

2003/422/EC: Commission Decision of 26 May 2003 approving  
an African swine fever diagnostic manual (Text with EEA  
relevance) (notified under document number C(2003) 1696)

- Article 1 (1) The African swine fever diagnostic manual in the Annex...  
Article 2 This Decision shall apply from 1 July 2003.  
Article 3 This Decision is addressed to the Member States.  
Signature

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ANNEX

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER DIAGNOSTIC MANUAL

Chapter I

Introduction, objectives and definitions

1. In order to ensure uniform procedures to diagnose African swine...
2. This manual is principally directed towards the authorities responsible for...
3. For the purpose of this manual, in addition to the...

Chapter II

Description of ASF with emphasis on differential diagnosis

- A. INTRODUCTION
1. ASF is caused by an enveloped DNA virus which belongs...
  2. The ASF virus is very stable in excretions of infected...
  3. The main natural route of infection of pigs in Europe...
  4. The incubation period in individual animals is about five to...
  5. Acute, subacute and chronic forms of ASF occur, the difference...
  6. In pigs which clinically recover after infection, viraemia persists for...
- B. ACUTE FORM
1. The development of high fever (more than 40 °C) is...
  2. In general the acute form of classical swine fever leads...
- C. SUBACUTE FORMS
- D. CHRONIC FORMS

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### Chapter III

#### Guidelines on main criteria to be considered for the recognition of a holding as an ASF suspected holding

1. The decision to recognise a holding as a suspected holding...
2. In any case, a holding must be considered as a...

### Chapter IV

#### Checking and sampling procedures

- A. GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURES FOR CLINICAL EXAMINATION OF AND SAMPLING ON...
  1. Member States shall ensure that appropriate clinical examinations, sampling and...
  2. When an official veterinarian visits a suspected holding to confirm...
  3. When reference is made to this paragraph, the clinical examination...
  4. If dead or moribund pigs are detected in a suspected...
  5. If further clinical signs or lesions that may suggest ASF...
  6. If, after the examination carried out in a suspected holding,...
- B. SAMPLING PROCEDURES IN A HOLDING WHEN PIGS ARE KILLED FOLLOWING...
  1. In order that the manner of introduction of the ASF...
  2. The minimum number of pigs to be sampled must allow...
  3. However, in case of secondary outbreaks, the competent authority may...
- C. SAMPLING PROCEDURES WHEN PIGS ARE KILLED AS A PREVENTIVE MEASURE...
  1. In order that ASF may be confirmed or ruled out...
  2. Sampling must primarily concern:
- D. CHECKING AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES BEFORE AUTHORISATION IS GIVEN TO MOVE...
  1. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 11(1)(f), second subparagraph,...
  2. In the case of pigs to be moved to another...
  3. In case of pigs to be moved to a slaughterhouse,...
  4. When the pigs referred to in point 3 are slaughtered...
  5. However, if clinical signs or post-mortem lesions suggesting ASF are...
  6. The derogation provided for in Article 10(5) and Article 11(4)...
- E. CHECKING AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES IN A HOLDING IN RELATION TO...
  1. When pigs are reintroduced into a holding in accordance with...
  2. When pigs are reintroduced into a holding in accordance with...
  3. After any reintroduction of pigs, the competent authority shall ensure...
- F. SAMPLING PROCEDURES IN HOLDINGS IN THE PROTECTION ZONE BEFORE LIFTING...
  1. In order that the measures referred to in Article 10...
  2. The minimum number of blood samples to be taken must...

- G. SAMPLING PROCEDURES IN HOLDINGS IN THE SURVEILLANCE ZONE BEFORE LIFTING...
1. In order that the measures referred to in Article 11...
  2. Whenever blood sampling for serological tests is carried out in...
- H. SEROLOGICAL MONITORING AND SAMPLING PROCEDURES IN AREAS WHERE ASF IS...
1. In case of serological monitoring in feral pigs in areas...
  2. If data on population density and size are not available,...
  3. Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 15(2)(c) of Directive...
  4. Collection of samples for virological tests from feral pigs shot...
  5. All samples to be sent to the laboratory must be...

