

Community Veterinary Emergency Team

Mission to Ukraine on Control and Eradication of African Swine Fever

Date of Mission: 8 to 12 August 2010

SCOFCAH 8/9 Sept 2010

Terms of References

The Team should provide scientific, technical, managerial and practical **on-the-spot assistance on the most suitable control and eradication procedures** of African swine fever under local conditions, especially as regards stamping-out and other disease control measures such as movement restrictions and biosecurity within the framework of Council Directive 2002/60/EC.

General aspects of ASF

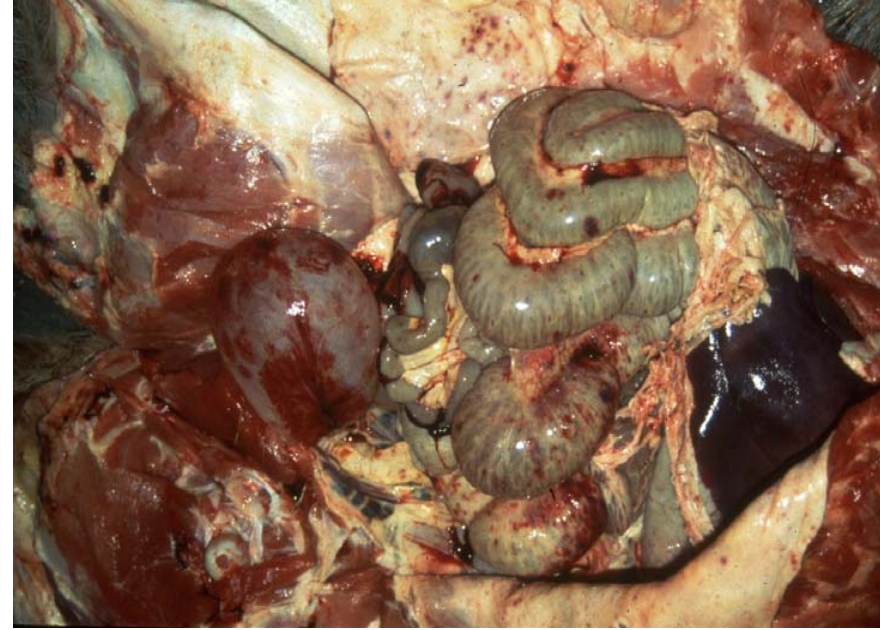
ASF in the Caucasus and Russian Federation

