2019 WORLD EXPO CANCELLED DUE TO AFRICAN SWINE FLU (ASF)

IN PIG NEWS

Take action to stop the spread of African swine fever

At the 87th OIE General Session, the World Assembly called on countries to consider ASF control as a high priority and the OIE committed to implement a global initiative to better support countries in the control of the disease.

African swine fever (ASF) continues to spread across the world, killing domestic and wild pigs and heightening panzootic risks for all countries. It is time to join forces to put an end to this deadly pig disease, whose impact goes far beyond animal health and welfare, as it causes severe production and economic losses and threatens food security. Today, at the 87th OIE General Session and after the presentation of a report on the ‘Strategic challenges to global control of African swine fever’, the World Assembly called on countries to consider ASF control as a high priority and the OIE committed to implement a global initiative to better support them in the control of the disease using the Global Framework for the progressive control of Transboundary Animal Diseases (GF-TADs).
Control of ASF is possible, but country efforts need to be part of a coordinated global approach to ensure their success and sustainability. During the General Session, the OIE received from its Members the mandate to address ASF by improving national, regional and global coordination under the umbrella of the GF-TADs. Through a Resolution that will be submitted for formal endorsement on Thursday, the OIE took leadership in collaboration with FAO to identify key pillars required for the global control of ASF, in compliance with the relevant OIE Standards, and to support the establishment of expert networks and research alliances around the world, among other actions.

Furthermore, the resolution urges countries to curb the spread of ASF by putting in place the following measures:

- consider ASF as a disease that requires risk management;
- implement OIE international standards;
- keep transparency of the global situation;
- make use of the OIE PVS pathway;
- increase risk communication activities.

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McDonald's CEO Says African Swine Fever's Pushing Up Pork Prices

MAY 29, 2019 02:53 PM
African swine fever (ASF) is affecting the global fast-food chain's pork supply, McDonald's CEO Steve Easterbrook said on Wednesday.

"African swine fever hurts us a little on the pork," Easterbrook said in an interview with CNBC. "That limits the movements of pork and pushes it up here in the U.S."

McDonald's uses pork products in its breakfast items, such as the bacon, egg and cheese biscuit and the sausage burrito. The company is also bringing back its cheesy bacon fries this summer for a limited time as part of its Worldwide Favorites menu.

"We've got a well-established supply chain and hedge wherever we possibly can and minimize the impact of these things, but the reality is we're subject to the same kind of pressures on this as everyone else," Easterbrook said.

The fast-food chain is forecasting that U.S. commodity costs will increase by 2% to 3% in 2019, up from a previous range of 1% to 2%.

Despite ASF pushing up the price of pork, McDonald's is waiting to add any plant-based meat substitutes to its menu. Easterbrook said the company is trying to see if a vegan burger will drive traffic to its stores.

According to CNBC, McDonald's shares were recently down less than 1% in trading Wednesday. The stock hit an all-time high of $201.15 last week, and shares have gained 22% over the past year.

ASF is a highly transmissible, deadly disease that affects pigs only. It is not a disease of people and pork poses no food safety risk.

For more information on ASF prevention and spread, visit porkbusiness.com/ASF.
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