



African swine fever

Information for pig keepers

Australia is free of African swine fever.

Pig owners should take action now to protect their pigs against the risk of African swine fever.

Know what to look for and what to do.

African swine fever is an infectious viral disease of domestic and feral pigs. African swine fever can result in a very high mortality rate in infected pigs and no vaccine or treatment is available. If it were introduced to Australia, African swine fever would significantly impact pig health and production.

The signs of African swine fever in pigs can include:

- Sudden death/increased numbers of deaths
- blotching/reddening of the skin
- high fever
- lack of coordination or stiff gait
- difficulty breathing
- abortion
- diarrhoea
- vomiting.

Protect your pigs. You must be registered as a biosecurity entity. Visit qld.gov.au/BiosecurityRegistration to learn more.

Pig keepers should:

- Have a biosecurity plan in place.
- Ensure all workers and visitors are aware of your biosecurity rules.
- Do not feed pigs swill—it is best to feed pigs commercial pig feed.
- Ensure items and equipment coming on to or going off of your farm are clean. Clean and disinfect any equipment shared with other farms.
- Practise good hygiene—wear clean clothes and footwear on a property with pigs.
- Prevent visitors from having unnecessary contact with your pigs.
- Prevent contact between farmed and feral pigs.
- Notify Biosecurity Queensland immediately if you suspect African swine fever.

Biosecurity plans and templates for pig farmers can be found at farmbiosecurity.com.au.

The greatest risk of introduction of African swine fever is from visitors and residents illegally bringing pork or pork products into Australia from overseas and the products being fed to or eaten by pigs.

If you suspect the presence of African swine fever, you must report it to **Biosecurity Queensland** on **13 25 23** or contact the **Emergency Disease Watch Hotline** on **1800 675 888**.



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People food is not pig food

Swill is food or food scraps that have come into contact with, or contains animal matter such as meat and meat products and should never be fed to pigs.

It's best to feed pigs commercially available feed.

Swill feeding is illegal in all states and territories of Australia. Swill may contain serious viruses, including African swine fever that could be passed on to pigs through feeding.

Food that must not be fed to pigs (swill)

Household, commercial, supermarket, or industrial food waste including restaurant food, butcher shop waste and bakery waste that contains meat, meat products, eggs, some dairy products, or anything that has been in contact with these items must not be fed to pigs.

Examples include table scraps, meat pies, sausage rolls, bacon and cheese rolls, Caesar salad with bacon piece, deli meats, eggs, milk or milk products not of Australian origin or illegally imported into Australia and untreated used cooking oils and fats.

Anything that has been in contact with swill via collection, storage or transport in contaminated containers such as meat trays and takeaway food containers must not be fed to pigs.

These restrictions apply to ALL pigs, including pet pigs.

Dispose of food waste responsibly

Always dispose of food waste and scraps properly so pigs can't access and eat them. The garbage collection pick-up point should restrict access from pigs.

Report swill feeding

If you suspect that swill is being supplied to pig owners or pigs are being fed swill, contact **Biosecurity Queensland** on **13 25 23**.

Feeding swill to pigs or even supplying swill to someone to feed to pigs may carry penalties of up to \$53,380. In cases where someone knows it is illegal to feed swill but chooses to do so anyway, penalties of up to \$400,350 or 3 years imprisonment may apply.

What should I do if I notice unusual clinical signs in my pigs?

If you suspect African swine fever, immediately contact your veterinarian. They will conduct investigations to confirm or rule out African swine fever. **Biosecurity Queensland** MUST be notified on **13 25 23** or through the **Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline** on **1800 675 888**.

Want to know more?

For more information on African swine fever call **13 25 23** or visit qld.gov.au/AfricanSwineFever

Subscribe to the biosecurity alerts at daf.qld.gov.au/alerts.

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