OFFICE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, LIVESTOCK AND FOOD SUPPLY
SECRETARIAT OF ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH

DSA INTERNAL STANDARD (NORMA INTERNA) 3, of September 18, 2014

THE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH, based on his regulatory competences, in order to contribute to the drafting of the agricultural policy and to maintain the health status in the States located in the Classical Swine Fever (CSF) free zone, approves the Plan for Surveillance of Feral Suidae in the CSF-free zone in Brazil.

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Federal Agricultural Inspector
Director

PLAN FOR SURVEILLANCE OF CSF IN FERAL SWINE

1. ACRONYMS AND DEFINITIONS

The definitions below are aimed at facilitating the understanding and clarifying the use of some terms in this Internal Standard (Norma Interna).

AGENT WHO CONTROLS FERAL SWINE: An Agent who controls feral swine is an individual previously registered with the Federal Technical Registration of Activities with Potential to Pollute and/or Use Environmental Resources, in the category "Use of Natural Resources", description "Handling invasive exotic fauna in IBAMA (The Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources) and controlled by the Brazilian army when firearms must be handled and used".

AREA WITH CONTACT RISK: An area with contact risk is an area that has populations of domestic pigs and evidence of the presence of feral Suidae, without sufficient physical barriers to ensure the separation between the populations.

BIOSECURITY: Biosecurity is a set of technical procedures directly or indirectly to prevent, decrease or control, the challenges generated in animal production regarding pathogenic agents that may have an impact on the productivity of these herds and/or on the health of consumers.

SUSPECTED CASE OF CSF IN FERAL SWINE: Suspected case of CSF in feral swine is the identification of viral antibodies specific for the CSF virus by means of Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) or in the presence of animals with clinical signs compatible with the disease.

PROBABLE CASE OF CSF IN FERAL SWINE: A probable case of CSF in feral swine is the identification of viral antibodies specific for the CSF virus by means of virus neutralization in samples of one or more feral Suidae.

CONFIRMED CASE OF CSF IN FERAL SWINE: A confirmed case of CSF in feral swine is the identification of the antigen by means of the viral isolation technique or by means of detection of ribonucleic acid (RNA) specific for a strain of CSF virus in one or more samples of Suidae and positive serological assays from samples of animals that are epidemiologically linked to a case confirmed by viral isolation.

COMMITTEE FOR SANITARY EMERGENCY IN FERAL SUIDAE: The committee for sanitary emergency in feral Suidae is a committee comprised of experts appointed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply to provide technical and scientific support in decision making in situations of sanitary emergencies with feral Suidae.

BACKYARD PIG FARMS (CS): Backyard Pig Farms are farms for family subsistence, home or backyard production, not for sale.

VETERINARY ZOOSANITARY EMERGENCY: A veterinary zoosanitary emergency is a condition caused by the occurrence of a disease with the epidemic potential to produce severe health, social and economic consequences, which jeopardize national and international trade, food safety or public health, and that requires immediate actions to control or eliminate it, in order to restore the previous sanitary condition, within the shortest period and at the best cost-benefit (Decree 8,133, of 28/10/2013, and Law 12,873, of 24/10/2013);

FARMING ESTABLISHMENT: places where Suidae are kept or raised for any purpose.

INITIAL DISEASE INVESTIGATION FORM (FORM-IN): FORM-IN is the form specifically used by the Official Veterinary Service for the first record in farming establishments with suspected or outbreak of animal diseases.

GEASE: Special Group to Respond to Suspected Emergency Diseases

PIG FARMS (GS): pig farms are commercial farming establishments registered with the Official Veterinary Service. The pig farms are usually classified as Complete Cycle (CC) production farms, Piglet Farms (UPL), Nurseries (CR) or Finishing Farms (F) for pigs.

IBAMA: Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources.

ICMBio: Chico Mendes Institute for Biodiversity Preservation.

BLOCKING: blocking is the prohibition of entrance and exit of animals to and from a farm, for whichever purpose, as well as control of people or materials that could be a source of disease transmission, at the discretion of Official Veterinary Service.

