

ASF in the Czech Republic – situation up to date 17. 8. 2017

The first positive case of ASF in wild boars in the Czech Republic was detected on 26 June 2017 by the State Veterinary Institute (SVI) in Olomouc. A sample from a dead wild boar found in the cadastral territory Příluky u Zlína was concerned and the sample was, within monitoring, sent for testing for ASF. Positive result of the test was on the same day confirmed also by the National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for ASF at the SVI in Jihlava. Immediately after the confirmation, the SVA took measures based on Act No 166/1999 concerning veterinary care and amending certain related laws (Veterinary Act), as amended, Decree 202/2004 concerning measures for the prevention and eradication of African swine fever and Council Directive 2002/60/EC laying down specific provisions for the control of African swine fever. The Regional Veterinary Administration for the region Zlín (RVAZ) has ordered emergency veterinary measures for the prevention of spread of a dangerous animal disease – African swine fever. Measures comprising in particular ban on hunting and feeding wild boars, active monitoring in dead wild boars, census of all pigs on all holdings, prevention of contacts of domestic pigs with wild boars, movement within pig holdings only after authorisation by the RVAZ, as well as the duty to notify to the RVAZ domestic slaughtering of pigs have been ordered in specified cadastral territories. Based on the detection of further positive results and discussions with the European Commission, the RVAZ has ordered new emergency veterinary measures which have extended the infected area to the entire district Zlín and which have ordered measures for the entire area. In addition to existing measures, feeding green fodder to pigs and ban on the use of straw as pig litter have been added. The emergency veterinary measures have also ordered to notify to the RVAZ all dead or diseased domestic pigs showing signs indicating the presence of the disease.

As of today, the State Veterinary Administration registers totally 159 wild boars found dead. ASF has already been detected in 90 of them. All confirmed cases have come from the territories of cadastral areas where the disease has already been confirmed earlier. Up to now, ASF has not been confirmed in 69 tested cases. All positive cases have been found in a relatively small area of approx. 40 km², the area has been fenced using odour and electric fencing preventing the migration of wild boars.

With respect to the above mentioned, please, accept our assurance that the Czech Republic has taken all possible and necessary measures in accordance with the recommendations of the European Commission where the maximum emphasis has been laid on the prevention of ASF spread and that the disease has not intruded yet to any of Czech holdings.