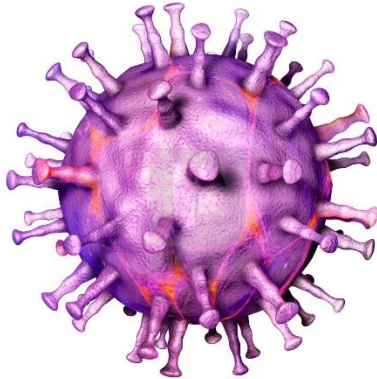


African Swine Fever Virus



African Swine Fever virus (ASFv) is an emerging virus that is wreaking havoc on swine populations in various countries across the world. As of April 2021, ASFv had not surfaced in the United States or Canada. However, it has been running rampant through portions of the world like Sub-Saharan Africa, certain parts of Europe, Vietnam, Mongolia, and China.

The virus is very deadly and highly infectious when it reaches a group of feral or domestic pigs. The virus can infect all types of barn-raised pigs, wild boars, bush hogs, and warthogs. After infection, the pigs typically only have a week left of survival. Initially, a group of swine can become infected by the virus in multiple different ways. They can become infected if one pig is bit by a tick carrying the virus, by consuming excrements of scavenger birds that feast on the diseased, deceased pigs, or if pigs are fed pork scraps that are contaminated with ASFv. From live pig to pig, transmission can only happen through the contact of bodily fluids. There is not a vaccine or treatment for the pigs once they become infected with the virus, and due to the complex DNA structure of the virus, there will likely not be a treatment anytime soon. Luckily, ASFv is not currently known to have the capabilities of transmitting to humans. This means that while the virus does not currently pose a food safety issue for humans, it will impact the pork industry from loss of volume due to severe population decline in pig barns.

Since there is no cure for ASFv, disinfection in the barns that house the animals and the trucks that transport them is top priority in mitigating the problem. AFCO does not currently have any products on the market that claim to kill ASFv on the label. In the United States, there are only a handful of products with that claim on the label, and there are not currently any labs that test for efficacy against ASFv in the United States. However, per the US EPA Section 18 FIFRA Act, if a registered product that claims efficacy against ASFv is not available during a crisis, Sodium Hypochlorite and Citric Acid can be used as alternatives. That means that AFCO 0251 Chlorilizer Plus and AFCO 0235 Citric Acid can be used as options for cleaning haulers and barns. Although, it is usually a bleak outcome for the pigs that come in contact with this virus, we are hopeful that through the products we sell to customers that we can help control the spread of this deadly disease by aiding in disinfection.

[African Swine Fever FastFact \(iastate.edu\)](https://iastate.edu)

[African Swine Fever | FDA](#)

[USDA APHIS | African Swine Fever \(ASF\)](#)

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