ASF control in Ukraine

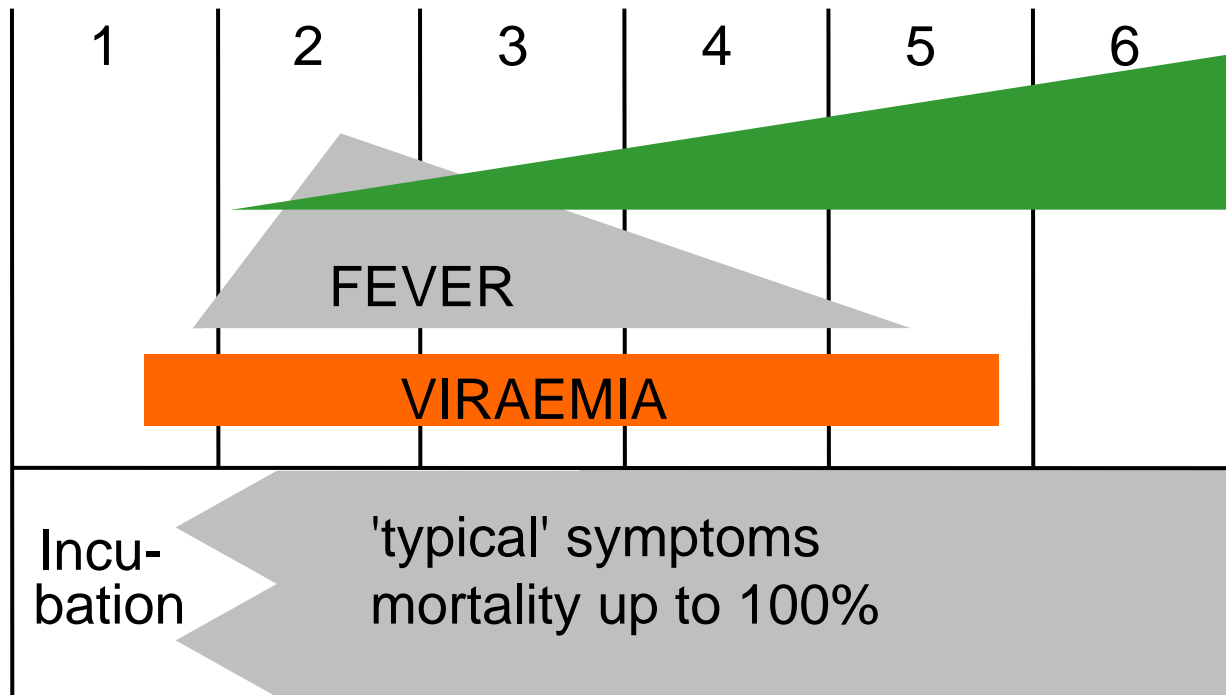
Findings

Conclusions & Recommendations

Clinical course of ASF



Weeks post infection

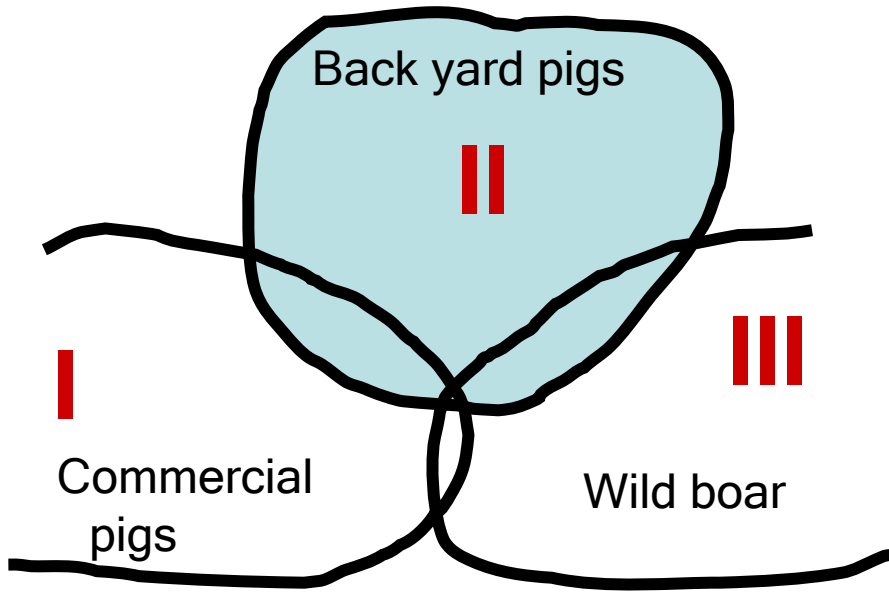


How does it spread?

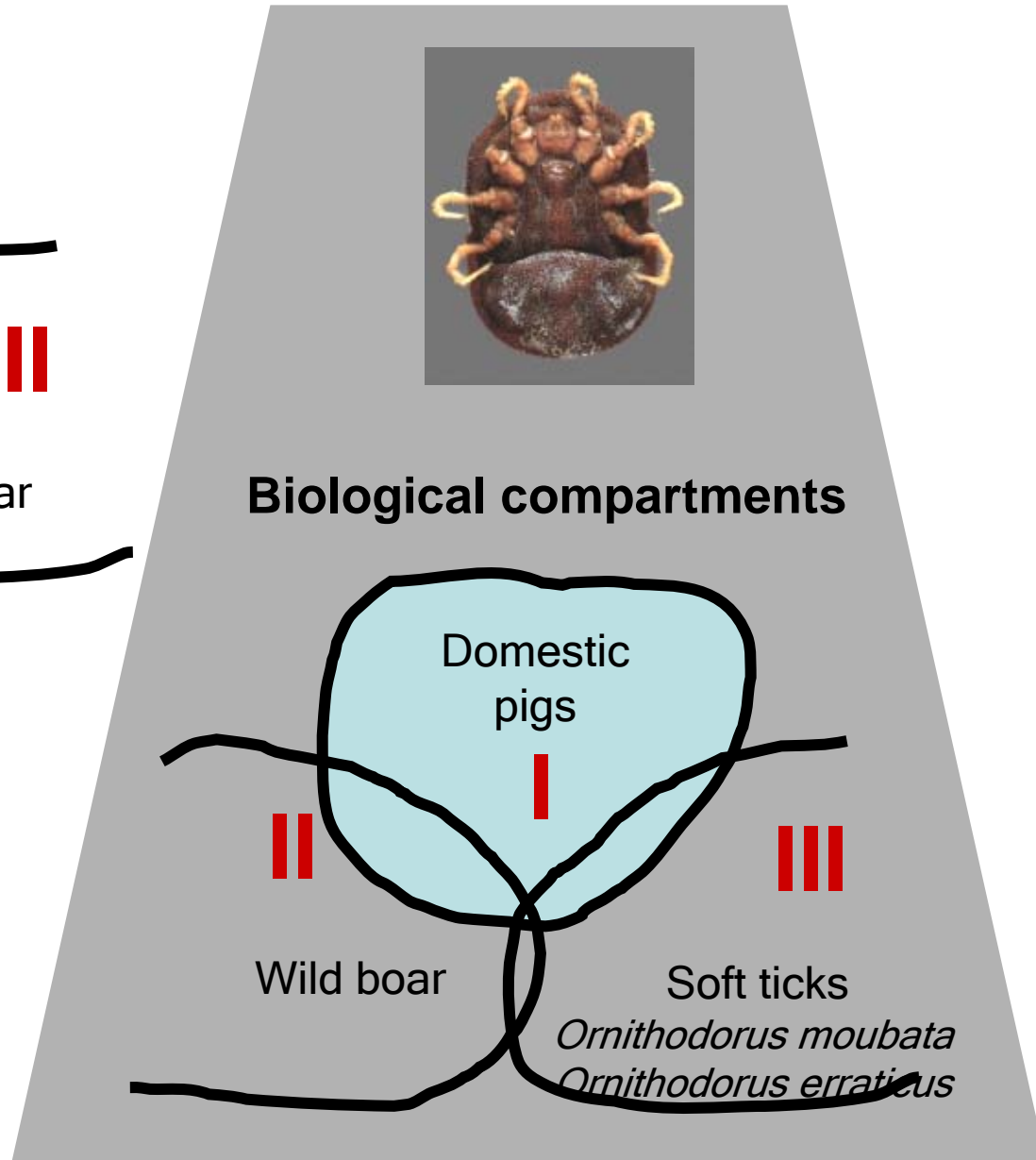
- Pig sales and movement increase when pigs start to die of ASF
- Pigs do not always move along conventional routes
- **Human (and vehicles) as important vectors of transmission**



Pig compartments



Biological compartments



Characteristics of ASF epidemics

Complex situation: interaction of many factors (*disease biology, animal density, human activities ...*)

