

Semi-quantitative risk assessment of African swine fever introduction into Trinidad and Tobago through legal importation of swine products

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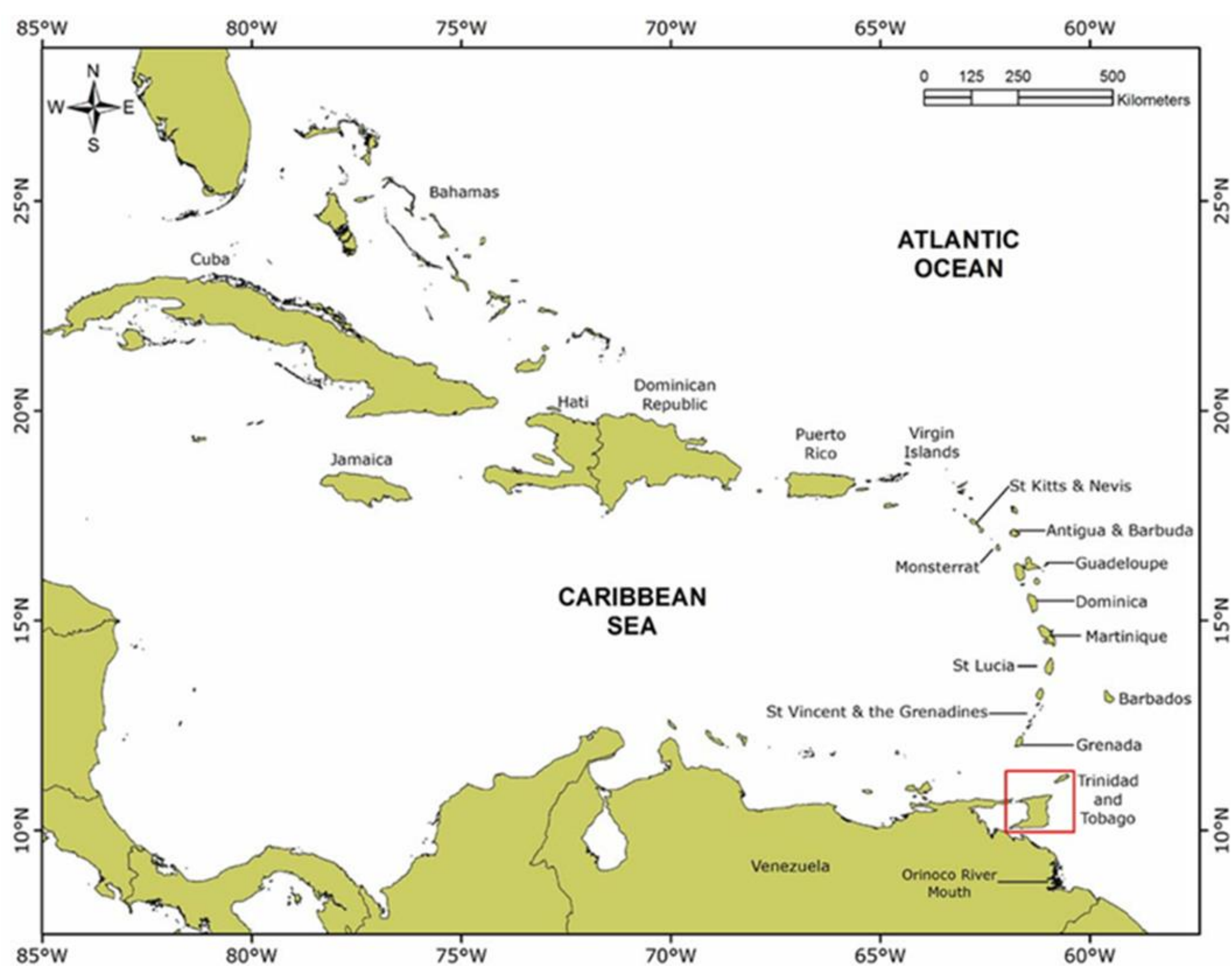
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Introduction

