France's biosecurity strategy against African Swine Fever

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Regulatory framework

- **EU framework**
  - AHL, Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687, Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594
- **2 National decrees**
  - **2018:** biosecurity requirements in commercial establishments
  - **2019:** biosecurity requirements in livestock transport
- **Implementation**
  - **Biosecurity FAQ** for inspectors and professionals, updated with veterinarians and technical institutes
  - **Professional digital tools** for biosecurity training and audits; audit results can be shared with the administration
  - **Official inspections :** biosecurity inspection grids, guides, trained inspectors, monitoring

ASF National action plan (December 2023)

3 out of 5 priorities of the plan include actions regarding biosecurity measures

- **Priority 1: Preventing the introduction of the disease in the country**
  - **Calls for vigilance on biosecurity measures** (social media, events, radio spots) from various groups: expatriate seasonal workers, lorry drivers, international travellers, hunters, livestock farmers and hikers
  - 2025 communication campaign:
    - 7,37M views of ASF posts
    - 2.9M views of online videos
    - 11k flyers distributed
  - **Free communication tools** available on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture

ASF National action plan (December 2023)

- **Priority 2 : Preventing the spread of the disease in wildlife and livestock**
  - **Official biosecurity inspections** increased in border regions of ASF affected countries
  - **2024-2025 - State-funded field trial (830k€)** to scientifically assess technical biosecurity solutions for free-range livestock: partly covering the pig sector and measures to prevent disease introduction (including ASF) through contact with wild boar
  - **2025** – publication of a **public contract template for fencing areas** for regional adaptation by local authorities, regional contracts currently awarded
  - **2025 - public contract (2M€) for biosecurity audits** at small-scale pig and boar farms and for **training auditors** (including veterinarians) to conduct biosecurity audits :
    - 1853 audits conducted
    - 314 veterinarians trained: may be mobilised in case of ASF
  - **State-funded training of sanitary veterinarians** in the pig sector covers biosecurity on farms and ASF

ASF National action plan (December 2023)

- **Priority 4 : Preparing collectively to manage a crisis situation**
  - Development and **update of the regulatory framework**: publication in April 2026 of national instructions on management measures in case of ASF outbreak, including reinforced biosecurity requirements:
    - Management of ASF outbreaks in farms
    - Management measures in ASF restricted zones
  - **Regular webinars and working groups** with agricultural, professional organisations and local authorities:
    - Official ASF biosecurity assessment grid for commercial establishments (implementation of Annex III of Regulation (EU) 2023/594)
    - Roles of each stakeholder in managing outbreaks

National wild boar action plan to prevent the spread of ASF

- **Objective: Ensure proper communication of biosecurity requirements to hunters and stakeholders involved in monitoring of wild boars**
  - **Specific communication tools** on biosecurity procedures
  - **Risk-based biosecurity awareness and training plans**
  - **Consulting with hunters** in preparation of the disease to ensure better collaboration in crisis as recommended by WOAH

- **Objective: Prevent indirect contamination of wild boars**
  - Raise public awareness about the importance of :
    - not feeding wild boars
    - Ensure proper waste management in outdoor areas



Source: agriculture.gouv.fr, campagne PPA

Conclusion

- Importance of communication and collaboration with stakeholders in implementing biosecurity measures
- Focus on biosecurity in ASF prevention : improving biosecurity helps prevent several other diseases, improving animal welfare and reducing antimicrobial resistance
- Biosecurity = cornerstone for controlling disease

Thank you!

https://agriculture.gouv.fr/un-plan-national-daction-renove-pour-prevenir-lintroduction-et-la-propagation-de-la-peste-porcine

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