



CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN MALAYSIA

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Abstract

African Swine Fever (ASF) is an emerging disease swine in Malaysia. Since the introduction of ASF into Sabah in February 2021, the disease has been spreading in an unprecedented way to Sarawak and other states in Peninsular Malaysia. In Sabah, the virus was first confirmed in wild boar in Kinabatangan on 8 February 2021, from where the disease spread quickly to other districts in Sabah, then to Sarawak and Peninsular Malaysia affecting wild pigs and domestic pig population raised in backyard and commercial farms. Since then, there have been a total of 122 confirmed cases of ASF on Malaysian commercial pig farms involving the state of Sabah, Sarawak, Melaka, Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Penang and Johore. Given the virulence of the ASF virus and the myriad of transmission routes across East Malaysia and Peninsular Malaysia, the monitoring of this disease must be a priority for Malaysia.

Keywords: African Swine Fever; domestic pig; wild boar.

Introduction

Malaysia was free from African Swine Fever (ASF) up to December 2020. Therefore, the outbreak of ASF that was first confirmed in wild boar in Sabah, a state located in Borneo Island was an emerging disease to Malaysia. Being a very contagious viral haemorrhagic disease in swine, which caused a very high mortality (up to 100%) in domestic pigs and wild boar. ASF is real threat to the pig industry and the biodiversity imbalance. Although ASF is not danger to human health, it has devastating effects on pig populations, farmers economy and many more stakeholders such as trader, processing plant, consumer etc. As there is currently no commercial vaccine or treatment available for ASF, Malaysia has no other better option but to cull and disposed those ASF infected and high-risk farms surrounding the disease index.

ACTIVITIES TO CURB THE ASF SPREAD

Epidemiological Investigation

Index Case Management

Traceability

Stamping Out Policy Of Infected Farm

Movement Control

Surveillance

Quarantine

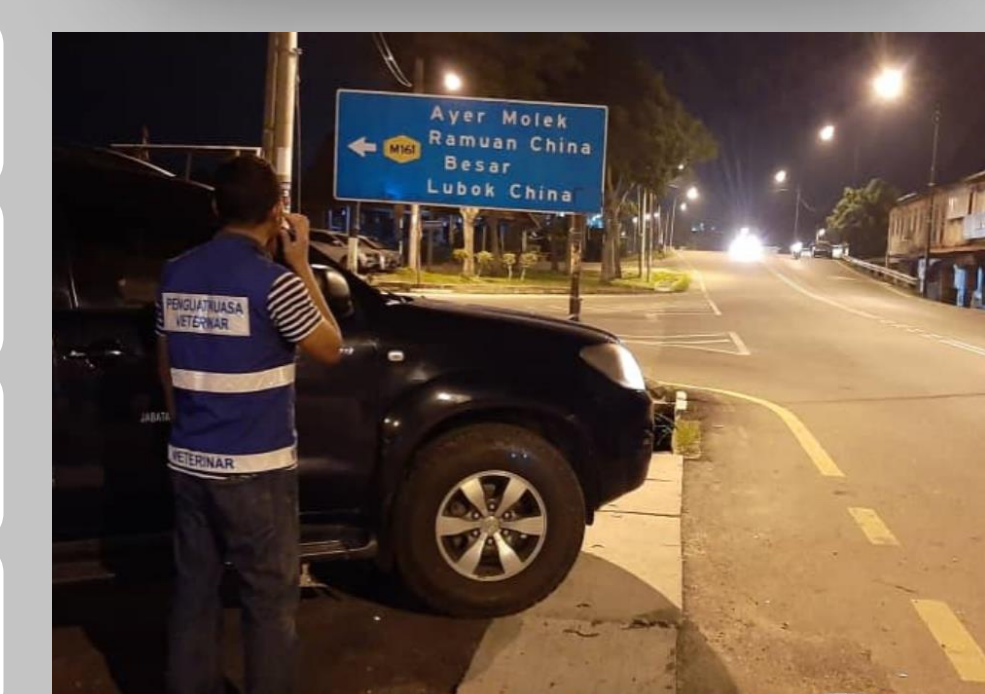
Test And Cull

Disinfection & Disinsectization

Awareness Program

Compensation

Banned Importation From ASF Positive And High Risk Countries



CONCLUSIONS

Prevention and early detection through surveillance and prompt disease reporting is paramount in ASF control. Consolidated contingency plan with interagency collaboration contribute to the speed and effectiveness of ASF control.

Stamping out control method is effective but is not practical for the long run.

Given the virulence of the ASF virus and the myriad of transmission routes across East Malaysia and Peninsular Malaysia, the monitoring of this disease must be a priority for Malaysia.