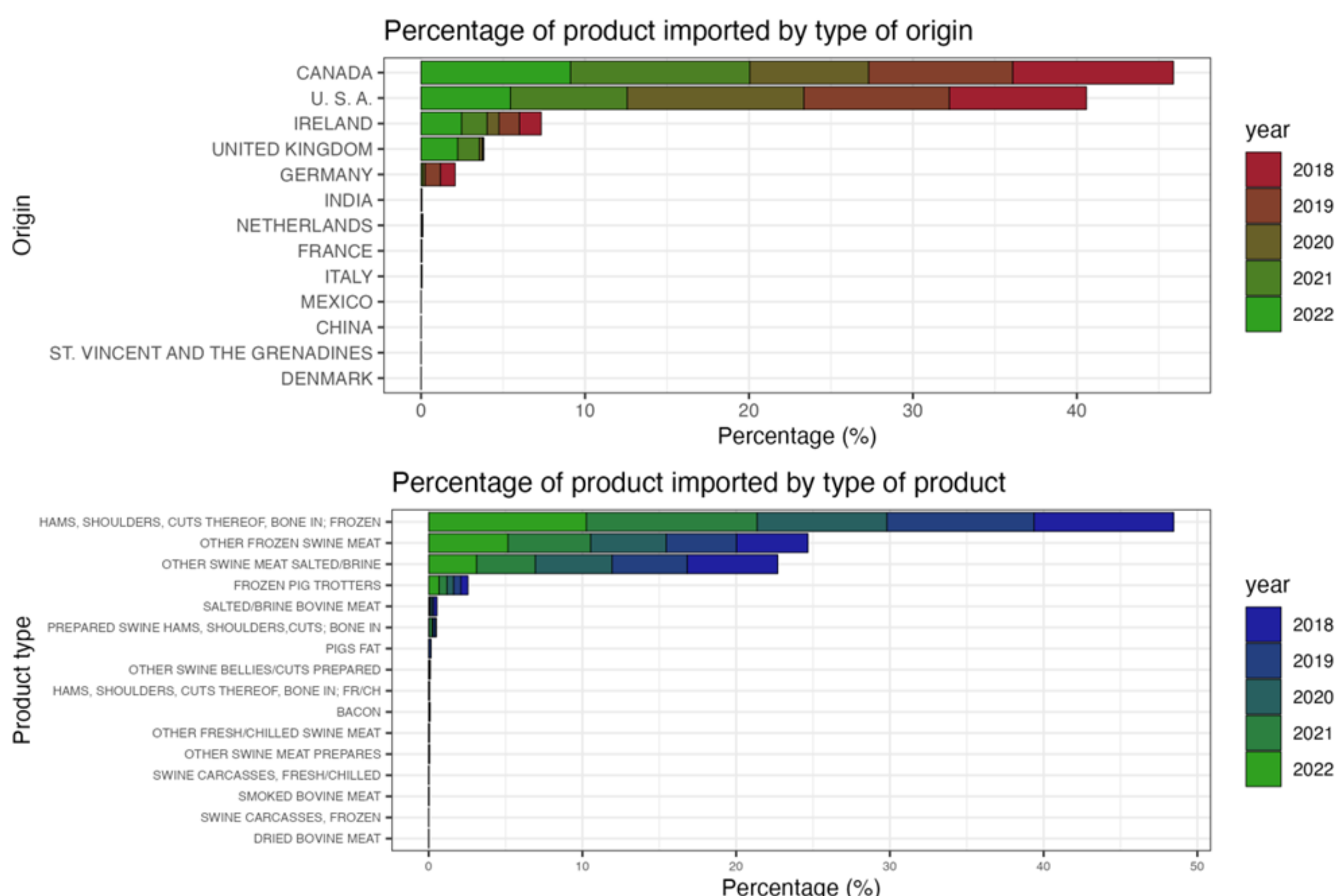
- The Caribbean remains under threat of ASF spread after its introduction into the Dominican Republic and Haiti in 2021
- A semi-quantitative risk assessment was conducted to identify countries that pose a high risk of introduction of ASF virus through legal importation into Trinidad and Tobago (T&T)

Figure 1: Map of Caribbean, showing location of Trinidad and Tobago



Method

Figure 2: Data was obtained from the Central Statistical Office (CSO) of Trinidad and Tobago that described the type of swine products that have been imported into Trinidad and Tobago within the last 5 years.

