



## New Members' Only Section on Website

The members' only page on the CASV-ACVP website is now active. To access the page, go to the website [www.casv-acvp.com](http://www.casv-acvp.com). Click on "More" in the upper right corner, then "Log in". The password for all CASV-ACVP members is CanSwine. The password is case sensitive. Please do not share the password with non-CASV-ACVP members.

## 2022 Congress on Canadian Veterinary Workforce

Noémie van Vyve will be representing the CASV-ACVP Board at the 2022 Congress on Canadian Veterinary Workforce being held in Ottawa on June 14, 2022. The Congress is intended to be a first step in coordinating a Canadian collaborative approach in dealing with the Canadian veterinary workforce shortage.

## African Swine Fever Compartments Webinar

In March, the Canadian Pork Council and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency hosted the African Swine Fever Compartments Webinar on the draft national standards and framework and the upcoming consultation period. Over the past two years, they have been working on building these standards for the development and implementation of ASF-Free Compartments. If you missed watching the session live, a recording is available on the Canadian Pork Council website <https://www.cpc-ccp.com/compartments-webinar>. If you scroll down the page, you will see the option to watch the video or review the presentation.

## Emergency Transit of Regulated Animals

The CFIA and USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service officially agreed to implement an Emergency Transit Policy for Regulated Animals. The policy makes it easier and faster to evacuate regulated animals, such as livestock, birds, pets, and companion animals, across the border during emergencies such as flooding, forest fires, extreme weather conditions or

## Swine Depopulation Methods Reference Document

The Swine Depopulation Methods Reference document is now available. This document was compiled by the ASF Federal-Provincial-Territorial-Industry Depopulation and Disposal Working Group. The reference document is intended to assist in planning for acceptable animal depopulation for either welfare or disease-control purposes. It pursues two main objectives: (1) providing the most tools possible to efficiently depopulate once the need has been identified; and (2) providing clear guidelines on acceptability and feasibility based on animal welfare, safety concerns and other considerations. Due to the nature of the content, it was recommended to distribute the document through recognized organizations involved with depopulation planning, instead of open web publishing.

The document was shared by CFIA with CASV-ACVP to support distribution to licensed veterinarians in Canada who may be involved in the mass depopulation of swine following a catastrophic event. The document has been posted on the members' only page of the CASV-ACVP website [www.casv-acvp.com](http://www.casv-acvp.com) (see related article in sidebar). Due to the sensitive nature of this document, please do not print off and distribute to producers or other stakeholders. It is intended as a veterinary reference only.

## New African Swine Fever National Project Manager

Animal Health Canada announced Dr. Rayna Gunvaldsen as the new African Swine Fever National Project Manager as of March 25, 2022. The role provides leadership and support to the African Swine Fever Executive Management Board, and associated activities. The ASF file is in its third year of work to tackle the risk of African Swine Fever to the Canadian swine population.

Dr. Gunvaldsen worked for the Government of Alberta and the CFIA in various roles including district veterinarian for Vancouver Island, Foreign Animal Disease Veterinarian, and Surveillance Veterinarian before being appointed Chief Veterinarian for BC in 2020.

Animal Health Canada thanked Dr. Christa Arsenault for her significant contributions as the first ASF National Project Manager. She has returned as planned, to her role within the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs.

## Wild Pig Strategy

The CASV-ACVP Board was asked to provide feedback to the ASF National Project Manager on the draft of Canada's Invasive Wild Pig Strategy (2022-2032). This strategy was drafted by a small working group under the African Swine Fever Executive Management Board to deliver on the goals and objectives of the Pan-Canadian Action Plan on African Swine Fever. Wild pigs have played a significant role in the spread of ASF globally so managing them is an important step in preparing for a possible ASF incursion to Canada.

At this time, there is no single group, organization or government in Canada that has ultimate 'ownership' of, or responsibility for, invasive wild pigs. The first action under this strategy is to establish a leadership group that will guide implementation of the strategy. This leadership group will also be responsible for securing funding to carry out the strategy. After further refinement, the strategy will be posted for public consultation.

disasters, or when routine transportation routes are impaired without feasible alternatives. Animals transiting through the other country during an emergency will be instructed when and where they will have to re-enter their country of origin.

Under the joint policy, the country declaring an emergency will inspect animals, apply official seals to transport conveyances, and issue a simplified export health certificate either at the port(s) of exit by an official veterinarian or at the premises of origin by an accredited veterinarian or official veterinarian. You can read the full statement [here](#).

#### **Advertising in the CASV-ACVP Newsletter**

CASV-ACVP accepts classified advertising (e.g. job postings) in the e-newsletter. The cost is \$125 per week for classified advertising. For promotional and marketing type ads, we offer one banner ad each week at \$500 per week. The CASV-ACVP newsletter is sent to 180 association members each week. If you are interested in advertising in the newsletter, please contact Krista Bates in the CASV-ACVP office at [krista.tfio@bell.net](mailto:krista.tfio@bell.net), 519-669-3350.

The consensus of the CASV-ACVP Board was this document is a great first step and will help provide much needed coordination and best practices. The document encompasses a breadth of stakeholders and takes a One Health approach, which will be key for long term buy-in and success.

#### **Canadian Swine Biosecurity Program**

The Canadian Pork Council is updating the 2010 National Swine Biosecurity Standard and developing a Canadian Swine Biosecurity Program. With the introduction of the PED virus into Canada in 2014 and the unprecedented spread of ASF virus since 2018, it was felt it was time to update and modernize the existing standard.

The Biosecurity Benchmark Tool on External Biosecurity Measures will be ready to use in April 2022. The Benchmark Tool for Internal and Containment Measures will be ready in the fall of 2022.

In order to assess the current level of biosecurity on Canadian farms, the provincial pork organizations will be randomly selecting approximately 1,000 Canadian farms of various production types to participate in a Biosecurity Benchmark Evaluation from April 2022 to March 2023. This Biosecurity Benchmark Evaluation is voluntary; a producer may choose to participate or not.

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*Susan Fitzgerald on behalf of CASV-ACVP Board of Directors.*

**Mission:** *To be a responsive, proactive voice for veterinarians involved with the swine industry in Canada.*