APPROVED LABORATORY: an approved laboratory is any laboratory approved by the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply (MAPA) for a scope to diagnose diseases of national interest.

LANAGRO: National Animal and Plant Laboratory of MAPA.

APPROVED VETERINARIAN: an approved veterinarian is a private-sector professional who is approved by MAPA to perform specific animal health activities in pig production.

OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN: Veterinarian of the Official Veterinary Service in the Federal and State levels;

OIE: World Animal Health Organization;

CLASSICAL SWINE FEVER (CSF): Classical Swine Fever is a transmissible disease that affects Suidae and is caused by a virus of the pestivirus genus;

PNSS: National Program for Pig Health.

OWNER: Any individual or legal entity that is holder or trustee or who by virtue of whatever reason has the possession or custody of one or more pigs.

SDA: Secretariat of Animal and Plant Health of MAPA;

OFFICIAL INSPECTION SERVICE: Inspection service of animal products in the Federal and State levels;

OFFICIAL VETERINARY SERVICE: Animal health agency at Federal and State levels.

SFA: Federal Superintendency of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply in the States.

SYSTEM FOR SURVEILLANCE IN FERAL SWINE: It defines the investigations to which feral Suidae are subjected for an early detection of the presence of the CSF virus by sampling hunting products of feral Suidae and sampling animals found dead or sick.

SUIDAE: Any animal of genus Sus scrofa (pig) and Sus scrofa scrofa (wild boar)

FERAL SWINE: Feral swine are all possible phenotypic and genotypic forms of free-living Sus scrofa scrofa, which are non-captive and raised without human supervision, differently from domestic pigs.

LVU: Local Veterinary Unit of the Official Veterinary Service.

SURVEILLANCE: surveillance means to sample, record, analyze, interpret and systematically communicate health data from a defined animal population, which are essential to describe sanitary risks and contribute to planning, implementing and evaluating the mitigation measures.

ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE: active surveillance is any action started by the Official Veterinary Service regarding health data, with scheduled actions, and using a defined protocol. For this legislation, active surveillance is performed in the event of a probable case of CSF based on clinical or serological evidence of viral activity.

PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE: passive surveillance is any action started after a third-party notification to the Official Veterinary Service regarding the suspicion of the occurrence of disease, death or clinical signs suggestive of CSF in feral Suidae;

ZONE/REGION: zone/region is a part of the country that is clearly delimited and contains an animal population with a particular sanitary status regarding a specific disease, against which the measures for surveillance, control and biosecurity required for national and international trade are applied.

CSF-FREE ZONE: A CSF-free zone is a zone or region in the country where the absence of CSF is systematically demonstrated according to the recommendations of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code and defined in a specific MAPA standard.

2. INTRODUCTION

Epidemiological surveillance is comprised of the set of actions to prevent the entry and to detect direct or indirect signs of the presence of one or more pathogenic agents in a susceptible animal population, allowing an early and fast reaction.

Since May 2013, the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, in Article 15.2.2, has made the recognition of the sanitary situation of a country, zone or compartment regarding CSF dependent upon the evaluation of some criteria regarding both populations: domestic and feral pigs. These criteria include the mandatory notification of the disease in the entire country and encouragement of the notification of clinical signs as well as all cases suggestive of CSF.

The Official Veterinary Service shall possess updated data on the population and habitat of feral Suidae, that can be obtained in sources such as governmental organizations and non-governmental organizations related to the environment and wildlife, wildlife research institutes, hunting clubs, etc. This data is aimed at determining the risk that feral Suidae may represent for the domestic herds according to a surveillance program that must be established in the country, following the provisions in Article 15.2.23 to 15.2.28 of the Code. The population of domestic Suidae must be separated from the feral Suidae population by appropriate biosecurity measures in order to prevent the feral pigs from transmitting CSF to domestic swine.

For the effects of international trade, according to the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, if the country confirms that a surveillance program is appropriately implemented (according to Article 15.2.2), another member-country cannot impose commercial restrictions as a response to the notification of the presence of the CSF virus in feral Suidae.

