



PRESS RELEASE
DEPUTY CHIEF MINISTER OFFICE
20th FLOOR, WISMA BAPA MALAYSIA

21 February 2021

**BAN IMPORT OF PIG, PORK AND PORK PRODUCTS FROM SABAH:
DETECTION OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER (ASF) IN PIGS AT PITAS SABAH**

Sarawak ban the importation of pig, pork and pork products from Sabah with immediate effect following news that 8 out of 13 pigs sampled from Pitas, Sabah were tested positive for African Swine Fever (ASF). This ban is made under Section 8 of the Sarawak Veterinary Public Health Ordinance 1999. Public are advised not to buy or bring in any pork and pork products from Sabah or any neighbouring countries. Anyone who contravenes this Import Ban Order or imports any animal or animal product without permit (Section 9) commits an offence and can be fined up to RM50,000 and/or imprisonment for two years.

Department of Veterinary Services Sarawak (DVSS) will also tighten biosecurity measures in the State especially in Limbang Division and intensify ASF disease surveillance throughout Sarawak. DVSS has conducted several engagement and awareness sessions on ASF with the relevant stake holders (farmers, importers, Malaysia Airport Holdings Berhad) including government agencies (Customs, Immigration, Port Authorities, Local Councils) in Sarawak. DVSS will also step up awareness campaign and regulatory measures to ensure the virus does not enter the State. **Sarawak is still free from African Swine Fever.**

Sarawak has a total population of 30,000 sows producing 455,000 porkers annually worth RM455 million. It is DVSS responsibility to ensure that the State continue to be free from animal diseases which are zoonotic and of economic importance. DVSS will continue to enforce the Veterinary Public Health Ordinance 1999 to ensure pork and pork products imported are from ASF free countries.

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