



Food and Farming Group

International Animal Health Division

International Animal Disease Monitoring

Preliminary Outbreak Assessment



Ref: VITT 1200/SVD - Portugal

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## Swine Vesicular Disease in Portugal

**Note:** Defra's International Animal Health Cote Team (IAHCT) monitors outbreaks of high impact diseases around the world. Swine Vesicular Disease (SVD) is among those diseases of major concern.

### Disease report

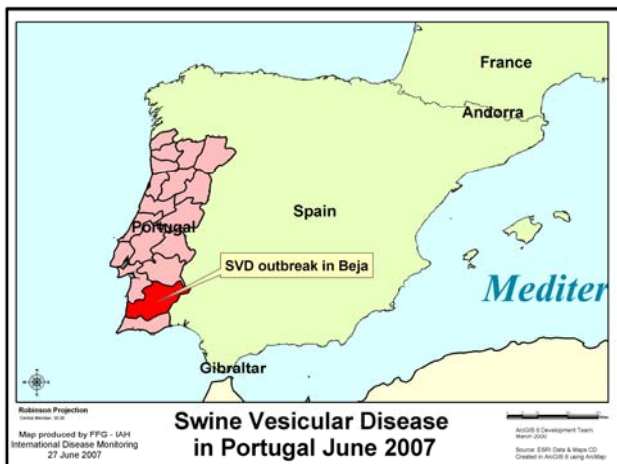
SVD has been reported in pigs from a farm in Beja, southern Portugal (SANCO-ADNS, 2007). Confirmation was by virus isolation subsequent to initial serological detection. Portugal has instituted the prescribed EC control measures including stamping out of the affected herd (European Commission, 2007). SVD was last reported in Portugal in January 2004.

### Situation assessment

SVD is a disease of pigs that causes symptoms indistinguishable from foot and mouth disease. It is caused by an Enterovirus of the family Picornaviridae that is believed to be recently derived from the human Coxsackievirus B5 (Fry and others, 2003).

SVD is endemic in Italy and has occurred sporadically in Portugal.

A search of TRACES shows that there have been no imports of live pigs from Portugal to the UK during the past 3 months. TRACES (European Commission Trade Control and Expert System) does not record movements of pig meat products.



The following qualitative risk assessment was published after the last reported outbreak of SVD in Portugal: [http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/monitoring/pdf/svd\\_portugal.pdf](http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/diseases/monitoring/pdf/svd_portugal.pdf).

### Conclusion

This incident serves as a reminder of the importance of routine biosecurity measures including disinfection of livestock vehicles and the ban on swill-feeding. We will continue to monitor the situation and will review the assessment should the situation change significantly.

### References

- SANCO-ADNS. (2007). Primary disease notification sent by e-mail Wed 27/06/2007 16:35 (2007/1).
- European Commission. (2007). Swine vesicular disease – Portugal. Urgent Fax 21 (27/06/2007 11:00). Brussels, D1 (07) D/411491.
- Fry, E.E., Knowles, N.J., Newman, J.W., Wilsden, G., Rao, Z., King, A.M. and Stuart, D.I. (2003). Crystal structure of Swine vesicular disease virus and implications for host adaptation. *Journal of Virology*, May 2003, Vol. 77, No. 9, p. 5475-5486.