Obscure situation: not all important parameters are known (*e.g. human behaviour, movement of pigs...*)

Dynamic situation: permanent change of parameters (*e.g. seasonal influences, fluctuation in number of animals...*)

Influencing one factor can cause unpredictable side-effects (e.g. due to human behaviour)

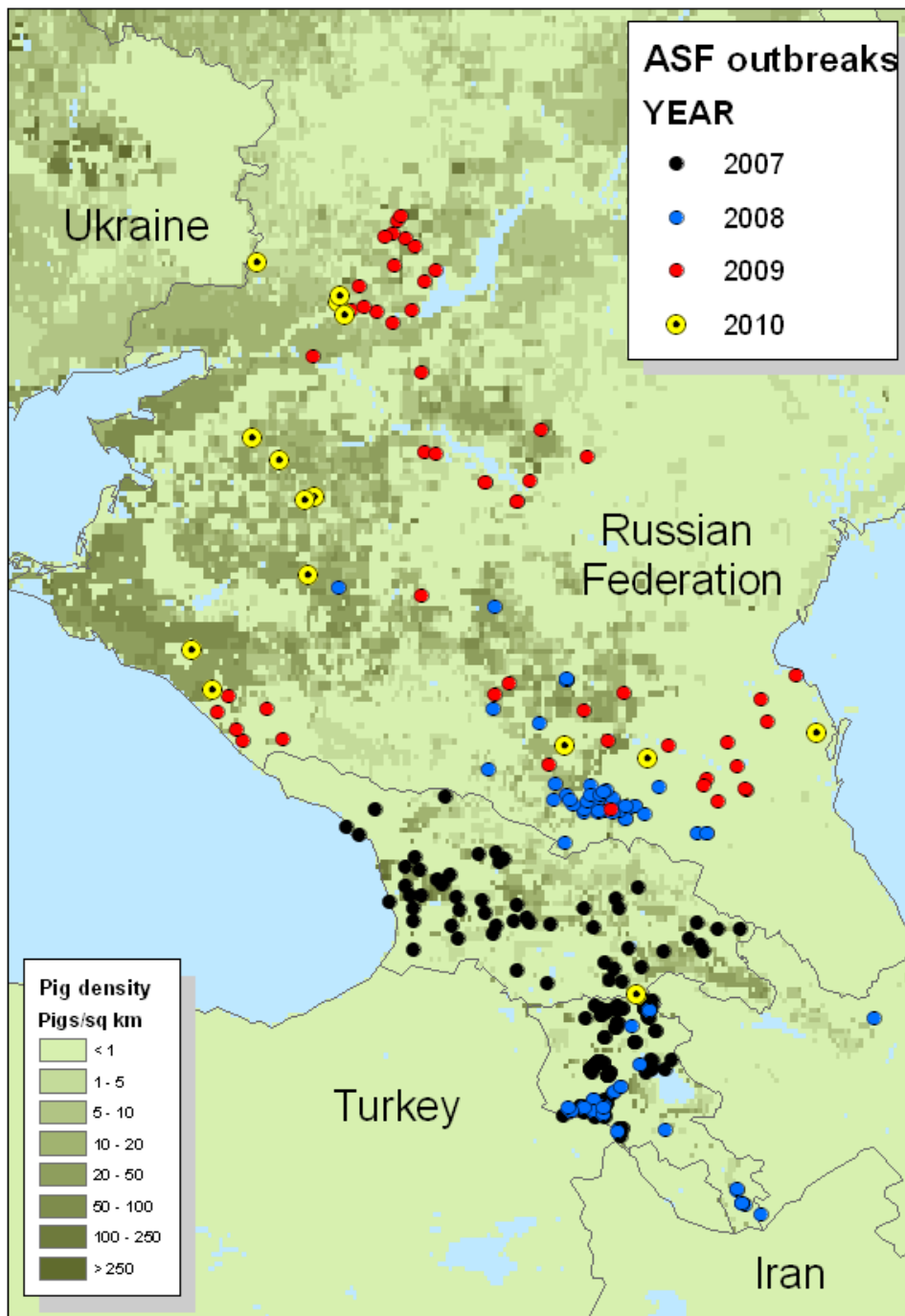
• ASF outbreaks (288)



General critical points (Caucasus & RF)

