

# African swine fever outbreak and surveillance update report

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28 March 2024



agriculture, land reform  
& rural development

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Department:  
Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

Report compiled by:  
Directorate: Animal Health

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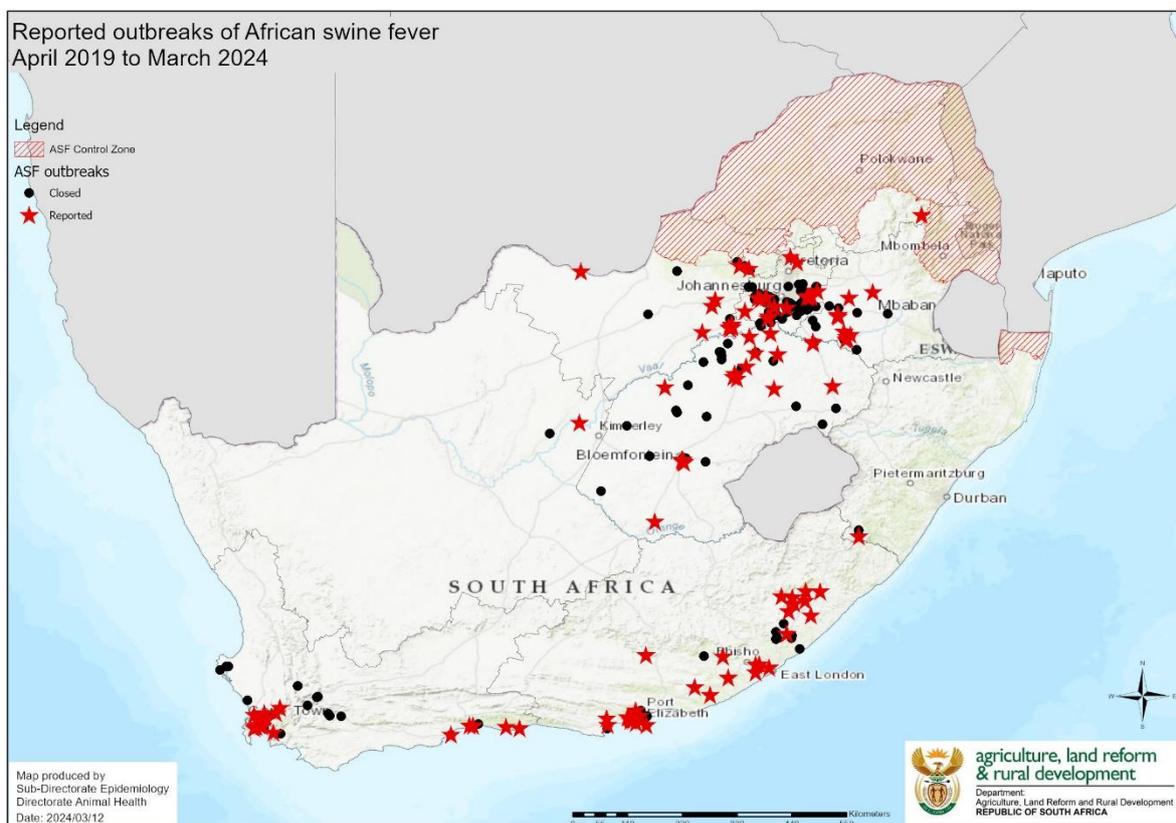
\* This report includes all information as available by close of business on the indicated date. All the updates contained in this report may not currently reflect on the OIE WAHIS system due to technical difficulties with the OIE reporting system \*

# 1. Introduction and summary

South Africa currently has four open ASF outbreak events, and one outbreak event which was resolved and closed with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

- The first outbreak event started in 2019 and is affecting Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, North-West and Northern Cape provinces, with a total of 187 reported outbreaks (62 open and 125 resolved).
- The second outbreak event started in 2020 and is in Eastern Cape Province with 45 reported outbreaks (31 open and 14 resolved).
- The third outbreak event started in 2021 and is in Western Cape Province with 56 outbreaks (29 open and 27 resolved).
- The fourth outbreak event started in 2022 and is in KwaZulu-Natal Province with 2 reported outbreaks (both resolved) and has now been closed.
- The fifth outbreak event started in 2023 in KwaZulu-Natal with 2 reported outbreaks (2 open).

There are four cases of ASF outbreak reported within the legislated ASF controlled area. Three outbreaks were reported in Limpopo, two occurred in 2022 and one in 2023; while one outbreak was reported in Mpumalanga Province and occurred in 2023.