In the Brazilian states where the domestic populations are considered free of CSF, the surveillance in feral Suidae has the supplementary function to validate the condition of absence of the disease. In these states, the surveillance must apply a monitoring design that allows for the demonstration of the area free of the disease also in wild populations. On the other hand, if a case of CSF is detected in the wild population, the surveillance actions, including interventions for the disease containment in these populations, must be applied due to its potential role as a reservoir and source of infection of the CSF virus for domestic pigs.

Wild boars (Sus scrofa scrofa) were introduced into Brazil several decades ago. Today populations of free-living wild boars and their hybrids have spread and are expanding rapidly in the national territory.

The health risk for domestic pig populations from the increase in the populational density of feral pigs is due to the large number of hosts available to transmit the disease, and to the greater contact ratio between susceptible populations. The role of the feral Suidae in the maintenance of the CSF has an epidemiological importance as a reservoir for the virus and possible source of infection for domestic pigs.

3. OBJECTIVES

The objective of this document is to guide the epidemiological surveillance actions in feral Suidae in CSF-free zone to supplement the surveillance plan in force for the populations of domestic pigs in order to guarantee the maintenance of a health condition free of CSF.

3.1 SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Improve the sensitivity of the surveillance system in order to provide:

- Early detection of CSF in feral Suidae by active and passive surveillance for its control;
- Detection of other diseases in feral Suidae;
- Production of data to support the risk analytical processes in pig production;
- Assistance in the definition of health strategies and in the decision making to support the PNSS; and

4. INSTITUTIONS INVOLVED

The following institutions are part of the Epidemiological Surveillance System in feral Suidae in CSF-free area:

4.1 Secretariat of Animal and Plant Health (SDA) of MAPA: Department of Animal Health (DSA);

- Department of Inspection of Animal Products (DIPOA);
- General Coordination for Laboratory Support (CGAL).

4.2 Federal Superintendences of Agriculture (SFA):

- Animal Health Service (SSA, SISA, SIFISA)

4.3 State Veterinary Service:

- State Animal Health Agencies (OEDSA);
- Laboratories approved by MAPA.
- State Inspection Service (SIE).

4.4 Private enterprise:

- Slaughterhouses;
- Private veterinarians;
- Approved veterinarians;

- Pig farmers;
- Agroindustries;
- Private entities (e.g. SINDICARNES, FUNDESA);

4.5 IBAMA;

4.6 ICMBio;

4.7 Brazilian Army;

4.8 Wildlife NGOs;

4.9 Hunting and Shooting Clubs;

4.10 Research institutions;

4.11 State and municipal environmental agencies.

5. PLACES OF ACTION

Public and private areas where there is a report of the presence of feral swine.

6. STRATEGIES OF THE CSF SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM IN FERAL SWINE

Surveillance is a continuous and permanent process to guarantee the sensitivity to the surveillance system, increasing the trust with which the status as free of CSF is certified in a zone/region the country.

The strategies of the CSF surveillance system in feral swine include:

6.1 PASSIVE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CLINICAL SURVEILLANCE

In the event of a notification of the presence of feral Suidae associated with mortality or altered behavior of these animals;

The passive surveillance activities include:

a) Surveillance at the place where the presence of feral swine behaving unusually is notified; this surveillance aims to confirm proof of the event and gather information about their location;

b) Necropsies and sampling of the viable carcasses of feral swine found dead, or when possible the slaughter and necropsy of feral swine by the SVO at the site of notification;

c) Investigation of evidence of contact between the wild and domestic herds with a record of an at-risk holding and evidence of CSF in the domestic animals.

6.2 ACTIVE EPIDEMIOLOGICAL CLINICAL SURVEILLANCE

The active surveillance activities include:

a) Evaluation of the biosecurity conditions on the farms in the areas with risk of contact between the feral and domestic populations;

b) Mapping of the populational distribution of feral Suidae and delimitation of areas with risk of contact with domestic swine;

c) Analysis of the data produced by the CSF surveillance system in Suidae production farms;

d) Taking serological samples of feral Suidae by volunteer handling agents.