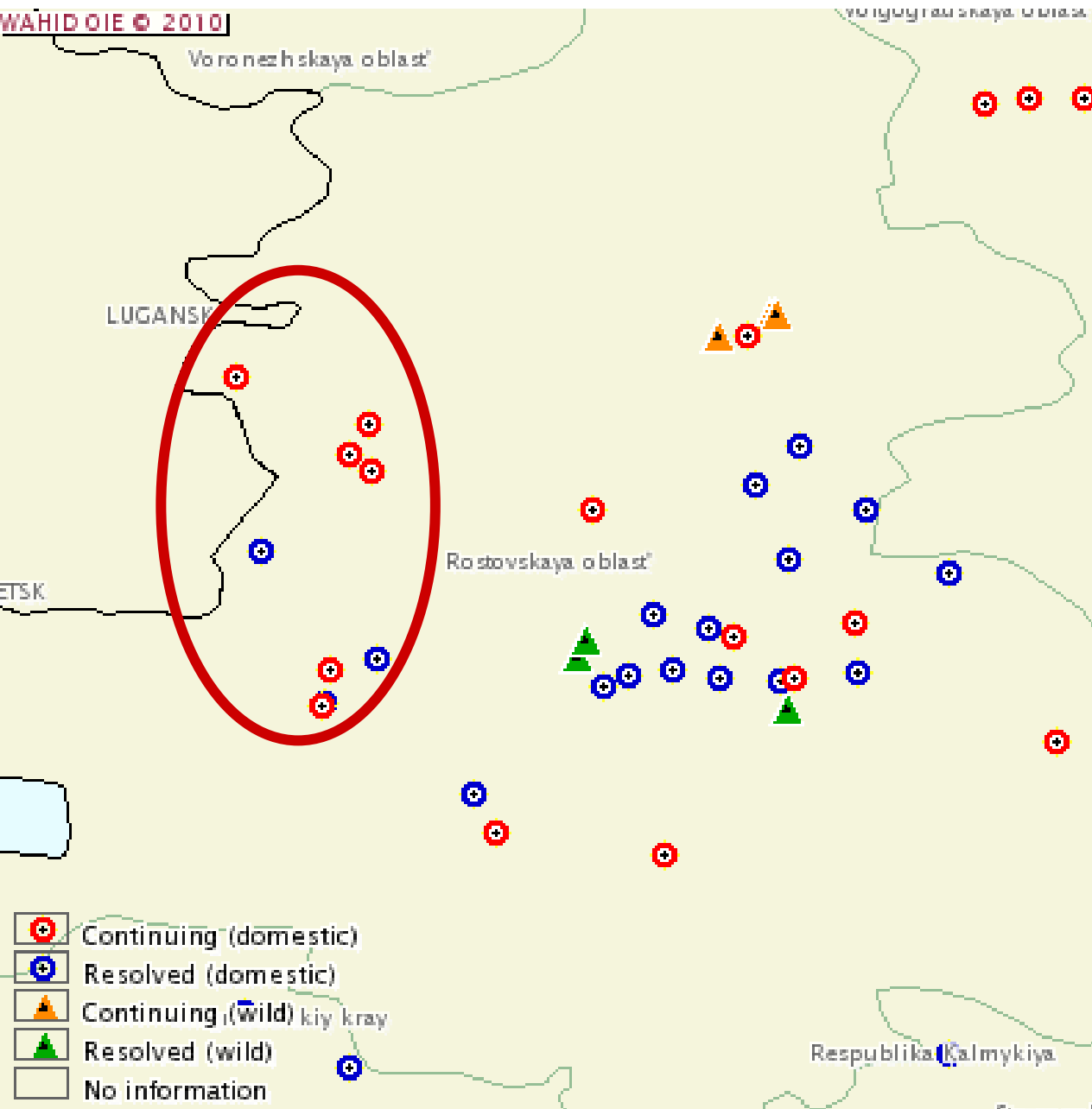
- free ranging pigs
- poor bio-security
- swill feeding
- home slaughtering
- no registration of farms and animals
- unknown situation in wild boar & back yard system
- only clinical confirmation of disease
- lack of effective BIP
- understaffed VS
- lack of epidemiological tracing
- lack of compensation scheme
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ASF in the Caucasus & RF



- Tendency of perpetuation, both in domestic pigs and wild boar;
- Endemic situation (4 yr);
- *Pork trade & movement of live pigs;*
- *Large uncontrolled backyard compartment*
- *Free-ranging pigs;*
- *Domestic / wild interface;*
- *“Exotic” disease – lack of experience in control and eradication*

