African swine fever: situation in Europe and EU measures
Outline

• Overview of ASF situation in Europe
• Main initiatives of the EC on ASF
ASF in Europe
Current situation of ASF in Europe: 2017-2018

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### ASF in 2018: EU

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>ADNS DATA up to 25/11/2018</th>
<th>notification of cases in Wild Boar in 2018</th>
<th>Outbreaks in Domestic Pigs 2018</th>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
A closer look to recent events

Bulgaria
Belgium
Romania
ASF in backyard in Bulgaria: from 31/08/2018

- Province of Varna
- 1 backyard farm on 31/08/2018

RESOLVED
ASF in wildboar in Belgium: from 13/09/2018

- **Etalle** region (Luxembourg province): ASF confirmed in 2 wild boar on 13/09/2018

- **2 EUVET** missions on the spot: 14-17/09/2018 and 11-12/10/2018

- Up to 23/11/2018 – **180 infected wildboar (all in the core area)**
**ASF spread in Romania: in 2018**

**SPREAD: 26/11/18:** 1126 outbreaks in domestic pigs & 122 cases in wild boar
Main initiatives of the EU on ASF

Regionalization
Scientific advice (EFSA)
Urgent intervention (EUVET)
Guidance to MSs
Audits
International cooperation (GFTADS)
Public awareness
Trainings
Financial support
Further initiatives
Research
EU regionalization: ASF
Regionalization in the EU context

• Regionalization is applied in the EU in line with OIE and as an integral element of the EU comprehensive strategy aimed at:
  • ensuring the **best possible disease control**
  • **minimize the negative impact of disease outbreaks on the EU single market** (intra-EU trade) and on **exports** *(without lowering the level of safety of the commodities that are traded/exported)* *(SPS agreement principles)*
EU policy on animal disease regionalization

Characteristics of EU regionalization

- Fulfilling of OIE standards
- Clear criteria to define infected/free- regions
- Measures to maintain/regain free-status of regions
- Surveillance in and outside the infected regions

Key elements for successful EU regionalisation:

- Flexibility / predictability
- Transparency
- Risk based / proportionality
- Rapidity
EU ASF regionalization

- When necessary: by European Commission

- Bigger areas can be restricted (e.g. based on administrative / geographical borders)

- Low risk commodities may be traded under certain additional health conditions (risk mitigation)

- Enhanced surveillance inside and outside the infected region (e.g. serological tests)
EU ASF regionalisation measures

- Clearly defined roles for Member States and Commission
- Rapid flow of information
- Urgent adoption of emergency measures
- Agreed with Member States
- Immediately applicable
- Decisions published in the Official Journal of the EU

- Next revision: December 2018
How ASF regionalization actually works:

Criteria for lifting Part III
- no ASF outbreak in pigs in an area during the past 12 months,
  or
- total depopulation of all non-commercial (low biosecurity) farms in an area: 3 months, if no other outbreaks,
  or
- in case of outbreak in free area (12 months with no outbreaks) 3 months after the disinfection of infected holding (+ measures)

Criteria for lifting Part II
- no ASF cases in wild boar during the past 12 months

Criteria for lifting and Part I
- based on full consideration of the whole set of epidemiological data in a wider geographical and temporal context
Scientific advice on ASF
OVERVIEW OF EFSA’S PAST ASSESSMENTS ON ASF

Scientific opinion (published in July 2018):
- Wild boar density and threshold for ASF transmission
- Wild boar depopulation methods
- Fencing methods
- Surveillance strategy

Epidemiological assessment (published in Nov. 2018)
- Autumn 2018 & 2019

Future work 2019
- Risk of hay and straw
- Research gaps
Urgent intervention
EU Veterinary Emergency Team

EUVET missions on ASF in 2018

1. Hungary: 24-25 April 2018 (wild boar)
2. Romania: 5-9 June 2018 (wild boar)
3. Romania: 2-4 July 2018 (domestic pigs)
4. Bulgaria: 1-3 August 2018 (preparedness)
5. Bulgaria: 4-7 September 2018 (domestic pigs)
6. Belgium: 14-17 September 2018 (wild boar)
7. Belgium: 11-12 October 2018 (follow-up)
8. France: 18-19 October 2018 (immediate threat)
Guidance to Member States
EC Guidance to MSs

**Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU**

A new Annex II with main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States free from ASF:

- **Management of wild boar** (cooperation with agricultural and environmental sectors, biosecurity during hunting, hunting management, ban of feeding, measures along important road networks to address "human factor" and etc.);
- **Public awareness** (specific trainings and targeted awareness raising campaigns, etc.);
- **Pig farming sector** (update of contingency plans, upscaling of biosecurity measures, effective passive surveillance, inspections, preventive slaughter, etc.);
- **Other** (official control at borders, enhanced cooperation between relevant sectors and cross-border communication, etc.).