## Chapter V

### General procedures and criteria for collection and transport of samples

- A. GENERAL PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA
1. Before sampling is carried out in a suspected holding, a...
  2. Each time that it is deemed that re-sampling of pigs...
  3. All samples must be sent to the laboratory accompanied by...
- B. COLLECTION OF SAMPLES FOR VIROLOGICAL TESTS
1. For detection of the ASF virus, antigen or genome from...
  2. Anticoagulated blood and/or clotted blood samples must be collected from...
- C. TRANSPORT OF SAMPLES
1. It is recommended that all samples:
  2. The outside of the package must be labelled with the...
  3. The responsible person in the laboratory receiving the samples must...
  4. For air transport of samples to the Community Reference Laboratory...

## Chapter VI

### Principles and use of virological tests and evaluation of their results

- A. DETECTION OF VIRUS ANTIGENS
1. Direct immuno fluorescent test (DIFT)
  2. ELISA for antigen detection
- B. VIRUS ISOLATION AND IDENTIFICATION BY THE HAEMADSORPTION TEST (HAD)
1. Virus isolation is based on the inoculation of sample material...
  2. The HAD technique is recommended for the identification of ASF...
  3. Virus isolation is best suited for the investigation of samples...
  4. Virus isolation and identification by HAD are recommended as a...
  5. All ASF virus isolates from all primary outbreaks, primary cases...
- C. DETECTION OF THE VIRUS GENOME
1. The polymerase chain reaction (PCR) is applied to detect the...
  2. PCR can be used on a limited number of samples...
  3. Suitable sample material for the PCR are the organs described...
  4. The PCR can be performed within a working day. It...

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D. RECOMMENDED VIROLOGICAL TESTS AND EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS

E. GENETIC CHARACTERISATION OF ASF VIRUS ISOLATES

1. Genetic characterisation of ASF virus isolates is achieved by determining...
2. If virus molecular characterisation cannot be performed in a national...

Chapter VII

Principles and use of serological tests and evaluation of their results

A. BASIC PRINCIPLES AND DIAGNOSTIC VALUE

1. ASF-specific antibody detection is recommended for subacute and chronic forms...
2. The detection of antibodies against the ASF virus in serum...

B. RECOMMENDED SEROLOGICAL TESTS

1. The ELISA, indirect immunofluorescence test (IIFT) and immunoblotting (IB) tests...
2. The ELISA test is the most reliable and useful test...
3. Quality control on sensitivity and specificity of each batch of...
4. The IIFT is a rapid technique with high sensitivity and...
5. The IB test is a highly specific and sensitive technique...

Chapter VIII

Minimum safety requirements for ASF laboratories

1. The requirements laid down in table 1 must be fulfilled...
2. The requirements laid down in table 2 must be fulfilled...
3. All stocks of the ASF virus must be kept in...
4. It is recommended that the biosecurity unit for ASF virus...

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(1) OJ L 192, 20.7.2002, p. 27.

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- Art. 1(2) words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 1(2) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1410, reg. 8(2)(a) by [S.I. 2020/1388 reg. 25\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 1(3) substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 3 omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(3\)](#)

**Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions**

- Annex Ch. 6 s. E word substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(b\)\(ii\)\(bb\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 6 s. E words inserted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(b\)\(ii\)\(aa\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 5 s. C words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(6\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 6 s. B words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 6 s. E words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 6 s. E words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(b\)\(iii\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 7 s. B words omitted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(8\)\(a\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 4 s. A words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(5\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 6 s. B words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(7\)\(a\)\(i\)](#)
- Annex Ch. 7 s. B words substituted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(8\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 1(4) inserted by [S.I. 2018/1410 reg. 8\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 1(4)(a)(ii)(iii) Art. 1(4)(a)(iii)(iv) renumbered as Art. 1(4)(a)(ii)(iii) in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1410, reg. 8(2)(c) by [S.I. 2020/1388 reg. 25\(5\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 1(4)(a)(ii) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1410, reg. 8(2)(c) by [S.I. 2020/1388 reg. 25\(5\)\(b\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 1(4)(b) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2018/1410, reg. 8(2)(c) by [S.I. 2020/1388 reg. 25\(5\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#)