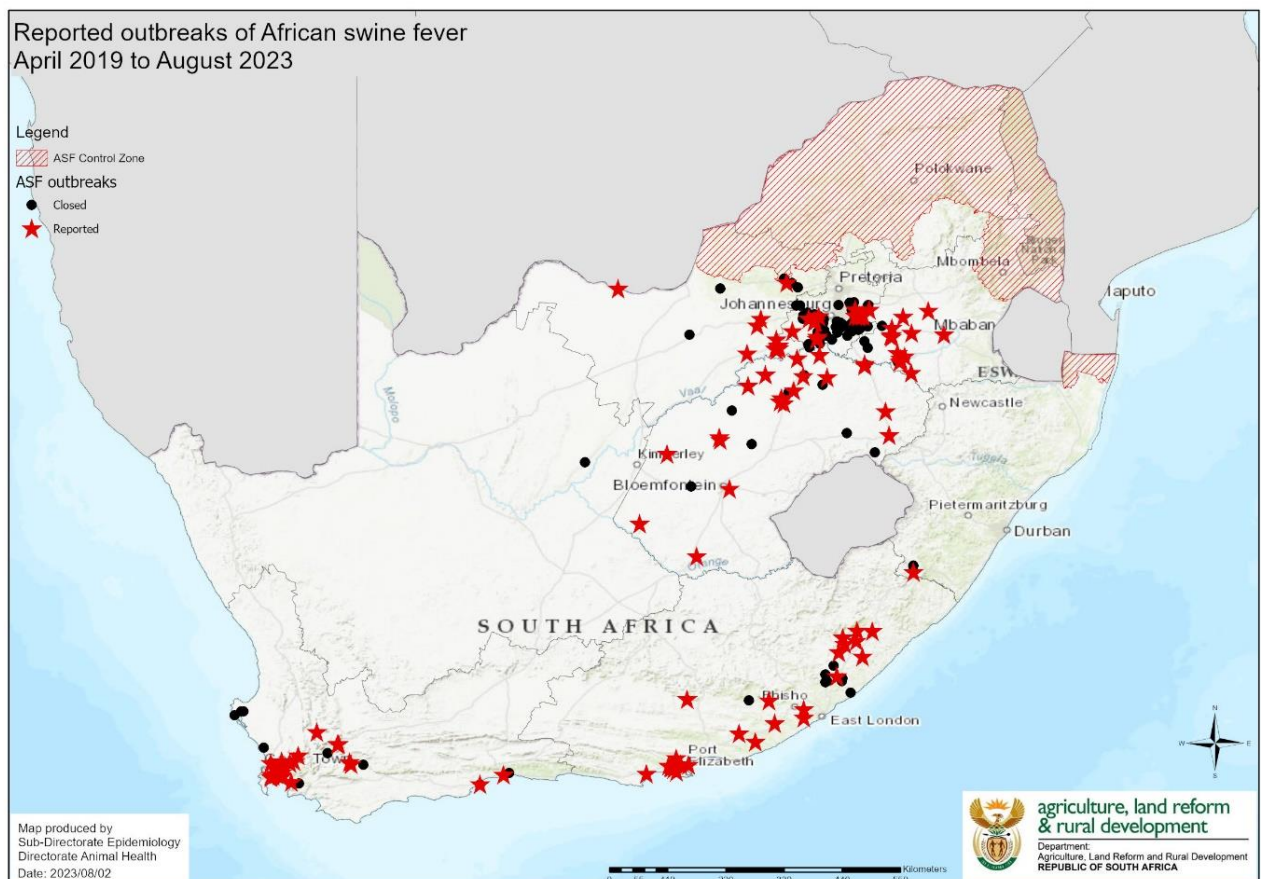
\* This report includes all information as available by close of business on the indicated date. All the updates contained in this report may not currently reflect on the OIE WAHIS system due to technical difficulties with the OIE reporting system \*

# 1. Introduction and summary

South Africa currently has four open ASF outbreak events, and one outbreak event which was resolved and closed with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

- The first outbreak event started in 2019 and is affecting Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and North West provinces, with a total of 160 reported outbreaks (60 open and 100 resolved).
- The second outbreak event started in 2020 and is located in the Eastern Cape Province with 33 reported outbreaks (25 open and 8 resolved).
- The third outbreak event started in 2021 and is located in the Western Cape Province with 53 outbreaks (36 open and 17 resolved).
- The fourth outbreak event started in 2022 and is located in the KwaZulu-Natal Province with 2 reported outbreaks (both resolved) and has now been closed.
- The fifth outbreak event started in 2023 in KwaZulu-Natal with 1 reported outbreak (1 open).

In 2022 there have also been two reported cases in Limpopo within the legislated ASF controlled area.



## Summary of active outbreaks per province:

Province	Number of open outbreaks	Number of resolved outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Last reported outbreak
Eastern Cape	25	8	33	24 July 2023
Free State	22	10	32	8 July 2023
Gauteng	7	79	86	25 July 2023
KwaZulu-Natal	1	2	3	27 June 2023
Mpumalanga	19	7	26	19 May 2023
North West	12	4	16	1 June 2023
Western Cape	36	17	53	3 May 2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>249</b>	

## 2. Details of open outbreaks

### 2.1 Affected localities

#### Eastern Cape

One new outbreak was reported in July 2023 in the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality on a farm that had purchased new pigs.

#### Free State

One outbreak was reported in July 2023 in a well-managed pig enclosure in the Letsemeng Municipality, possibly due to inadvertent contamination through fomites.

#### Gauteng

Three outbreaks were reported in July 2023, one in Germiston and two in Randfontein. The outbreak in Germiston may be attributed to various feeds being used and mingling of pigs amongst various owners.

#### KwaZulu-Natal

A new outbreak event occurred in June 2023 in the Greater Kokstad Local Municipality, with the outbreak occurring on the same farm that previously had an ASF outbreak. Pigs are fed swill and access control is lacking.

#### Mpumalanga

No new outbreaks reported.

### North West

No new outbreaks reported.

### Western Cape

No new outbreaks reported.

### Limpopo

No change since the previous update.

## **2.2 Confirmation of diagnosis**

For all reported outbreaks, confirmation of disease was done by positive PCR on organ samples (in some cases whole blood samples) at the ARC Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Transboundary Animal Diseases laboratory (OVR-TAD).

## **2.3 Control measures implemented**

Control measures are based on quarantine and movement controls. Awareness drives highlighting essential biosecurity measures to enable pig owners to prevent infection of their pigs have been ongoing including the following recommendations:

- Confining pigs to prevent contact with other pigs or wildlife;
- Only buying pigs directly from healthy herds;
- Only feeding safe feed to pigs;
- Not allowing visitors contact with pigs;
- Before having contact with pigs, wash hands, only use clean clothes, shoes, equipment and vehicles (that have not been in contact with other pigs)

## **3. Epidemiology**

Most of the reported outbreaks have had the ASF virus sequenced. OVR-TAD has determined two genotypes involved:

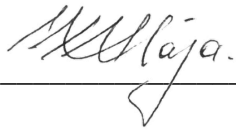
Currently the outbreak event in Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga and North West have been affected by both Genotype I and II viruses.

The Eastern Cape and Western Cape outbreak events are affected only by Genotype II.



## 4. Surveillance

Surveillance for ASF remains ongoing. All movements of pigs from infected properties and areas during the period prior to and following diagnosis are traced and any suspect disease outbreaks in pigs investigated. If suspect clinical signs are observed, samples are collected to confirm the diagnosis.



---

**Dr Mpho Maja**

**Director: Animal Health**