



**An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara**
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Welfare and Transport International Trade

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Introduction

- **Latest disease situation in Europe – Exotic Diseases.**
- **Ireland-France RO-RO Vessels**
- **Ireland – Third Countries – Dedicated Livestock Vessels**
- **NGO's and Animal Welfare Platform**
- **European Commission and Member States**
- **New Animal Health Law**

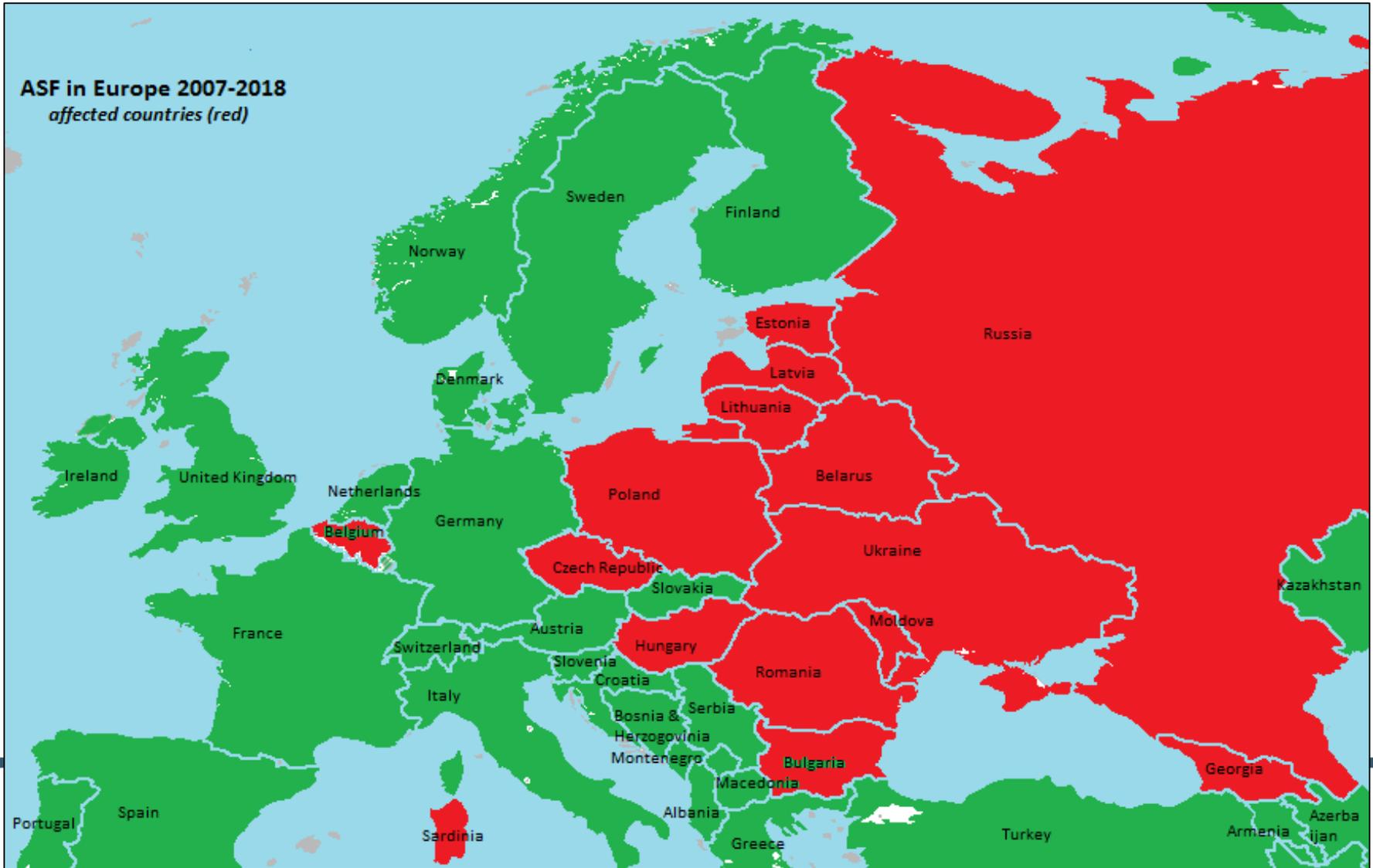


Latest EU Disease Situation

Exotic Diseases



ASF in Europe

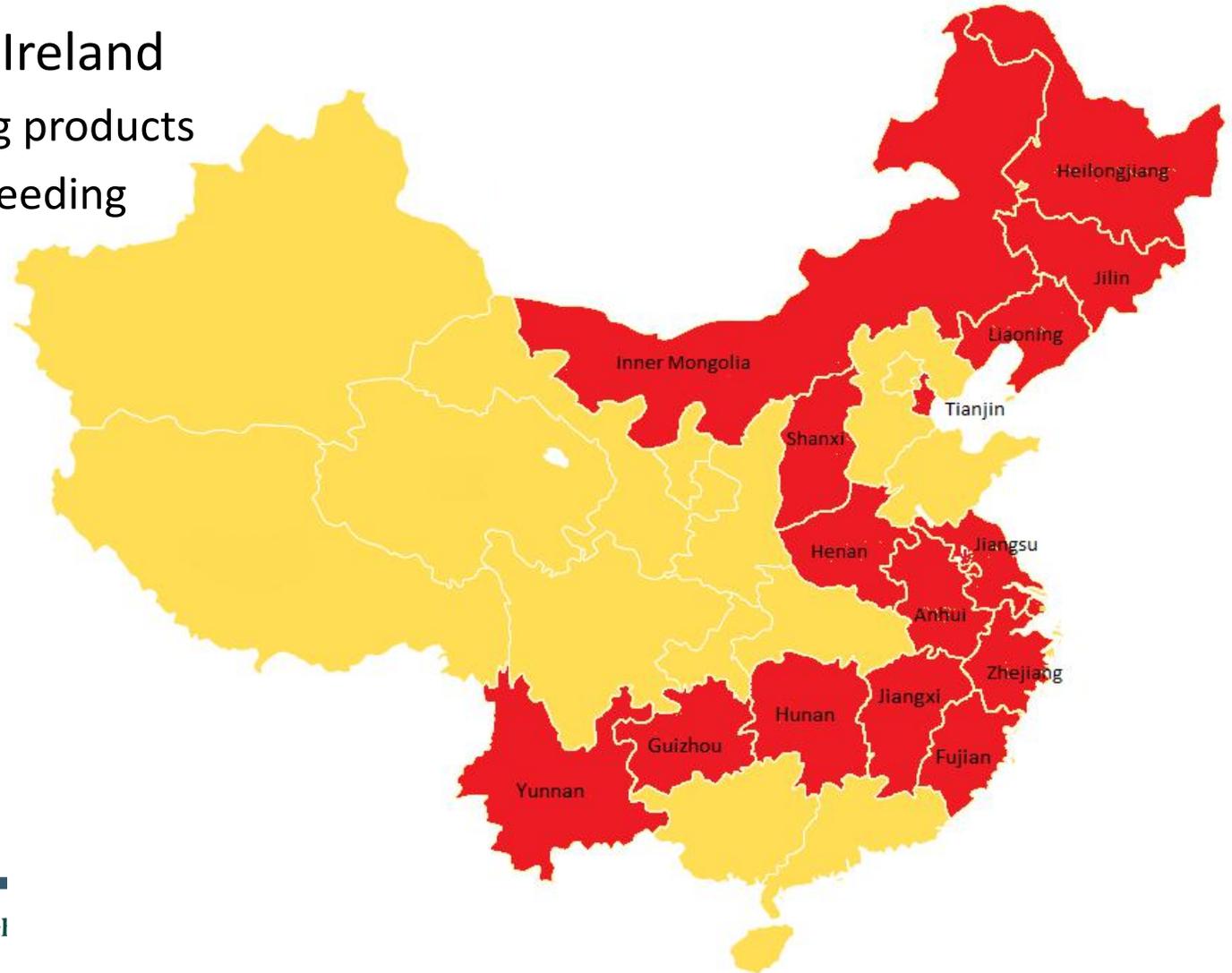


- Belgium
 - First wild boar were found on 9th September
 - 7th December 2018 – 128 wild boar confirmed
- Romania
 - A huge problem with ASF in domestic pigs during 2018
- Major threat to Ireland
 - People bringing contaminated pig products back to Ireland and feeding them to Irish pigs
 - Updates and leaflets, including multi-lingual poster, available on DAFM website



ASF in China

- ASF threat to Ireland
 - Imported pig products
 - Illegal swill feeding



ASF - Transmission

1. Contact with infected pigs or wild boar, faeces, urine or bodily fluids
2. Ingestion of infected pork or pork products by pigs e.g. food waste containing salami, sausages etc.
3. Contact with contaminated vehicles, clothing, footwear, equipment
4. Use of infected reproductive material e.g. semen, ova, and embryos
5. Biological vectors – ticks of the *Ornithodoros spp.* (not present in Ireland)



ASF Biosecurity for Transporters

- Avoid contact with pigs or wild boar in ASF affected countries where possible
- If you have been in contact with pigs or wild boar in countries affected by ASF then avoid direct contact with pigs for 72 hours upon your return to Ireland
- **Never bring meat or meat products containing pork or wild boar meat into Ireland from regions of Europe which are affected with African swine fever**
- Comply with border disinfection protocols if in place for your vehicle in addition to your own routine cleaning and disinfection procedures.



