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Reference:

VA13/15

DIVISION OF VETERINARY SERVICES
Department of Veterinary Services
Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement
P O Box CY 56, Causeway
Harare

11/02/2019

ALL STAKEHOLDERS

Re: Notification of Suspect African Swine Fever (ASF) Outbreak – Nyanga North – Manicaland Province

This communique serves to notify all our stakeholders of a suspected African swine fever outbreak in free-range pigs in Nyamaropa and Nyakomba areas in Nyanga North, Manicaland province.

Farmers in the area reported that the deaths of pigs started during the last week of January 2019 and as of 7 February 2019, when the Provincial Veterinary Officer for Manicaland Province visited the area, a total of 156 deaths had been recorded out of an estimated population of 678 pigs. An autopsy conducted on a gilt which had died on the same day of the visit revealed post mortem lesions consistent with African swine fever (ASF). Samples were collected and sent to the Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) in Harare for confirmation and results are still pending. The outbreak has been notified to Mozambique Veterinary Authorities.

African swine fever (ASF) is a highly contagious haemorrhagic viral disease of domestic and wild pigs, which is responsible for serious economic and production losses. It is a transboundary animal disease which can be spread by live or dead pigs, domestic or wild, and pork products. There is no approved vaccine against African swine fever.

The Department has already initiated control measures to limit spread of the disease to other parts of the country while at the same time continuing with disease surveillance to determine the extent of the problem. Staff on the ground, in collaboration with local leadership and members of the dip tank committee, have started awareness campaigns in the affected villages. A quarantine has been imposed on Nyanga district and movement of live pigs and pig products into and out the area is prohibited. Farmers have been advised to confine their pigs in pigsties and report all ill or dead animals to their local DVS office. Resource mobilization to set up at least 2 roadblocks along the two major roads leaving the Nyakomba and Nyamaropa areas is already underway.



The Pig Industry Board (PIB), Pig Producers Association of Zimbabwe (PPAZ), pig farmers and other relevant stakeholders are advised to intensify biosecurity measures around their pig establishments and help with countrywide ASF awareness campaigns.

A meeting of the multi-stakeholder ASF task force is scheduled for 9.00 AM on Wednesday, 13 February 2018 in the Toxicology board room of DVS.

Please see location of the outbreak on the attached map.



J Nyika
Director



African swine fever outbreak – Nyanga North – Manicaland Province February 2019