Challenging situation for Ukraine

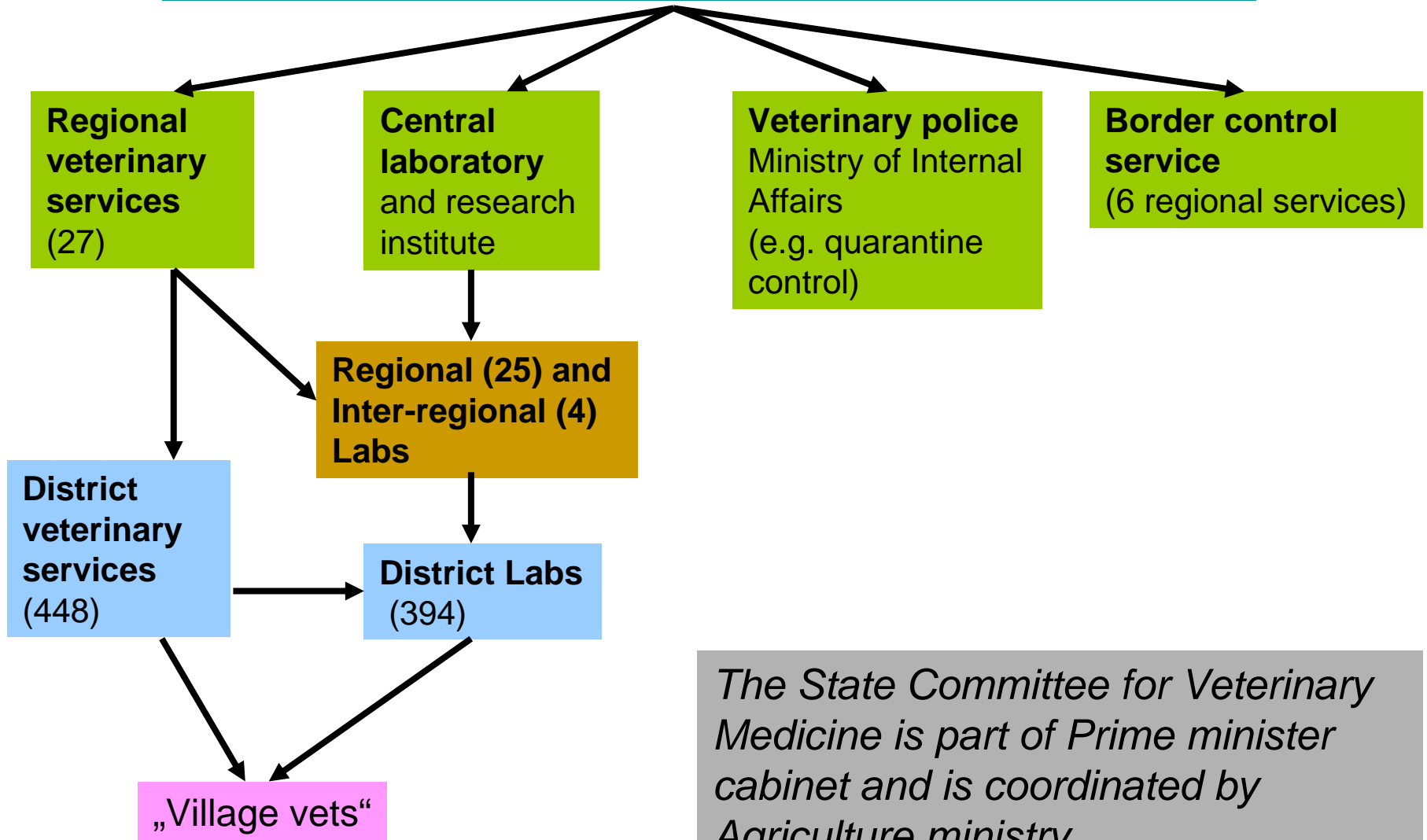


Several ASF outbreaks cloth to the Ukrainian border (<10 km) in 2010

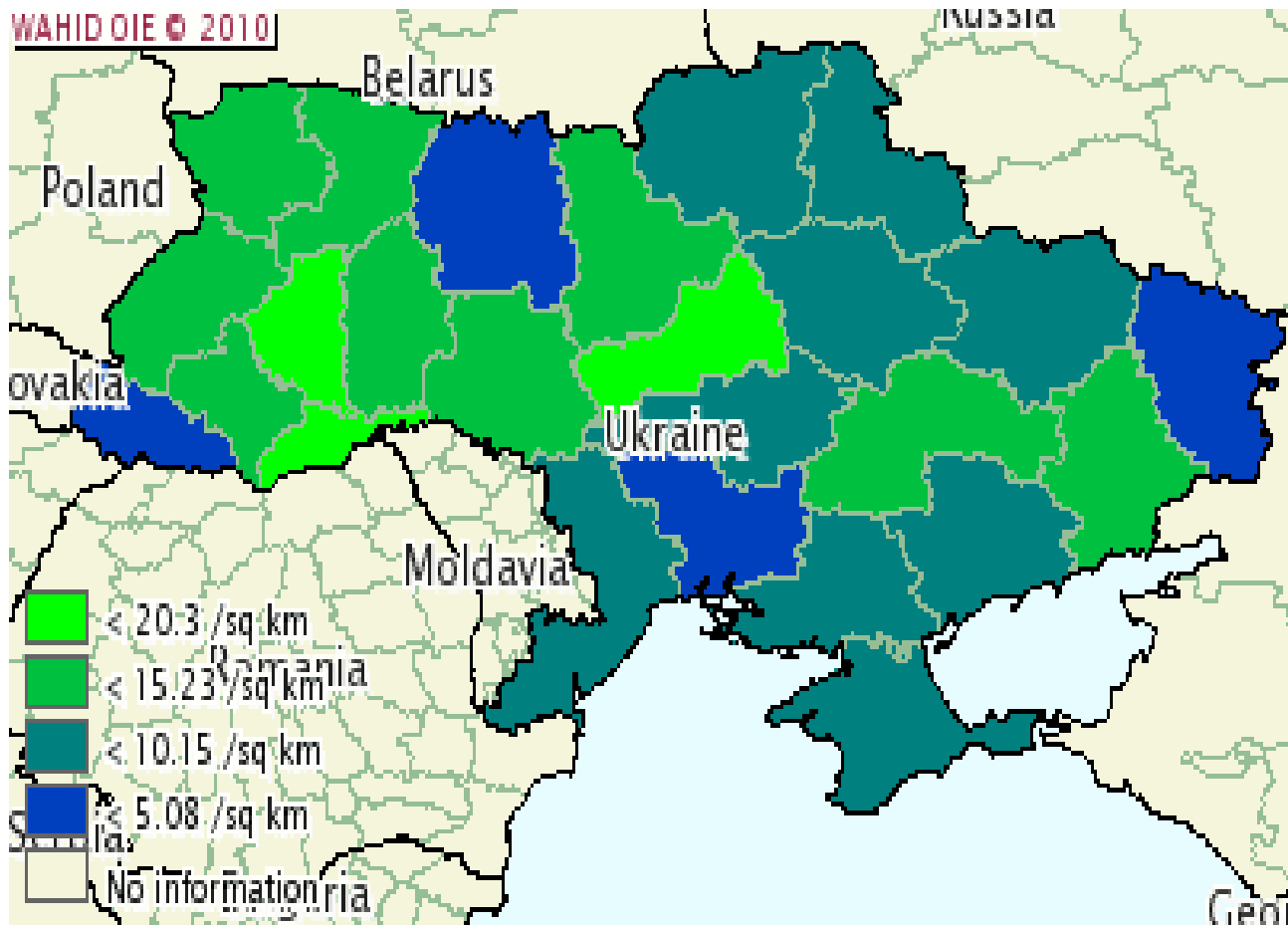
STRUCTURE OF UKRAINIAN VETERINARY SERVICE

(Animal disease control)

