Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA)’s Response to the Outbreak of African Swine Fever

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Forum on African Swine Fever

April 30th – May 1st, 2019
Introduction

• The CBSA and the CFIA are working closely together to ensure that goods that pose a threat of introducing African swine fever (ASF) to Canada are interdicted at the border

• The CBSA is responsible for administering and enforcing CFIA policies as they apply at the border, including:
  o Screening travellers for inadmissible food, plants, animals (FPA) and related products, and
  o Ensuring commercial shipments are released, refused, or referred for CFIA inspection in accordance with CFIA release recommendations
Mitigation Activities - Traveller Stream

- Screening travellers for inadmissible pork products
- Verifying if travellers have visited a farm while abroad
- Intercepting goods contaminated with soil
- Issuing monetary penalties of $1,300 to travellers who fail to declare pork products
- Disposing of intercepted goods as international waste
Mitigation Activities – Travellers Stream

• Deploying more detector dog teams

• Re-deploying resources to focus on flights arriving from ASF-affected countries

Detector Dog Ambrose sniffed out prohibited pork products at the airport
Mitigation Activities – Commercial Stream

- Verifying goods meet CFIA import requirements
- Releasing, referring, or refusing entry based on CFIA recommendations
- Targeting high-risk goods (e.g. pork products, feed)
- Inspecting goods potentially contaminated with soil (e.g. farming equipment)
Outreach

- ASF posters in 13 languages at 18 Canadian airports and international locations outside of the country
- Leaflets to inform travellers of their responsibility to declare FPA items
- ASF advisories on CBSA webpages and social media
Outreach

- Outreach to airlines and airports via CBSA Liaison Officers (40) overseas
Outreach

• Identified additional means for ASF messaging, such as on Immigration, Refugees, Citizenship Canada (IRCC) ’s website for electronic travel authorizations (eTAs) and visas to Canada.
Challenges

• Raising the awareness of ASF to the travelling public, particularly those in international locations

• Encouraging travellers to dispose of prohibited pork products before the aircraft departs for Canada

• Collaborating with carriers to inform travellers about ASF and penalties

• Travellers carrying goods from ASF-affected countries who arrive in Canada on connecting flights from another country
Contact Information

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