6.3 SEROLOGICAL SURVEILLANCE IN FERAL SWINE

Serological surveillance in feral swine is that which is started by the surveillance activities and performed by screening and confirmatory tests.

The volunteer handling agents will be trained to take serological samples provided by the Swine and Poultry Embrapa research company in partnership with the Official Veterinary Service.

These agents shall appear at the Local Veterinary Units where handling was authorized to:

- Authenticate the handling form issued by IBAMA using the LVU stamp, date, identification and signature of the official employee responsible for the authorization;
- Receive the corresponding seals to transport product from handling, whose number will be registered in the handling Form;
- Receive the sampling kit specified in Appendix 1 and the guidelines to perform the serum sampling procedure, that shall be delivered at the LVU, frozen or chilled.

At the discretion of the Official Veterinary Service, the kit with the samples taken may be delivered in another previously-established LVU.

The UVL will check the labels and packaging of the samples, separated them into two aliquots and sent them to the official laboratory.

The sampling kit shall include the following materials and information:

- a pair of latex gloves (PPE);

- a 20-mL syringe with a 40Xl, 2 mm (pink) needle;

- a 15 ml Falcon™ tube with screw cap;

- a 50ml Falcon™ tube with screw cap;

- a Form for Sampling of Feral Swine (Appendix 1);

- Identification of the samples that must be written on the Sampling Form for Feral Suidae;

- Ziploc plastic bag, 23x17 cm;

- Isothermal box;

- Recyclable ice;

- Leaflet with instructions on how to take the sample (Appendix 2).

The provided seals must have the acronym of the state where handling was authorized and sequential numbers to enable their identification.

7. OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES

The plan must have effective procedures that indicate the presence or absence of infection with the CSF virus by means of laboratory tests (confirmatory and differential) and supplementary investigations in places with the presence of feral Suidae that originated the samples, as well as on commercial pig farms and backyard pig farms epidemiologically linked to free-living animals.

7.1 SEROLOGICAL DIAGNOSIS OF CSF IN FERAL SWINE

For the effect of this surveillance plan, the screening test (ELISA) will be used to validate the absence of CSF viral circulation. ELISA test will be performed by the laboratories in the official network of MAPA.

There are three possible results of the ELISA test: Negative, Inconclusive and Positive. In the cases of positive and inconclusive results, the samples will undergo a virus neutralization supplementary test performed by LANAGRO laboratory reference network.

7.2 SUPPLEMENTARY EPIDEMIOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

The supplementary epidemiological investigation procedure will be started after a positive or inconclusive result of the ELISA test, and will be performed by the Official Veterinary Service to obtain a conclusive final diagnosis about the presence or absence of the CSF virus in the population of feral pigs in suspected regions.

7.2.1 ACTIONS IN THE RISK AREA IN A SUSPECTED CASE OF CSF IN FERAL SUIDAE.

a) IN DOMESTIC PIG FARMS:

- Survey of the health history of livestock in the risk area to investigate diseases that may present a cross reaction in the serological tests to detect antibodies against the CSF virus.

- Guidance to domestic pig farmers to take measures to avoid contact between domestic and feral swine;

- Educate and guide pig farmers to notify the Official Veterinary Service about any changes or clinical signs of CSF in domestic and feral swine in the risk area.

b) IN FERAL SUIDAE:

- Education for the employees who handle the population of wild boars so that they can detect and notify the Official Veterinary Service about any animal with clinical signs and/or lesions of hemorrhagic diseases in Suidae.