State Committee for Veterinary Medicine (CVO)



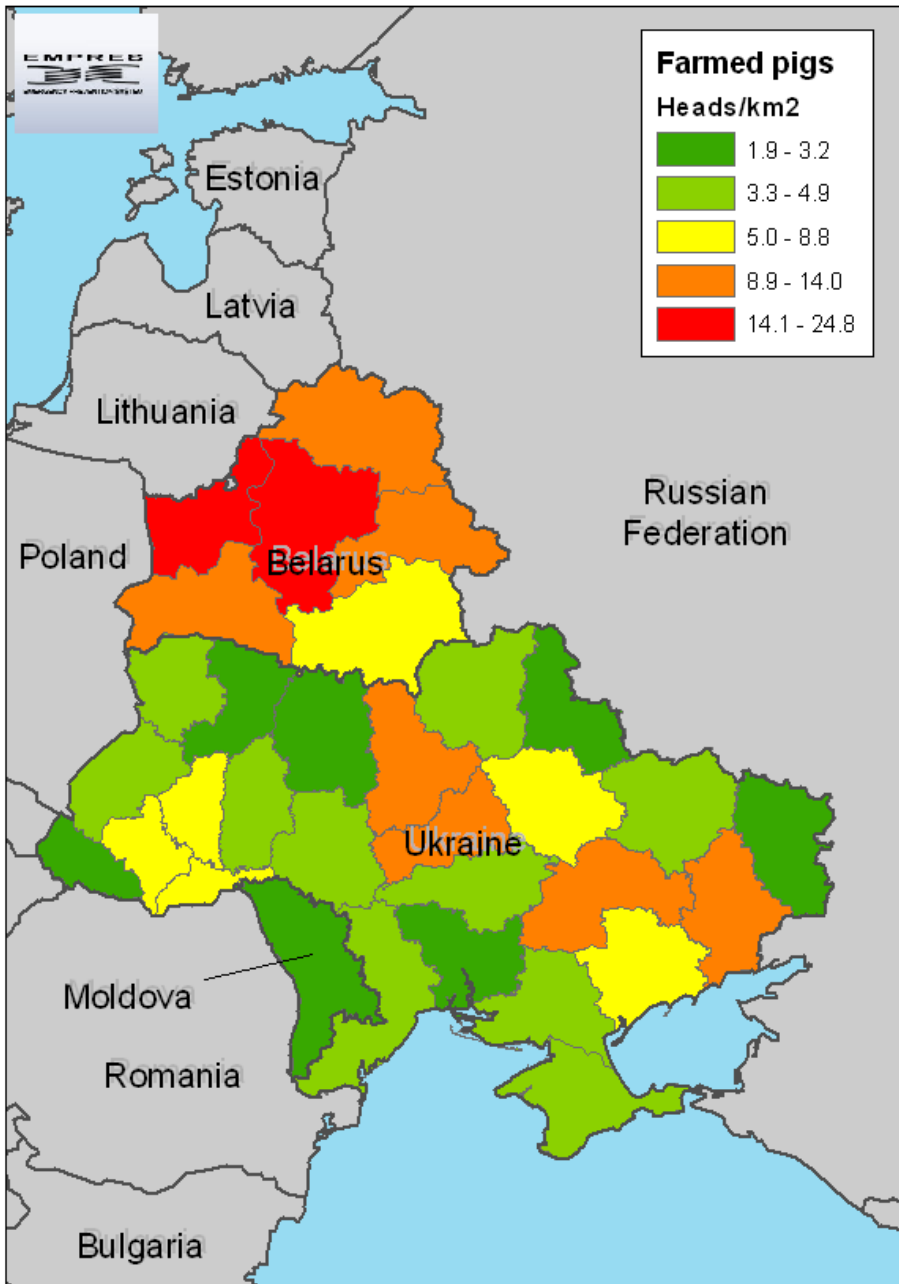
The State Committee for Veterinary Medicine is part of Prime minister cabinet and is coordinated by Agriculture ministry



