

Current Epidemiological Situation of African Swine Fever Timor-Leste

Adedoni Lopes | Ercilia Pinto | Noelia Soares

National Department of Veterinary

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Susceptible Population

- Approximately **400,000 domestic pigs** (*Agriculture Census, 2019*).
- Predominantly **smallholder and household-owned pigs**

Production System

- **Extensive and intensive** management systems,
- **Free-roaming pigs** are common in some rural communities.

Prevention & Control

- **National passive and active surveillance (Digital reporting)**
- **Outbreak investigation and laboratory diagnosis**
- **Movement control.**
- **Stablish Restocking program (FahiPlan)**

Major Risks

- Importation of **contaminated pork products**, Movement of **infected live pigs**, **traditional events/Ceremony**, **poor biosecurity**, **Improper disposal of carcasses**, **Delayed disease notification.**

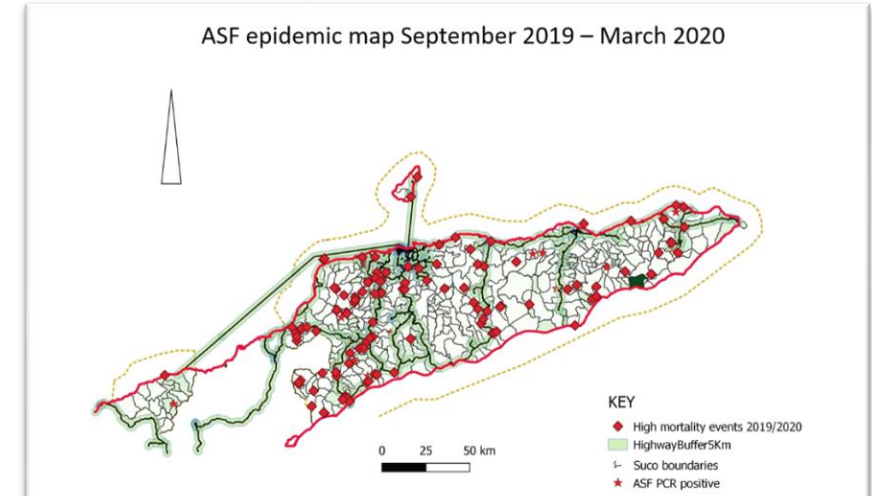




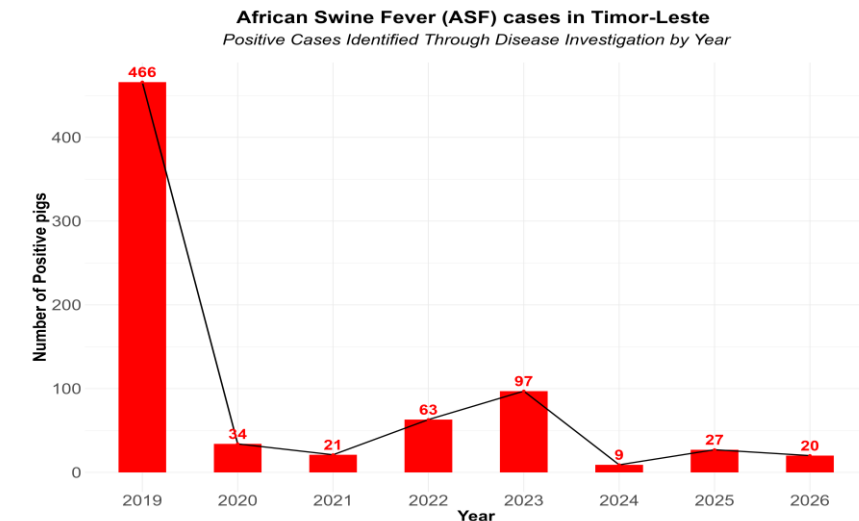
ASF situation in Timor-Leste

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- **Disease status:** ASF is **present in Timor-Leste**, but no widespread outbreaks (2019-2022). Localized outbreaks have occurred at **village and municipality levels**.
- **Distribution:** In 2019, ASF spread rapidly from **Dili** to most parts of the country.
- **Disease impact:** 70,000–150,000 pig mortalities (~400,000 pig population), affecting around 30% households.
- **Animal species affected:** Domestic pigs are the confirmed affected species. (no confirmed of ASF in wild pig)



The nationwide extent of the 2019/2020 epidemic, based on (a) a farmer survey reporting on high mortality events and (b) laboratory-confirmed events.





- **Surveillance:** National **passive and active surveillance** for early ASF detection.
- **Rapid Response:** Early notification, laboratory confirmation, movement control, and biosecurity.
- **Control:** Pig movement restriction, safe carcass disposal, outbreak monitoring, and the restocking program “Safe Sources, Safe Destinations”.
- **Vaccination:** No ASF vaccination; control relies on surveillance, biosecurity, and rapid response.

