

Pig disposal procedure on Yuen Long pig farm with pigs found with ASF virus completes

Regarding the incident announced yesterday (February 4) where samples of pigs from a local pig farm were tested with African Swine Fever (ASF), the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD) this morning (February 5) launched the disposal operation on the farm concerned. It was completed at about 2.30pm this afternoon.

An AFCD spokesman said, "According to the contingency plan on ASF, the AFCD sent over 20 staff to dispose about 240 pigs at about 7 am today on the licensed farm in Wong Nai Tun, Yuen Long. All disposed pigs were sent to New Territories West and New Territories North landfills for dumping according to established procedures."

The spokesman noted that thorough cleansing and disinfection had been conducted on the farm. The AFCD will continue to closely monitor the health condition of the pigs in other sheds on the farm and take samples for testing, and investigate and trace the source of the virus. For the sake of prudence, the AFCD still suspends transport of any pigs from the index farm and the three pig farms within three kilometres of it.

The AFCD will continue to keep local pig farms under close surveillance and step up inspection and conduct tests if necessary. The AFCD has also notified all farmers to alert the Department immediately if abnormal health conditions are observed in pigs.

The spokesman stressed that ASF is not a zoonotic disease and will not infect humans, hence does not cause any food safety risk. Pork cooked thoroughly is safe for consumption. Members of the public do not need to be concerned. The incident does not affect the operation of local slaughterhouses nor the overall supply of live pigs.