

EXERCISE SUMMARY – Sept. 2019 ASF Functional Exercise

23-26 September 2019

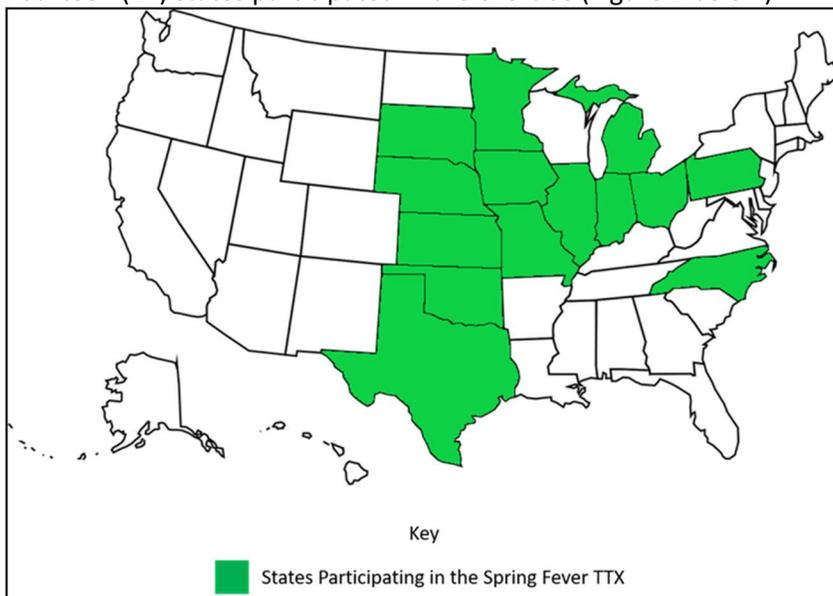
Page 1

Exercise Objectives

Conduct an initial epidemiological investigation related to an ASF outbreak to support the development of a control area.
Collect, document, and deliver the appropriate samples necessary to determine the status of a potential infection.
Given the infected premises in the scenario, determine control area(s).
Develop, approve, and disseminate public and industry-related information to support response actions for each day of play, including a Situation Report. Establish communications with the infected premises, stakeholders, and other important agencies.
Implement the state's procedures for supporting a national movement standstill.
Develop a herd plan for each infected premises that includes; <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Appraisal/Indemnification plan- Site-specific depopulation plan – Catastrophic Emergency- Site-specific disposal plan
Develop a complete Incident Action Plan for next-day tactical field operations.
Accept, review, approve, and deliver movement permits for premises requesting movement out of a control area.

Exercise Summary

- The four-day functional exercise was the culmination of three (3) previous tabletop exercises organized by USDA.
- Each day of the functional exercise was designed to be different, and the scenarios reset each morning.
- Fourteen (14) states participated in the exercise (Figure 1 below).



EXERCISE SUMMARY – Sept. 2019 ASF Functional Exercise

23-26 September 2019

Page 2

- USDA hosted optional calls three times per day when states could call in and ask policy-related questions.
- All-state “brief back” calls occurred an hour before the end of the day. All participating states and their producers recapped activities and had dialogue with other states.

Iowa Summary

- Three (3) producer players in the exercise = Iowa Select Farms (Sow farm – Lucas Co.), Seaboard Foods (Finishing site – Hardin Co.), JWV Pork (Finishing site – Washington Co.).
- IPPA staff was on-site with the participating producers and with IDALS at the Emergency Operations Center.
- State and federal veterinarians were on each site Day 1 collecting samples and submitting them to the laboratory, and were on Day 3 designing the herd plans and completing indemnity requests.
- Two (2) packer players in the exercise = Seaboard Foods and Tyson Foods.
- Packers participated from their offices on Day 2 during the movement standstill/communications exercise, and on Day 4 during permitted movements.
- IPPA offered observer locations throughout Iowa and at the IPPA office throughout the week. Producers, packers, and Allied Industry members observed the exercise in person or virtually. There were roughly 45 observers each day across locations and virtually.
- An IDALS after-exercise review, including producer and packer players, occurred Oct. 15, 2019.
- Further actions from USDA following the exercise include: 1) produce an after-action report from this exercise and continue working on USDA Veterinary Services corrective actions. 2) Heavily market and support States, both top 14 and others, in using the materials that were produced in FY19 to continue preparing for ASF. 3) Initiate an effort with packers to pilot an exercise series they can use to prepare. 4) Further develop and/or revise response policies for ASF to better achieve unified national standards and protocols for interstate commerce and response actions.

<i>Day – Exercise (Description)</i>	<i>What Worked Well</i>	<i>Key Learning/Needs</i>
Day 1 – Foreign Animal Disease Investigations and Sample Submission (Foreign animal disease diagnosticians (FADDs) were on sites taking samples from pigs, beginning the epidemiological tracebacks. The samples were sent to the lab. IDALS/USDA stood up their emergency response team and ordered an airplane to send the Category I samples to Plum Island for confirmation. Lab results were sent to the sites at the end of the day.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The process for IDALS/USDA veterinarians contacting IDALS with signs compatible with a FAD. -Coordination and communications between IDALS and USDA. -Coordination of IDALS staff on a plan to deliver samples to the diagnostic lab and “airport”. -IDALS coordination and communication with the Iowa Emergency Response group. -Having drafts of quarantine language for issuing once the site has suspect status. -Coordination and responsiveness of the ISU VDL during the process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Training experience for IDALS and USDA veterinarians (i.e. showering in and farm layout). -FAD investigation equipment on-site already (purple-top tubes, necropsy knives, etc.). -Allowing farm staff to bleed animals, perform necropsies and/or collect samples under the oversight of the FADD. -Additional staff to help with epidemiological investigations and all the other coordination efforts at the administrative level. -Producer preparedness to define the contract grower relationship.