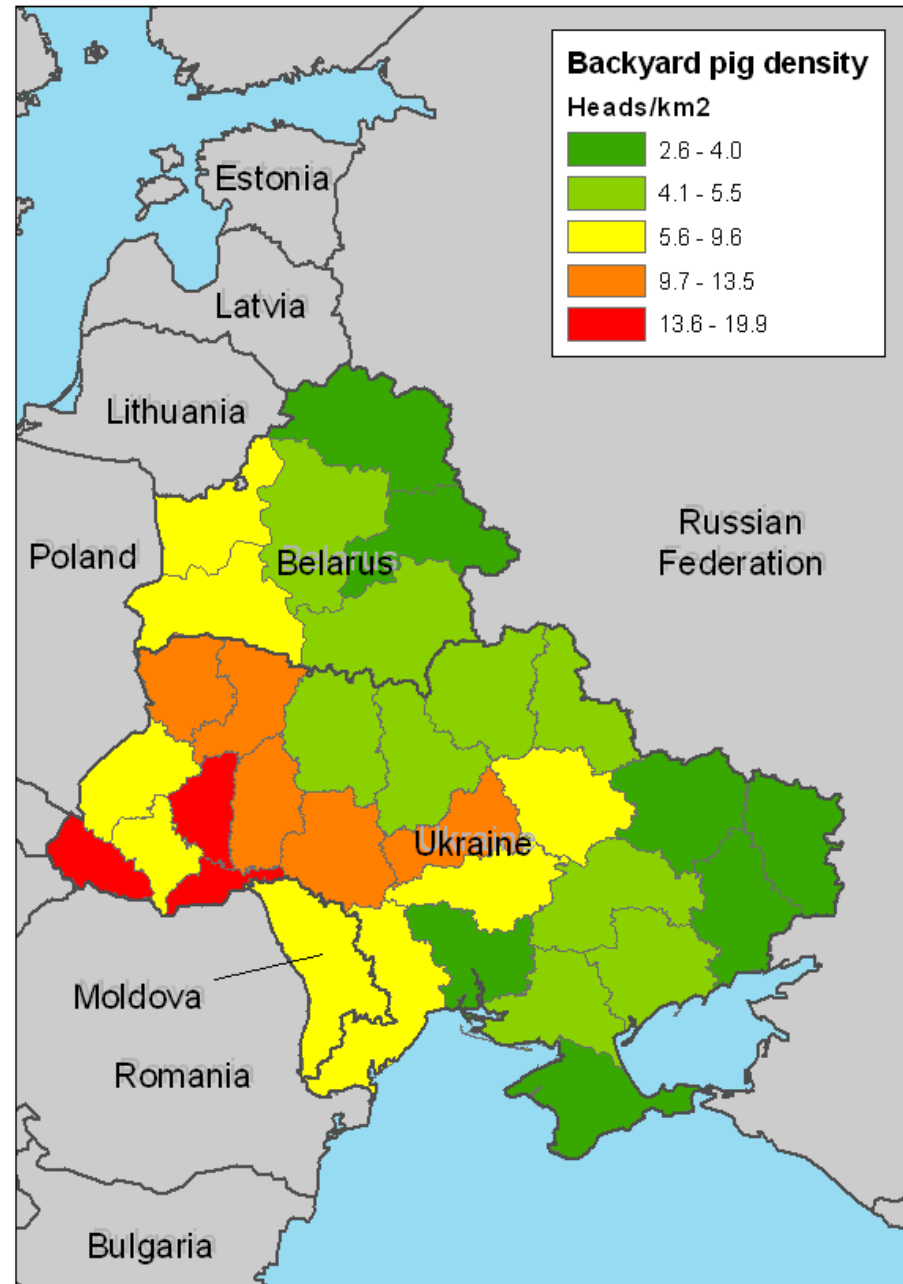
Total pig population in Ukraine: ~6.9 Millions (density: ~11,5/km²)

Pig density in risk area: ~5 pigs/km²

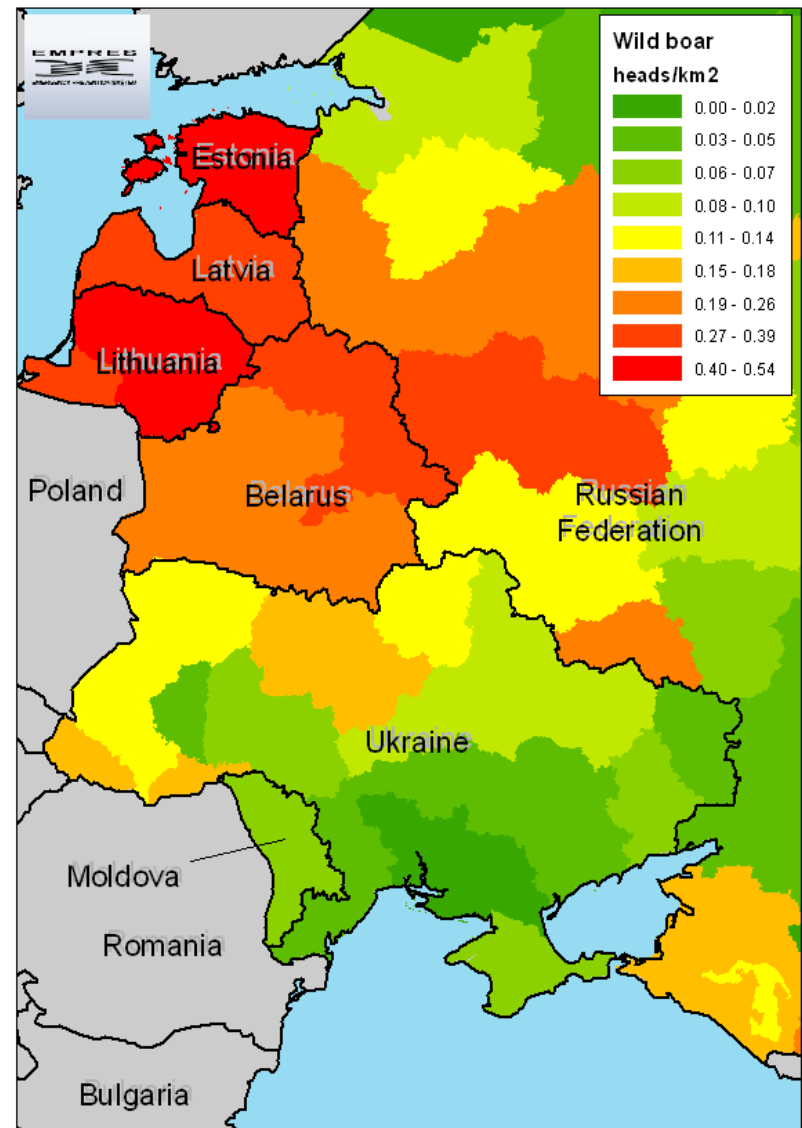
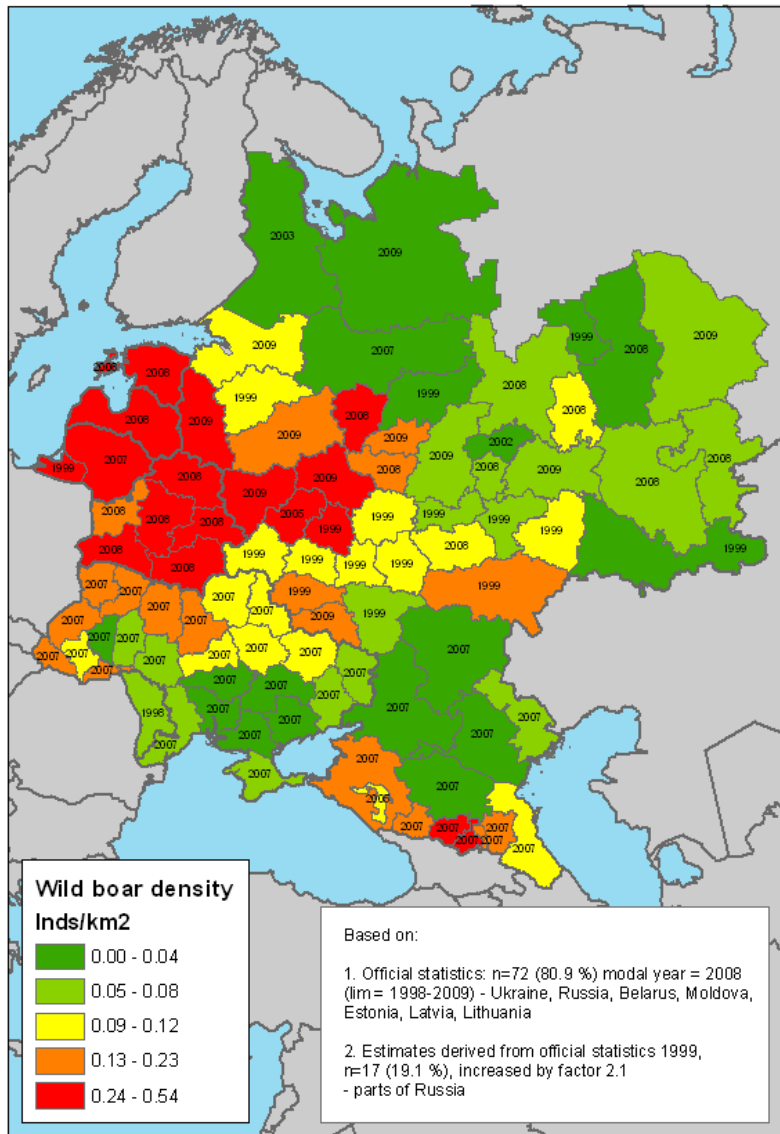
Commercial pigs