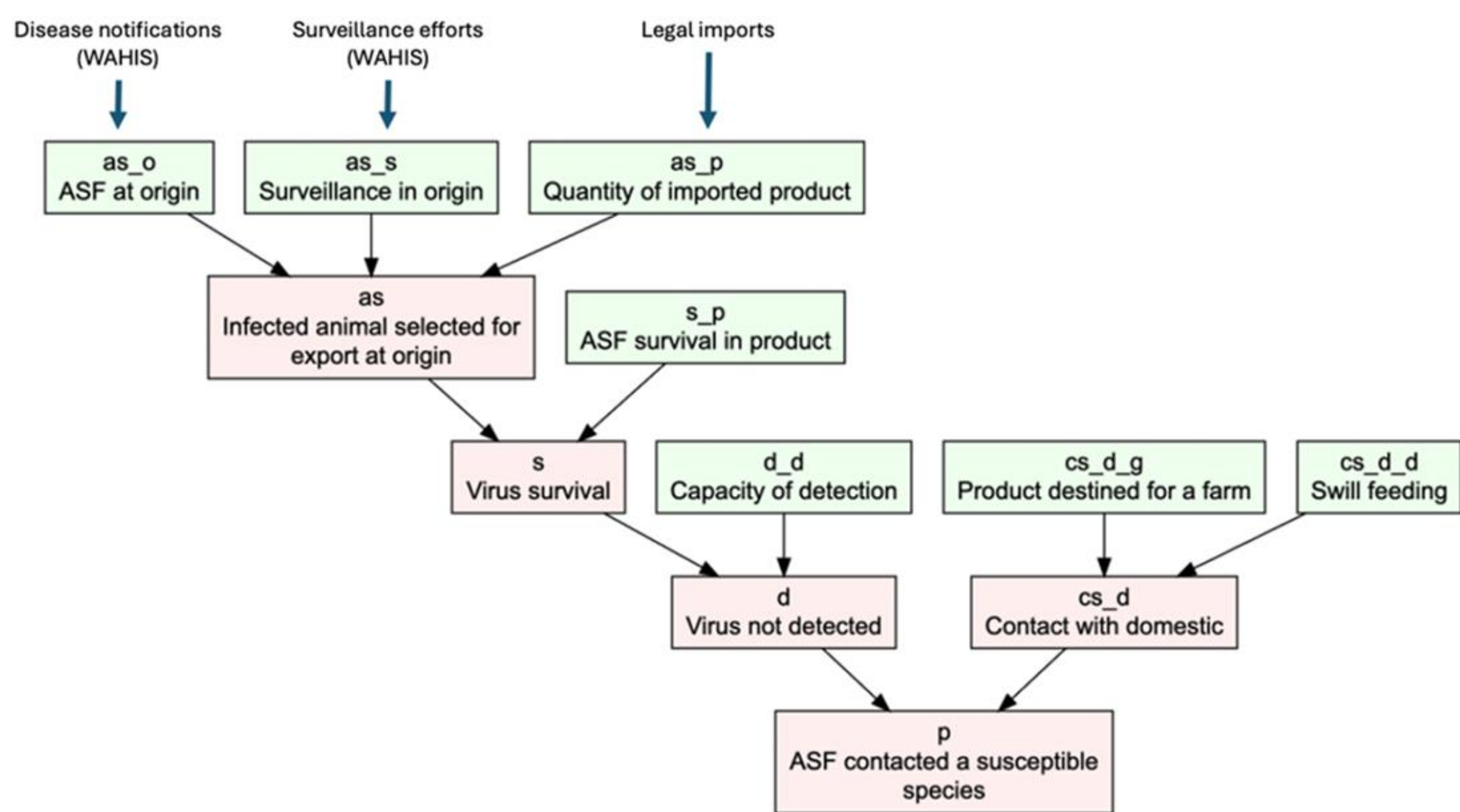


- This data was obtained in January and February 2024 for products imported from 2018 to 2022.

Conclusion: Importations originate from ASFV-free countries like USA and Canada, but in the past, they have originated from currently ASFV-infected countries such as Germany and China. Up-to-date and specific data on imported products are needed to improve the accuracy of the risk model.

