section 3.8.

suidae

Chapter 3.8.1.

african swine fever   
(infection with   
african swine fever virus)

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A. introduction

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The incubation period is usually 4–19 days. The more virulent strains produce peracute or acute haemorrhagic disease characterised by high fever, loss of appetite, haemorrhages in the skin and internal organs, and death in 4–10 days, sometimes even before the first clinical signs are observed. Case fatality rates may be as high as 100%. Less virulent strains produce mild clinical signs – slight fever, reduced appetite and depression – which can be readily confused with many other conditions in pigs and may not lead to suspicion of ASF. Moderately virulent strains are recognised that induce variable disease forms, ranging from acute, subacute to chronic. Low virulence ~~virulent~~, non-haemadsorbing strains can produce subclinical non-haemorrhagic infection and seroconversion, but some animals may develop discrete lesions in the lungs or on the skin in areas over bony protrusions and other areas subject to trauma. Animals that have recovered from either acute, subacute or chronic infections may potentially become persistently infected, acting as virus carriers. The biological basis for the persistence of ASFV is still not well understood, nor it is clear what role ~~it~~ persistence plays in the epidemiology of the disease ~~the extent to which carrier may shed the virus (Carrillo~~ *~~et al.,~~* ~~1994)~~. ~~Recovered ASFV carrier pigs and persistently infected wild pigs constitute the biggest problems in controlling the disease. The serological recognition of carrier pigs has been vital for the success of eradication programmes in endemic ASF areas (Arias &Sanchez Vizcaino 2002, Sanchez Vizcaino et al. 2017).~~

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REFERENCES

~~Arias M. & Sánchez-Vizcaíno J.M. (2002). African swine fever eradication: the Spanish model.~~ *~~In:~~* ~~Trends in Emerging Viral Infections of Swine, Iowa State University Press, pp 133–139. ISBN 0813803837.~~