## Summary of active outbreaks per province:

Province	Number of open outbreaks	Number of resolved outbreaks	Total number of outbreaks	Start date of last reported outbreak
Eastern Cape	31	14	45	19 January 2024
Free State	21	25	46	17 February 2024
Gauteng	12	84	96	19 February 2024
KwaZulu-Natal	2	0	2	28 September 2023
Limpopo	1	0	1	19 December 2023
Mpumalanga	15	11	26	12 May 2023
North West	12	5	17	18 August 2023
Western Cape	29	27	56	27 February 2024
Northern Cape	1	0	1	3 October 2023
<b>Total</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>290</b>	

## 2. Details of open outbreaks

### 2.1 Status since the last update report issued on 28 February 2024

#### Eastern Cape

One new outbreak located in Buffalo City Municipality was reported to WOAHP during the current month of March 2024.

#### Gauteng

One new outbreak e located in Midvaal Local Municipality was reported to WOAHP during the current month of March 2024.

#### Western Cape

Two new outbreaks located in George Local Municipality were reported to WOAHP during the current month of March 2024.

No new outbreaks were reported in the KwaZulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, North West, Limpopo, Free State, and Northern Cape Provinces during the month of March 2024.

### 2.2 Confirmation of diagnosis

For all reported outbreaks, confirmation of disease was done by positive PCR on organ samples (in some cases whole blood samples) at the ARC Onderstepoort Veterinary Research Transboundary Animal Diseases laboratory (OVR-TAD).

## 2.3 Control measures implemented

Control measures are based on quarantine and movement controls. Awareness drives highlighting essential biosecurity measures to enable pig owners to prevent infection of their pigs have been ongoing including the following recommendations:

- Confinement of pigs to prevent contact with other free roaming pigs or wildlife;
- Strictly purchase pigs directly from healthy herds;
- Feed only safe recommended feed to pigs;
- Not allowing visitors contact with pigs;
- Before having contact with pigs, wash hands, only use clean clothes, shoes, equipment and vehicles (that have not been in contact with other pigs)

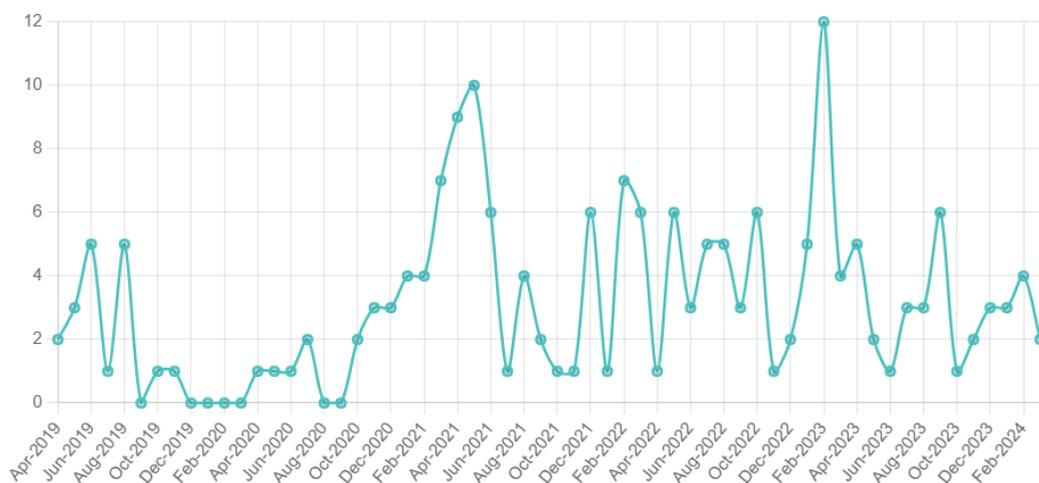
## 3. Epidemiology

Most of the reported outbreaks have had the ASF virus sequenced. OVR-TAD has determined two genotypes involved:

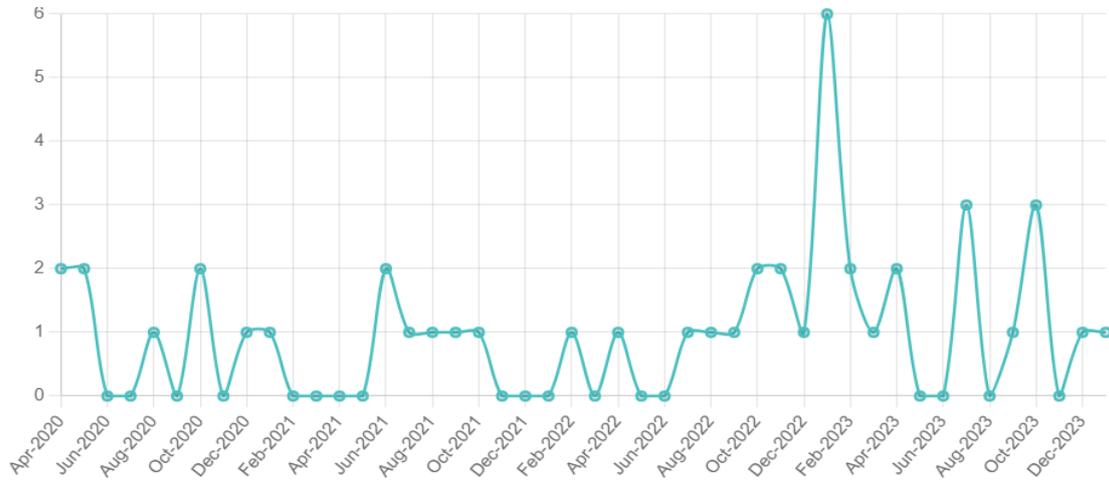
- Currently the outbreak event in Free State, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, and North West have been affected by both Genotype I and II viruses.
- The Eastern Cape and Western Cape outbreak events are affected only by Genotype II.

