
RESOLUTION NUMBER: 3 and 12 COMBINED APPROVED

SOURCE: **COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AND EMERGING ANIMAL
DISEASES
COMMITTEE ON SWINE**

SUBJECT MATTER: **Feed Import Restrictions to Protect Against African Swine Fever
Importation in Feed**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Numerous studies have emerged providing strong evidence that many viruses, including the African swine fever (ASF) virus, can survive and be transmissible from feed. There are also anecdotal reports that feed from foreign sources, particularly Asia, is produced in a manner that makes it susceptible to contamination. Not all United States (US) feed mills pellet the feed they receive, nor are they equipped to do so.

The US swine industry has now taken numerous steps to mitigate a viral threat from imported feed since the imported products have not been stopped by regulatory officials. Feed is often held for an extended period of time prior to use, and viral mitigants, to be used in feed, are being evaluated. A task force in collaboration with the US Food and Drug Administration, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and Plant Protection and Quarantine was also convened but has not come to a consensus on how to protect the swine industry from viral threats associated with the import of feed ingredients. In February 2020, thirty states and the National Pork Producers Council sent a letter to USDA Secretary Perdue asking that organic soy imports be restricted from countries that are ASF positive. As of September 2020, there has been no response. Further, Canada has led with their initiative to protect swine farmers by using a national responsible imports program to mitigate the risk of contaminated feed ingredients imported from ASF positive countries. Such a program would be beneficial to US swine producers as well.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services, in collaboration with the USDA Trade and Foreign Agricultural Service and other pertinent government agencies such as the United States Food and Drug Administration and USDA-APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine, to restrict the import of feed and/or feed ingredients from countries that are positive for African swine fever and to create enforceable standards for those countries to reduce the contamination threat during harvest and processing of the feed and feed ingredients.