Back yard pigs



Wild boar density



Legislation

Stamping out of the infected herd;

Slaughtering of all pigs in the surrounding of 10 to 20 km of the infected herd and processing the meat under heat treatment (production of canned meat);

Establishing a surveillance zone (risk zone) in the surrounding of 150 km of the infected herd with restricted animal movements and enhanced clinical controls;

Compensation of farmers affected by ASF.

Measures taken

Anti-epidemic Commission has been established (4 meetings)

Six provinces (oblast) in the East part of Ukraine bordering Russia have been declared as ASF risk areas

Intensive clinical examinations in pig holdings I within 20 km from the Russian outbreaks.

Risk assessment

The risk of ASF virus introduction from Russian Federation to Ukraine can be considered as high.

The risk of uncontrolled virus spreading within Ukraine can be considered low to moderate.

Wild boar seem not to play a significant role in maintaining, perpetuating and spreading ASF virus.

Veterinary service

The veterinary service of Ukraine was able to respond fast and adequately to the ASF threat posed by the endemic situation in the Russian Federation.

A vertical chain of command from the centre down to the village ensures a fast implementation of the control measures.

A closed-meshed veterinary service enables a fast monitoring and surveillance system based on clinical examination.

ASF legislation

The legal base for controlling and eradicating ASF in Ukraine is given.

However, fine-tuning of legislation on several aspects is advisable.

It is recommended to establish a small working group of experts from the Commission or Member States and the Ukrainian Central Veterinary Service which should improve and update the present legislation.

Pig identification system

Electronic registration of pig holdings and identification of pigs has been initiated.

It is recommended to evaluate the possibility of a European/OIE twinning project. Elements of surveillance and risk assessment could be included in such a twinning.

ASF investigation

The clinical activities have to be linked to laboratory investigations.

All suspect animals in the risk area (e.g. febrile animals) have to be sampled and tested for ASF.

Is recommended to organize training courses for field veterinarians to sample pigs for ASF laboratory diagnosis.

Laboratory training

It is recommended to start at the regional Lugansk laboratory a “first line” ASF diagnosis by IFT and Ag/Ab-ELISA as soon as possible.

It is recommended to train local laboratory experts.

It is recommended that the national Laboratory in Kiev should participate at the yearly laboratory proficiency test organized by the Community Reference Laboratory for ASF.

Epidemiological training

It is highly recommended to train veterinarians from the central and regional level to perform epidemiological investigations in case of outbreaks and to design surveillance and monitoring plans according to the local situation.

It is recommended to enhance common trans-boundary activities of the regional veterinary services of Ukraine and Russian Federation and to organize regular meetings on local scale to exchange information and to coordinate activities.

Realities can not be ignored

Backyard pig farming is tradition and

- plays an integral role in recycling of food,
- plays an important role as meat supply in rural areas and
- is a valuable cash income.

Acknowledgement

Central veterinary service in Kiev

Regional veterinary service in Lugansk

District veterinary service of Krasnodon and Novoaidarskiy

Central and regional laboratories

Sharandak Valentyna and Trotskiy Maryan