

WILD PIG

(Sus scrofa)

Wild pigs are not native to the Americas, they originate from Europe and Asia. Eurasian wild boar were first introduced to Canada from Europe beginning in the 1980s as exotic livestock for meat.

The World Conservation Union identifies invasive wild pigs as among 100 of the “world’s worst invasive alien species”. With a high birth rate, few natural predators, and the ability to travel long distances and adapt to a variety of habitats, a small number of escaped animals have the potential to multiply rapidly.

Wild pigs are extremely adaptable and pose a serious threat to Ontario’s natural environment, native species and agricultural industry.

HOW TO IDENTIFY WILD PIGS

The term “wild pig” refers to any pig “outside of a fence” and includes:

- domestic pigs that have become wild (or 'feral') and ownership cannot be determined
- Eurasian wild boar: and
- hybrids of domestic pigs and Eurasian wild boar

Wild pigs can exhibit many colour variations, ranging from very dark to light, and may have spots. Escaped domestic pigs can grow a dense undercoat to help them to survive cold winter climates.



Photo: Dr. Ryan Brook, University of Saskatchewan

Help us learn more about wild pigs in Ontario



Photo: Dr. Ryan Brook, University of Saskatchewan

WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you see a wild pig or have information about a sighting, please report it to:

- iNaturalist Ontario Wild Pig Reporting webpage (www.inaturalist.org/projects/ontario-wild-pig-reporting) - download the app on a mobile device or register an account using a desktop computer, or
- MNRF’s email account for reporting wild pigs: wildpigs@ontario.ca

If you believe you have seen a wild pig or signs of wild pig:

- Note the date, and time of the sighting
- Note the location (intersecting roads, landmarks or GPS coordinates)
- Take pictures or a video, if possible
- Note the number of pigs and whether piglets are present
- Identify whether this was an isolated sighting or whether the same individual has been seen multiple times

For more information on wild pigs in Ontario, visit:
www.ontario.ca/wildpigs