7.2.2 ACTIONS IN THE RISK AREAS IN A LIKELY CASE OF CSF IN FERAL SUIDAE,

a) IN DOMESTIC PIG FARMS:

- The survey of the biosecurity conditions on domestic pig farms in the risk area;

- Perform epidemiological investigation of possible contact between domestic animals and

feral Suidae on farms located in the risk area;

- Carry out an epidemiological clinical investigation of the animals on the farms, observing signs of disease and changes of production indices on the farm;

If signs or symptoms of hemorrhagic disease in Suidae are observed, the provisions in the Standards in force shall be applied.

b) IN FERAL SUIDAE:

- Intensify the surveillance by capturing and hunting feral Suidae, sampling material for viral research according to the legislation in force, the guidelines in the National Program for Suidae Health (PNSS) and absence of the environmental agencies.

If the presence of the CSF virus is confirmed by the laboratory, find below the procedures for veterinary health emergency described in the specific Action Plan.

8. FINAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE ACTIONS FOR CSF

The control of the results obtained in each one of the components in this Surveillance System for CSF shall be performed by SFA and OEDSA in each state, which shall draft Reports Every six months to be sent to the Department of Animal Health. The first report of the year shall include partial data from the first half and the second report shall include all activities carried out during the year. The DSA will compile this data, which will be used as a basis for the ANNUAL REPORT ON THE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE ACTIONS FOR CSF.

9. LEGISLAÇÃO

Find below the Brazilian legislation available about feral Suidae regarding surveillance measures and CSF control, performed by the environmental agencies, the Brazilian Army, MAPA and the OIE:

a. Normative Instruction 3, of January 31, 2013, of the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources: Authorizes the populational control of free-living wild boars in the entire national territory.

b. Ordinance (Portaria) 65, of January 31, 2013, of the Brazilian Institute for the Environment and Renewable Natural Resources: Creates the Permanent Inter-institutional Committee for the Management and Monitoring of the Populations of Wild Boars in the National Territory.

c. Normative Instruction 6 of 09/03/2004 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply. Approves the standards for CSF eradication.

d. Normative Instruction 27 of 20/04/2004 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply: Approves the Contingency Plan for Classical Swine Fever.

e. Normative Instruction 26 of 18/07/2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply: Expands the Classical Swine Fever-Free Zone.

f. Terrestrial Animal Code of the OIE Chapter 15.2

g. Standards for international recognition by the OIE of the health status of CSF in a country, zone or compartment.

h. Decree 8,133 of 28/10/2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply. Sets forth the declaration of a state of emergency for plant or animal health laid down in Law no. 12,873, enacted 24 October 2013, and allows for other provisions.

i. Law 12,873 of 24/10/2013 of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply.

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Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food Supply
Secretariat of Animal and Plant Health
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HEALTH

Health Surveillance System in Classical Swine Fever-free zone
APPENDIX I - Form for Sampling of Feral Swine

1. Number of the handling permit.

2. Identification of the samples

	Sample number	Gender	Sampling date (dd/mm/yyyy)	Location where the sample was taken
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

3. Remarks

4. Person responsible for sampling: _____ (Name of the agent who controls feral swine) _____ (Signature)

5. Person responsible for receiving the samples _____ (Name) _____ (Signature/Rubber stamp)

6. Person responsible for sending the samples to the laboratory _____ (Name) _____ (Signature/Rubber stamp)

7. Date when the samples were shipped to the laboratory _____

INSTRUCTION FOR COMPLETION

1. Number of the handling permit. Inform IBAMA's handling permit number.
2. Sample identification - Write the number of the samples according to the number received from the Local Veterinary Unit that provided the test kits, animal gender, sampling date, and place where the animal was slaughtered and the samples were taken.
3. Remarks: Field for writing relevant data about the performed handling.
4. Person responsible for sampling - Write the name of the agent who controls feral swine responsible for sampling and signature
5. Person responsible for receiving the samples - Write the name of the employee in the LVU who received the samples and signature
6. Person responsible for sending the samples to the laboratory - Write the name of the employee responsible for sending the samples to the laboratory and signature
7. Date when the samples were shipped to the laboratory - Write the date when the samples were sent to the laboratory.

ATTENTION: The original form shall be filed at the Central Office of the State Animal Health Agency and a legible copy shall be filed at the Local Veterinary Unit that delivered the kits.