Transport to France

- 157,000 Calves in 2018
- Capacity issues
- Resting spaces in Cherbourg.



IRISH FERRIES WB YEATS – Dublin Cherbourg



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- 2018 saw the arrival of the new build WB Yeats-
- Approved for horses and other animals
- Livestock approval ongoing.



DECK 3



- Deck 3 is a fully enclosed deck and designed for commercial traffic only.
- There is a dedicated lounge and mess for drivers.
- The planned schedule is every 48 hours from Dublin to Cherbourg starting March 20th until Mid-September.
- This should greatly increase capacity every second week.



DRIVERS LOUNGE



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Ireland – Third Countries – Dedicated Livestock Vessels

Approved Dedicated Livestock Vessels

There are 3 approved dedicated livestock vessels:

- MV Holstein Express (expires 06/01/2020)
 - MV Alondra (expires 20/07/2022)
 - MV Sarah (expires 23/08/2022)
 - MV Atlantic M (expired 28/11/2018) (In hand)
- MV Express 1 (expired 31/05/2018) (In hand)



Ireland – Third Countries – Dedicated Livestock Vessels

Ship	Date of Sailing/Port	No. of Cattle Exported	No. of Sheep Exported	Mortalities Cattle	Mortalities Sheep	Destination
Sarah ***	25 Jan 2018 - Waterford	1,876		1		Turkey (Izmir)
Sarah ***	25 Feb 2018 - Greenore - Bulls 722 (M) - Cows/heifers 198 (F)	922		6		Libya (Alkhums)
Express 1****	7 March 2018 – Greenore - Bulls (M)	1,678		6		Turkey (Derince)
Express 1****	10 April 2018 - Greenore - Bulls (M)	2,130		12		Turkey (Derince)
Express 1****	9 May 2018 - Greenore - Bulls (M)	2,129		5		Turkey (Derince)
Sarah*****	16 – 18 July 2018- Cork	1,729				Libya
Atlantic M*****	19 - 20 July 2018- Cork	1,991		Nil		Libya (Alkhums)
Atlantic M**	23 Aug 2018 - Waterford - Bulls (M)	3,131		Nil		Turkey (Tekirdag)
Total 2018		15,586				



Events in 2018

- **Exporters and Minister Creed met in July 2018 at Ag House**
 - **Announcement of Changes for 2019**
- **Meeting with French in March and September 2018**



Changes for 2019

DAFM expect Exporters to

- **Control exports to match Control Post capacity for un-weaned animals.**
 - **Currently 13 Trucks per sailing**
- **Return Satellite Navigation Records for unweaned animals**

Comply fully with legislative requirements and minimise opportunities for NGO's and Commission to criticise and complain about Ireland's compliances



Challenges for Industry

- **Consider developing a lairage in Cherbourg.**
- **Work with existing lairage providers in Cherbourg to increase capacity.**
- **Ensure compliance with Rules**
- **Establish an Exporter Representative Body**
- **Suitable Drinking Systems for un-weaned animals**



Cherbourg Qualivia



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Cherbourg Pignets



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Abbeville



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Animal Welfare Platform

- Set up by the commission to promote better dialogue on animal welfare.
- Multiple stakeholders including NGOs
- Three main aims
 - Better implementation of EU animal welfare rules
 - Development of voluntary commitments by business to improve animal welfare
 - Promotion of EU welfare standards to add market value



- Animal Welfare Platform current focus is improving the implementation of the existing legislation on the protection of animals during transport especially
 - transport of unweaned animals
 - transport during hot weather.
- There were 2 specific NGO reports that featured Irish Cattle in 2018.



EU Commission

- European Commission received a complaint from the NGO on resting times and Cherbourg and this is currently being investigated –
- Commission is likely to report that IE has taken steps to stop the practice, provided that there are no more occurrences.
- France is also subject of complaint for allowing the use of Abbeville



Member States complained about various including

- The transport of animals to Croatia during hot weather and no Contingency Plan for them to rest at the port of loading.
- No Control Post stops for sheep and cattle being exported and imported. (Netherlands, Great Britain and Spain)
- Unsuitable drinking systems for unweaned animals.



New Animal Health Law

- Consolidation of EU animal health legislation
- Will come into force in 2021.
- Considerable number of Delegated and Implementing acts.
- Of particular interest is the Delegated act on animal movement.
 - Sets out the harmonised rules for movement of all species within the EU.
 - Negotiated between Commission and Member states, not voted on.



Delegated act on Movement

- Nearing finalisation.
- Some positives.
 - Ireland has negotiated three assembly operations for each export.
 - Commission were demanding that export certification would begin on the holding of origin and carry through each stage, now certification will be from the assembly centre
- Some Challenges.
 - Time for assembly likely to be reduced to a maximum of 14 days.
 - Increased hygiene rules for assembly operations.



Thank you for your attention.



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