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**Committee on Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures**

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**UNOFFICIAL ROOM DOCUMENT<sup>1</sup>**  
**SPS COMMITTEE THEMATIC SESSION ON AFRICAN SWINE FEVER**  
**TUESDAY, 23 MARCH 2021**

PERSPECTIVES OF AN EXPORTING MEMBER WHERE ASF IS NOT PRESENT

*Dr Jaspinder Komal*

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**Comité des mesures sanitaires et phytosanitaires**

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\* In Original language only/En langue originale seulement/En el idioma original solamente.

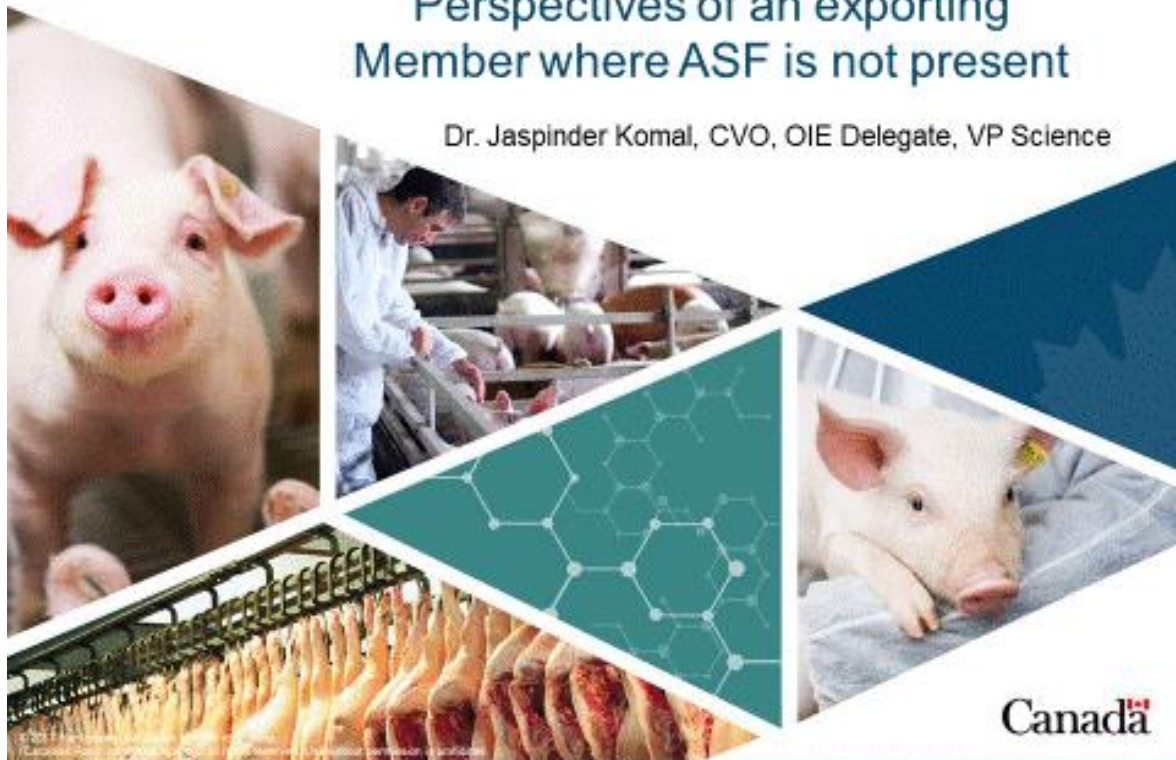
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## Perspectives of an exporting Member where ASF is not present

Dr. Jaspinder Komal, CVO, OIE Delegate, VP Science



## Why is Canada concerned about ASF?

### Top 3 Markets for Canadian Pork

U.S.



Japan



China



- The Canadian pork industry generates \$24 billion CAD in GDP and 103,000 jobs throughout the supply chain.
- Canada exports 70% of its hog production; (including live pigs, germplasm and pork/ pork products).
- In 2020, the Canadian pork industry exported 1.4 million tonnes valued just over \$5 billion CAD to 93 export markets.

*One positive case in Canada would stop **all** hog and pork exports immediately; markets could take months to years to reopen.*

## Preparing for ASF and the importance of zoning

- At the ASF Forum held in Canada in 2019, we devised a framework of actions to prevent entry and mitigate the impacts.
- Four pillars were identified which included Preparedness Planning, Enhanced Biosecurity, Business Continuity and Communications.
- Zoning is a key component of the business continuity planning strategy.
- With the wide geographic distribution of our commercial swine industry, zoning is a critical tool to ensure a detection in one part of the country does not affect the rest.



Canada's Commercial Swine Industry



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## The use of zoning and zoning agreements

- The Okanagan Valley in British Columbia was an internationally accepted zone, excluded for the purposes of Bluetongue, for trade with Canada in 1988.
- This was the first example of regionalization/zoning accepted by the European Union.
- Canada has used zoning for Brucellosis and Tuberculosis control and eradication.
- Canada used zoning for trade in the 2004 and 2014 Avian Influenza outbreaks in British Columbia.
- Canada has used zoning in the Aquatic sector.

Figure 3 - Map showing the Primary Control Zone in the HPAI outbreak in BC, 2014



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## The use of zoning and zoning agreements for ASF

- For ASF, we have built upon existing, reciprocal arrangements with key trading partners to facilitate the recognition of zones.
- Canada and the US have a zoning arrangement whereby each country agrees to recognize each others' zones for highly contagious Foreign Animal Diseases.
- A similar agreement is in place with the EU, and additional zoning agreements have been initiated with major trading partners.
- Other increased border controls include mitigation measures for feed grains imported from ASF positive countries, and increased numbers of detector dogs at airports and ports.

### Canada, United States agree on application of zones to allow safe trade in the event of an African swine fever outbreak

From: Canadian Food Inspection Agency

#### Statement

May 22, 2019 - Ottawa, Ontario

Today, Canada's Chief Veterinary Officer (CVO), Dr. Josephine Kermal, working in collaboration with the United States' CVO, Dr. Jack Shere, issued the following statement:

"We are pleased to announce that the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) have agreed to allow safe trade to continue in the event African swine fever (ASF) is reported in either country.

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## Leadership and collaboration

- Canada holds the presidency of the Regional Steering Committee for Global Framework-Transboundary Animal Disease (GF-TAD) for the Americas and is chair of the Standing Group of Experts (SGE) on ASF.
- To date the SGE has tackled topics concerning prevention of entry such as border controls, risk assessment, and risk communications.
- The next meeting of the SGE will focus on business continuity including zoning.
- Canada has contributed to the global GF-TAD initiative on ASF through financial support for the secretariat at regional and global levels through the OIE World Fund.



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## Concluding remarks

- Zoning is a critical tool to facilitate continued safe trade, ensure food security, while controlling the spread of disease in domestic and wild swine.
- Veterinary services must be supported to address the threat of ASF regardless of their current disease status.
- The global community needs to work together to optimize tools for early detection, controls at ports of entry, strategies for depopulation and disposal, and the effective implementation of standards to facilitate safe trade.

Rapid highly-sensitive on-site detection of ASF using non-invasive technique would be highly beneficial for disease control during an outbreak and field monitoring.



# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

# ANNEX 1