The following graphs show the trend of ASF outbreaks reported per month per outbreak event:

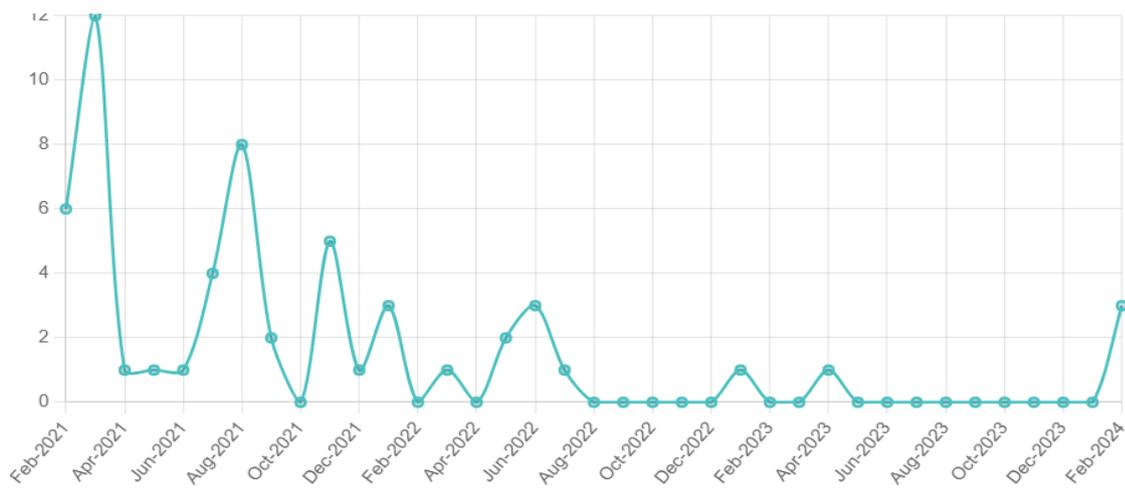
**Fig1. MPU\_2019 Outbreaks per month since start of event**



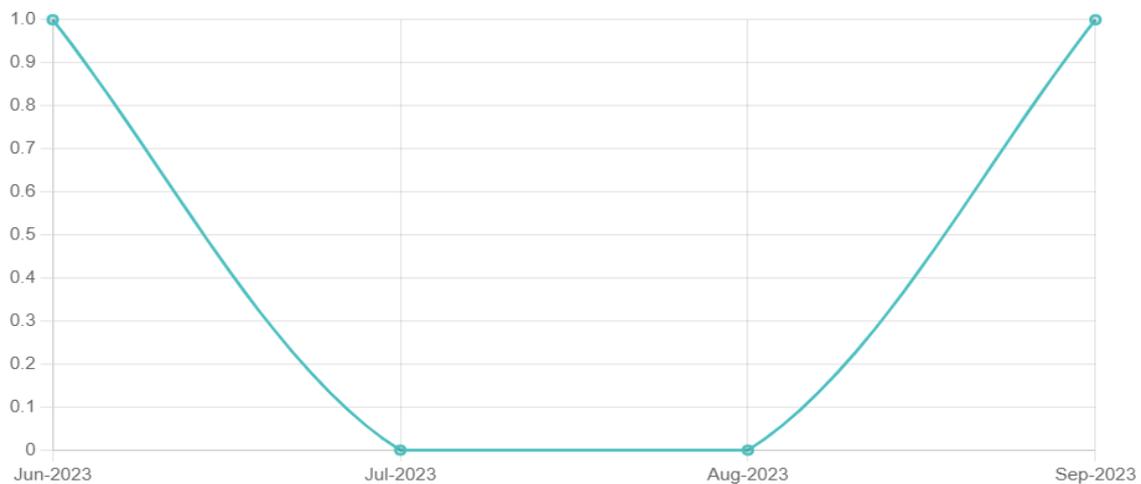
**Fig 2. ECP\_2020 Outbreaks per month since start of event**



**Fig 3: WCP\_2021 Outbreaks per month since start of event**



**Fig 4: KZN\_2023 Outbreaks per month since start of event**



## 4. Surveillance

Surveillance for ASF remains ongoing. All movements of pigs from infected properties and areas during the period prior to and following diagnosis are traced and any suspect disease outbreaks in pigs investigated. If suspect clinical signs are observed, samples are collected to confirm the diagnosis.



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