Value chain actors’ practices associated with the spread of African swine fever disease in smallholder pig systems in Uganda

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Background: the pig sector

- Pig production is a dynamic and rapidly growing sector in Uganda

- Uganda has the highest per capita consumption of pork in East Africa (3.4 kg/person/year)
Background: the pig sector

- Pigs are “living banks”
- More than 1.1 million households rear pigs
- Informal sector mainly managed by women and children
Background: African swine fever

- **African swine fever (ASF)** is the major pig health constraint in Uganda (up to 100% mortality)

- ASF in endemic in Uganda
Objectives of the study

- Describe current value chain practices that exacerbate the risk for ASF;
- Assess value chain actors’ perception of the risk associated with the spread of ASF;
- Suggest recommendations for sustainable ASF control measures.
Methodology

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) with 145 value chain actors and 36 stakeholders using participatory research tools in two districts.
The Uganda pig value chain map
Results: risky practices

Scavenging and tethering are common

Producer

Trade and movement of sick pigs without movement permits

Trader
Results: risky practices

Backyard slaughtering with improper disposal of slaughter waste

Poor hygiene at butchery and lack of veterinary inspection of meat

Poor handling of pork and disposal of food waste

Pork retailer

Butcher

Pork joint
Results: risky practices

Lack of application biosecurity measures (ex. absence of disinfection of work equipment)

Poor feeds and feeding strategies (ex. use of contaminated feeds)

Vets/drug stockist

Feed stockist
Ranking of the value chain nodes according to the level of risk they represent in relation to the spread of ASF (1=highest level of risk and 6=lowest level of risk)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value chain nodes</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pig trading</td>
<td>Market</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slaughtering</td>
<td>Backyard slaughter</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retailing</td>
<td>Butchery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig Production</td>
<td>Farm</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Input supply and services</td>
<td>Shop/farm</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>Pork joint</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Conclusion

- Application of biosecurity is low along the value chain;

- Actors are aware of the ASF disease and its consequences to the value chain, but they lack knowledge and capacities to control it;

- Value chain actors lack incentives for adopting biosecurity measures;

- There is poor enforcement of disease control policies and regulations along the value chain.
Implications

Results were used to:

- design gender-sensitive interventions for building value chain actors’ capacities on best practices in pig husbandry and application of biosecurity measures in Uganda;

- advocate enforcement of policies and regulations related to the control ASF through the Uganda Pig Multi-stakeholder Platform.
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