EXERCISE SUMMARY – Sept. 2019 ASF Functional Exercise

23-26 September 2019

Page 3

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Producer preparedness to quickly identify all epidemiological links to the site in question. -Clarification on communications (suspect site vs. confirmed case). -Need better FAD investigation guidance on necropsy done in the building or outside. Disposal of necropsied carcasses?
<p>Day 2 – Movement Standstill and Communications (The scenario introduced on an 8 am call was that the state of Mississippi had positive ASF pigs at a genetic multiplier. Pigs were delivered from this site to six states, including Iowa. Iowa issued a 72-hour movement standstill with a 12-hour grace period. Items included in the standstill were: live pigs, carcasses, embryos, semen, manure, and feed. IDALS exercised all communication methods. Other states issued standstills with varying start times/varying grace periods. USDA issued a national movement standstill effective at noon.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Draft language of the movement standstill being ready. -Attorney general consult in the language and penalties of the movement standstill order. -IDALS pre-planned communication tree and messages. -Pre-planned efforts on coordination and enforcement of the movement standstill with Iowa State Patrol. -Communication methods of IDALS and amplified by IPPA regarding the movement standstill. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide industry perspective on national movement standstill (avoid situations where some states issue one and others don't based on where suspect pigs went). -Need consistency in hours in the grace period if there is not a national standstill. -Need consistency in what is included in the movement standstill. -Need producer resources for the movement standstill (What should happen to pigs at locations in the standstill? What if feed is included in the standstill? What are the penalties for violating the standstill?). -If feed is included in the standstill, what does this mean for feed mills and cooperatives? What about other livestock feed in the movement standstill? -Need best practices for truck washing during grace period/in and out of the movement standstill. -Need industry guidance to USDA on the critical movements and exceptions to the standstill. -Clarification on communications (suspect site vs. confirmed case). -Need legal review of and working group guidance on movement standstill language.

EXERCISE SUMMARY – Sept. 2019 ASF Functional Exercise

23-26 September 2019

Page 4

<p>Day 3 – Depopulation, Disposal and Indemnity/Herd Plan (Each of the 3 sites playing on Day 1 met with USDA/IDALS and DNR personnel to work through herd plans and indemnity requests. Each site chose a depopulation and disposal method to be approved by USDA. USDA provided indemnity values.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Communication and coordination of IDALS, USDA, DNR, and producers. -Willingness of IDALS to act decisively and quickly to “stamp out” disease. -DNR regional offices’ willingness to participate and discuss disposal options. -For the purposes of exercise play, the quick approval of depopulation method and use of a fair indemnity plan. -Producer preparedness with the time and resource estimates on each method of depopulation. -Producer preparedness with current site inventory numbers for indemnity calculation. -Producer preparedness with epidemiological links to the “infected site.” 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Producer preparedness to quickly identify all epidemiological links to the site in question. -Need industry perspective on quarantines based on system, flow, and/or multiple barns on the premises. -Producer resources needed on the indemnity process. -Industry guidance on the herd plan and indemnity request documents (current herd plan and indemnity documents are cumbersome and confusing). -It has been stated before, large need for depopulation, disposal, and disinfection resources. -Need for more trained and certified people to collect samples for testing (farm staff or accredited veterinarians = does not need to be FADD) -Additional staff to help with epidemiological investigations and all the other response efforts at the administrative level. -Large need for defining down time of a site (fallow period). -Many unanswered questions about disposal of manure from an infected site. -Need a meeting with DNR to discuss current carcass management research and additional options for carcass disposal. -Need for producer resources regarding site management of infected sites (media, drones, etc.)
<p>Day 4 – Permitted Movements and Business Continuity (States were to publish their permit request requirements in the morning. Iowa received 25 permit requests from both inside and outside of Iowa. Four permits were approved, and several were</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -The list of requirements for a permitted movement from IDALS. -The mock website listing permit requirements and instructions. -The permitting staff at IDALS and USDA was practiced and experienced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Need for industry guidance on what type of veterinary inspection is included in a movement permit. -Need for industry guidance on who will have EMRS Gateway access and who will request permits.

EXERCISE SUMMARY – Sept. 2019 ASF Functional Exercise

23-26 September 2019

Page 5

<p>rejected mostly because they did not complete the necessary paperwork to meet the requirements.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Alternate site for submitting permitting requests (REDCap).-The alternative permitting mechanism (REDCap) established by IDALS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Provide industry guidance on the USDA recommendations for establishing the size of control areas (different recommendations based on indoor/outdoor pigs).-Has been mentioned before, but a strong need for definition of sample size (how many samples of what type per barn).-Need for state-to-state consistency on permit requirements.-Discussion on payment help for cost of testing during permitted movements.-Need for a regional meeting to discuss permitted movements.-Additional staff to help with epidemiological investigations and all the other response efforts at the administrative level.-Need for a discussion about the inclusion of Secure Pork Supply plans in the permitting process (Verification? Implementation? State-to-state consistency?).
---	---	---