CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A genetically modified virus, wherein the virus genome comprises a viral genome at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. The virus of claim 1, wherein the viral genome comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

3. A vaccine composition against African Swine Fever Virus (ASFV), comprising the genetically modified virus of claim 1.

4. The vaccine composition of claim 3, wherein the ASFV is ASFV-Georgia 2007 isolate (ASFV-G).

5. An effective amount of a live attenuated vaccine comprising the genetically modified virus of claim 1 for use as a medicament to protect swine from clinical ASFV disease.

6. The vaccine for the use of claim 5, wherein the ASFV is ASFV-G.

7. The vaccine for the use of claim 5, wherein the amount effective to protect said swine from clinical ASFV disease is a vaccine comprising 10^2-10^6 HAD_{50} of the genetically modified virus of claim 1.

8. A recombinant ASFV mutant virus, comprising a synthetic mutation in the I177L open reading frame or in a regulatory element controlling the expression of the I177L protein, resulting in a non-functional genomic I177L gene, wherein the synthetic mutation is a deletion mutation resulting the deletion of one or more nucleotides between positions 174471 and 175004 of SEQ ID NO:1.

9. The recombinant virus of claim 8, wherein the synthetic mutation is a frameshift mutation, insertion mutation, nonsense mutation of one or more nucleotides between positions 174471 and 175004 of SEQ ID NO:1.

10. The recombinant virus of claim 8, wherein the mutant ASFV is from an ASFV-Georgia isolate.

11. The recombinant virus of claim 8, wherein the mutant ASFV comprises a genome at least 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2.

12. The recombinant virus of claim 8, wherein the mutant ASFV comprises a genome at least 99% identical to SEQ ID NO: 2.

13. A vaccine composition against ASFV-G, comprising the recombinant virus of claim 8.

14. An effective amount of a live attenuated vaccine comprising the recombinant virus of claim 8 for use as a medicament to protect swine from clinical ASFV disease.

15. The vaccine for the use of claim 13, wherein the ASFV is ASFV-G.

16. The vaccine for the use of claim 13, wherein the amount effective to protect said swine from clinical ASFV disease is a vaccine comprising 10^2-10^6 HAD_{50} of the genetically modified virus of claim 8.