

## Current situation on African swine fever

(25/01) Germany has informed the European Commission about the current situation regarding African swine fever (ASF) on its territory following a confirmed outbreak of ASF in feral pigs on 16 June 2024 in an area previously free of the disease in the federal state of Hesse. The number of confirmed cases of ASF in wild boar in Hesse has increased to six. All infected wild boar carcasses were discovered in the immediate vicinity around 500 metres from where the first affected animal was found south of Rüsselsheim (Groß-Gerau district).

Against this background, the EU Commission adopted Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/1790 concerning certain interim emergency measures in relation to ASF in Germany. Accordingly, in accordance with Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 and Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594, the competent authority has established an infected zone in which the general disease control measures laid down in Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 are implemented in order to prevent the further spread of this disease. In order to prevent unnecessary disruption of trade within the Union and to avoid unjustified barriers to trade imposed by third countries, it is necessary to demarcate the infected zone in relation to ASF in Germany at Union level.

In order to prevent the further spread of African swine fever, pending the listing of the areas of Germany affected by the recent outbreak of African swine fever in feral pigs as infected zone in Part A of Annex II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594, those areas of Germany should be listed in the Annex to this Decision and should be subject to the specific disease control measures applicable to restricted zones II, as provided for in Article 8(2) of that Implementing Regulation for areas listed as infected zones in Part A of Annex II to that Regulation.

As this new disease situation in relation to African swine fever in the Union is persistent and of a serious nature, and given the increased immediate risk of further spread of the disease, the specific disease control measures in relation to African swine fever provided for in Article 8 of Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 should be applied in addition to the measures laid down in Articles 63 to 66 of that Regulation. African swine fever in accordance with Article 8(3) and (4) of Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 should also apply to movements from the areas listed in the Annex to this Decision to other Member States and to third countries of consignments of kept pigs and products derived from them.

The areas designated as infected zones can be found in the Annex to Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/1790 at the following link

[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=OJ:L\\_202401790](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202401790)

## Amendment and correction of Regulation (EU) 2023/915 on maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs

(25/02) Commission Regulation (EU) 2023/915 sets maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs. The experience gained since the entry into force of this Regulation has shown that some entries in the table in Annex I of this Regulation are unclear. The EU Commission has therefore issued Regulation (EU) 2024/1756 to clarify these entries.

Among other things, Annex I of Regulation (EU) 2023/915 is corrected as follows:

In the table, section 4 (Halogenated persistent organic pollutants), the entry for dioxins and PCBs is corrected as follows:

Point 4.1.12 is replaced by the following:

|        |   |              |              |             |   |
|--------|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|---|
| 4.1.12 | Eggs and egg products, excluding goose eggs | 2.5 pg/g fat | 5.0 pg/g fat | 40 ng/g fat | <p>The maximum fat content does not apply to foodstuffs containing less than 2 % fat. For foodstuffs containing less than 2% fat, the maximum content applies to the entire product.</p> <p>This maximum content is calculated using the following formula:</p> <p>Maximum level related to the whole product (for foodstuffs containing less than 2 % fat) = maximum level related to the fat content (for the foodstuff concerned) × 0,02."</p> |
|--------|---|--------------|--------------|-------------|---|

In order to ensure uniform enforcement of the maximum levels for dioxins and PCBs in wild game meat, point 4.1.1.8 of the table in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2023/915 should also specify the animal species from which the meat in question originates.

Regulation (EU) 2024/1756 can be found here:

[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=OJ:L\\_202401756](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/DE/TXT/?uri=OJ:L_202401756)

### **Struggle for EU standardised nutrition labelling continues**

(25/03) On 24 June 2024, the topic of "Nutrition labelling systems on the front of packaging" was once again debated at the EU Agriculture Council meeting. Although there is still no agreement on the content between the member states, pressure is growing on the EU Commission to present a legislative proposal on nutrition labelling in the near future. The original plan was for the Commission to present its proposal to the co-legislators as early as autumn 2023. However, the responsible EU Health Commissioner Kyriacos

kides has now pointed out that further preparations are still necessary in order to be able to submit an effective legislative proposal. The German government is in favour of the Nutri-Score. Finland is calling for an EU-wide harmonised system of nutrition labelling. This is also supported by Austria. However, the country is also demanding that small producers should not be left behind as a result.

If Ireland has its way, the member states should remain free to allow their own models of nutrition labelling. The corresponding systems should focus primarily on negative ingredients. Many southern European countries, on the other hand, criticise the Nutri-Score. Italy, for example, is sticking to its position that the system is far too superficial. Greece expressed a similar view.

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