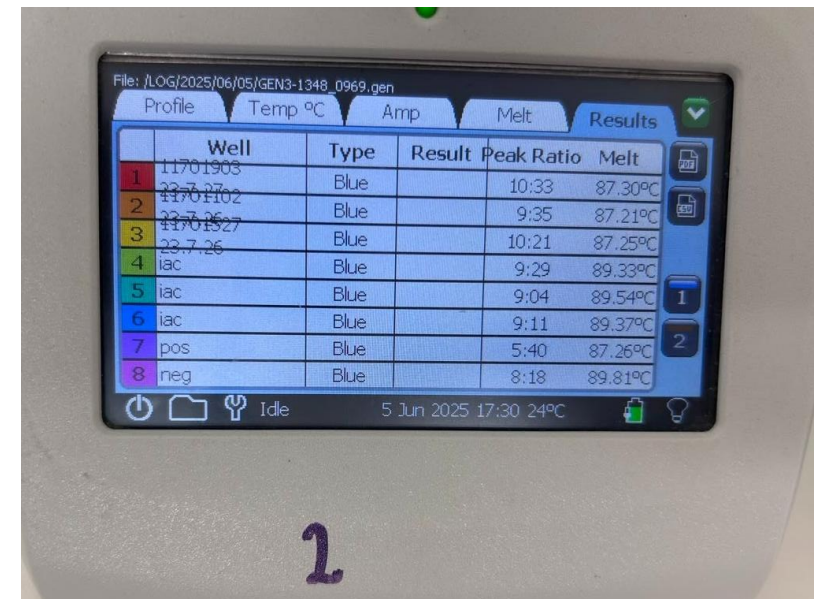




Laboratory diagnostic capacity

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- **Laboratory capacity:** Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (VDL) in Dili provides laboratory confirmation of ASF.
- **Key diagnostic test:** LAMP is currently used for rapid detection/confirmation of ASFV.
- **Laboratory network:** field veterinary teams and VDL supporting national surveillance and outbreak response.
- **Human resource capacity:** Veterinary laboratory personnel have capacity to conduct ASF diagnostic testing.
- **Future laboratory priorities:** Expand diagnostic capacity, strengthen sample collection and transport systems, maintain essential laboratory supplies, and improve coordination between **field teams and the VDL**





Collaboration with other stakeholders

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- **Collaboration mechanism:** National Directorate of Veterinary (DNV), field technicians, VDL supported by digital surveillance (Epicollect5) for disease notification and reporting.
- **National collaboration:** DNV, municipal authorities, farmers and community leaders to strengthen disease reporting, movement control and biosecurity.
- **International collaboration:** Agriculture Victoria and DAF Australia, particularly in operational epidemiology, laboratory capacity, emergency preparedness and response, field investigation.
- **Key Issues in Collaboration:** Limited number of field technicians (sampling) and Laboratory consumables , outbreak investigation and logistic.





Challenges and possible solutions

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Limited field technician capacity	Strengthen field staffing, training and operational epidemiology capacity
Delayed disease notification & investigation	Strengthen digital-based reporting, early warning and rapid outbreak investigation
Free-roaming pigs & poor farm biosecurity	Promote practical farm biosecurity, PPE, disinfection and controlled pig management
Uncontrolled movement of live pigs	Strengthen movement control, traceability and community awareness
Improper disposal of carcasses/meat	Promote safe carcass disposal and strengthen farmer awareness
Limited preparedness at high-risk farms	Develop and regularly exercise ASF emergency response plans
Limited resources and logistics	Strengthen technical, equipment and logistical support through national and international collaboration





Future plans

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- **Strengthen surveillance & notification:** Improve disease surveillance, **early notification**, digital reporting , and rapid outbreak investigation.
- **Strengthen field staff and Laboratory capacity:** good coordination during outbreak situation, refreshing training in disease investigation and lab testing,
- **Maintain biosecurity** : Ensure **ongoing biosecurity**, appropriate hygiene, and good nutrition
- **Strengthen emergency preparedness:** Develop, maintain and regularly exercise ASF emergency response plans.
- **Improve transparency & information sharing:** Provide **timely, clear and transparent disease information** to stakeholders and communities to build trust and support early reporting.
- **Strengthen community engagement:** Actively engage **farmers, community leaders and local communities** in disease awareness, early notification, movement control and implementation of biosecurity measures.
- **Improve pig movement control:** Strengthen monitoring and traceability of live-pig movement between municipalities and communities.
- **Strengthen collaboration:** Enhance national and international collaboration for **technical, laboratory, training and logistical support.**



Thank you!

lopesadedoni331@gmail.com

noeliasoaresmoniz6@gmail.com

erciliapintomartins@gmail.com



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