

**Question for written answer E-002655/2023/rev.1
to the Commission**

Rule 138

Jessica Polfjärd (PPE)

Subject: African swine fever outbreak in Västmanland county, Sweden

On 6 September 2023, Swedish media outlets reported that African swine fever (ASF) had been found in a number of wild boars outside the town of Fagersta in Västmanland county. ASF is extremely painful for boars and pigs and has a high mortality rate. The outbreak has already impacted forestry and agriculture locally and in surrounding areas, and risks spreading even further.

A spread to domesticated pigs would threaten the livelihoods of local farmers, as well as others affected in the region.

1. In the light of recent events, is the Commission monitoring the situation in Sweden and, if so, what can it do to help to contain the spread of ASF and minimise the suffering of the infected animals?
2. How could the Commission provide support for impacted farmers and foresters in the area?
3. What does it intend to do in order to prevent further outbreaks in the future?

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