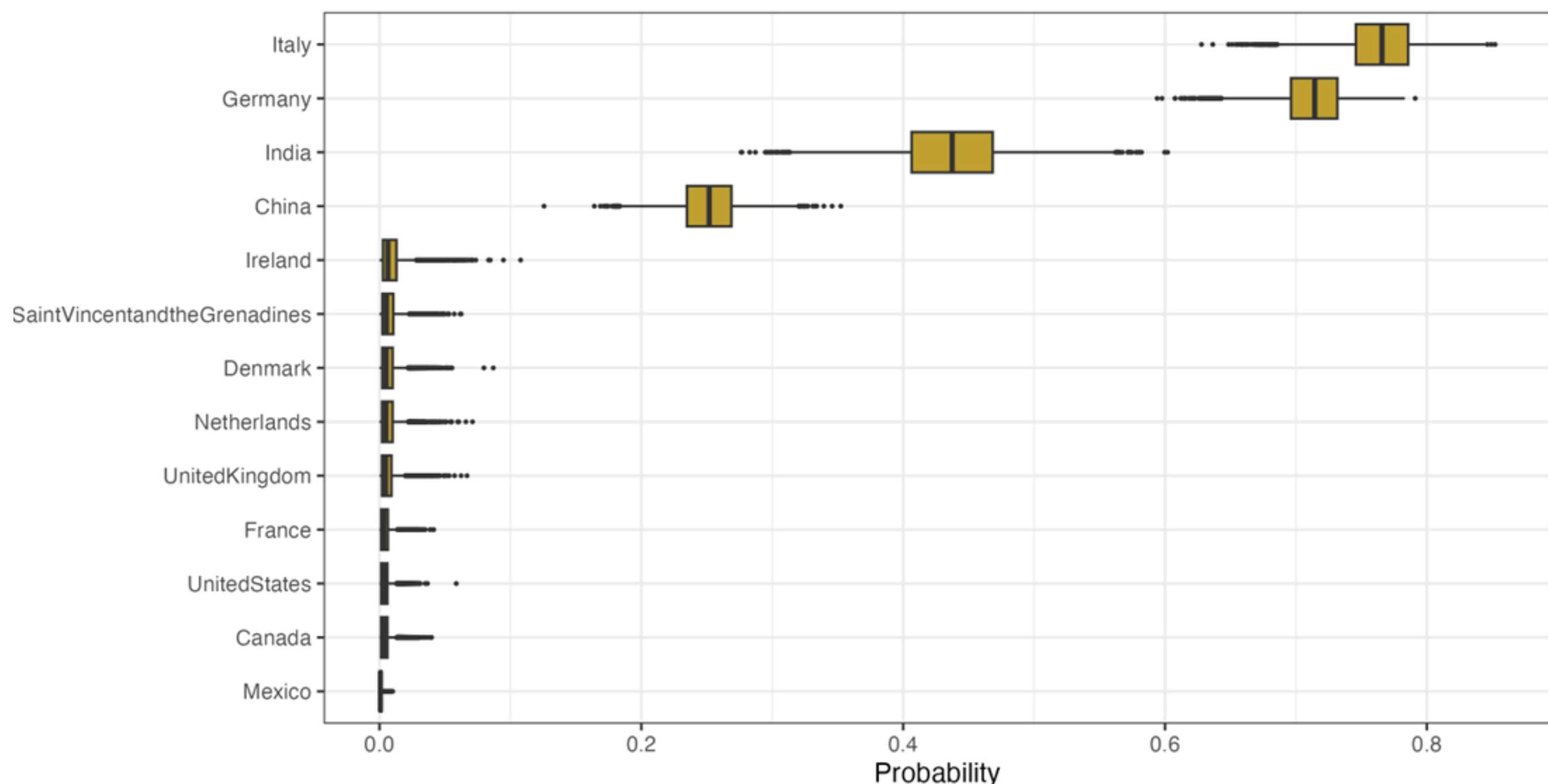
Findings

Figure 3. The risk was estimated using information from different sources including disease notifications and records of surveillance efforts from WAHIS



- Scores were assigned to ASFV survival in the different imported products, capacity of detection in Trinidad and Tobago, if the product was destined for a farm, and the presence of swill feeding being practiced.

Figure 4: Estimated probabilities that at origin, there is a chance that one or more undetected cases of ASFV will be acquired through importation from the different countries.



References

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- Munoz-Pérez C, Martínez-López B, Gómez-Vázquez JP, Aguilar-Vega C, Bosch J, Ito S, Martínez-Avilés M, Sánchez-Vizcaino JM. Quantitative risk assessment of African swine fever introduction into Spain by legal import of swine products. Research in Veterinary Science. 2023 Oct 1;163:104990.

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