**The principles and criteria for geographically and temporally defining ASF regionalisation**

This document provides main criteria for classification, definition of ASF areas and for lifting the restrictions.

**Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings**

The aim of this document is to provide guidance to the Member States in controlling ASF when the disease is suspected or confirmed in feral pigs.
Audits
Audits + fact finding missions: Directorate SANTE F

• Audits on implementation of border controls against ASF in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and Poland done in 2013. In 2014 follow-up audits on implementation of border controls against ASF in Latvia and Estonia (6 audits).


• Two series of fact finding mission (16 missions): carried out by the Commission in 2016 and in 2017 in Finland, Estonia Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Hungary, Romania and Slovakia.

• LAST AUDIT: Romania OCTOBER 2018
International cooperation
EU international cooperation: GF-TADs (FAO/OIE):

- 11 meeting of the Standing Group of Experts on ASF in the Baltic and Eastern Europe region since 2014:
  - Bern (22/09/14) - Kick-off
  - Minsk (1-2/12/14) – Wild boar management
  - Tallinn (11-12/02/15) – backyard holding management
  - Moscow (15-16/03/16) - reviewing the outcome of the ASF filed visits
  - Lisbon (19/09/16) - ASF situation and planning actions
  - Vilnius (28-29/11/16) - ASF situation and planning actions
  - Paris (23/05/17) - ASF situation and planning actions
  - Moldova (20-21/09/17) – awareness and communication
  - Kiev (22-23/03/2018) - cross border cooperation addressing (legal and) irregular movements of pigs and their products
  - Paris (22/05/18) - ASF situation and planning actions
  - Warsaw (September 2018) – ASF epidemiology in wild boar population and in the environment

- 10 Field visits by GFTADs experts in Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic and Romania.
Public awareness
Diseases such as African Swine Fever (ASF) can be carried in pig meat, which poses a significant risk to public health. To prevent the spread of ASF, it is important to:

- Do not leave food in areas accessible to wild boar.
- Ensure leftover food is put in sealed waste containers.
- Do not bring meat or meat products back from non-EU countries.
- Be aware of what can and cannot be introduced when travelling.
- Do not touch a dead or sick wild boar.
- Notify competent authorities with any suspicious sightings or concerns.

For more information, consult the ASF topic page and story map on the EFSA website: https://goo.gl/oU3EdD
Public awareness (2)

KEEP ANIMAL DISEASES OUT OF THE EUROPEAN UNION!

TRAVELLERS MUST SURRENDER THESE PRODUCTS FOR OFFICIAL CONTROLS*

Products of animal origin may carry pathogens that cause infectious diseases in animals.

There are strict procedures and veterinary controls on the introduction of products of animal origin into the European Union.

*Other than those arriving with small quantities for personal consumption from Andorra, the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, San Marino and Switzerland.

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Trainings
Trainings

• **Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF)** programme in the Member States and third countries on
  - ASF epidemiology,
  - surveillance strategies,
  - wild boar management,
  - biosecurity in farms and during hunting

• **31 Sustained Training Missions**

• **6 workshops** (Belgrade, Prague, Minsk, Warsaw and Kiev)

• **Workshop on ASF biosecurity** organised by EUCVB and COPA-COGECA with support of the Commission:
  – Target are farmers
  – Countries: Romania (in Nov. 2018), Poland and Germany (in 2019)
Financial support
EU Financial support for veterinary measures

- **EU Member States:** in 2013-2018 support (\(59.2\text{ M€ in total}\)) has been provided to prevent or eradicate the disease using two different tools: emergency measures \((10.9 \text{ M€})\) and eradication programmes \((48.3 \text{ M€})\).

- **Non EU countries:**
  - **For 2017:** for Ukraine: 225 000 EUR allocated for surveillance and collection of dead wild boars; for Moldova: 150 000 EUR allocated to purchase of material to control the disease
  
  - **For 2018:** 345 000 EUR for Ukraine - 121 000 EUR for Moldova allocated for (i) testing; (ii) collection of wild boar carcasses; and (iii) awareness campaigns.
Further initiatives
Ongoing initiatives

• **Cooperation between Ministers of Forestry and Environment and Ministers of Agriculture:**
  - A letter from Commissioners Mr. Andriukaitis and Mr. Vella was sent to the Ministers of Agriculture and the Ministers of Environment of all the Member States on the 26/10/2018.
  - Informal ministerial meeting on ASF in Brussels on **19 December 2018**, in the margins of the December AGRIFISH Council.

• **Cooperation between Ministers of Transport and Ministers of Agriculture**
  - A letter from Commissioners Mr. Andriukaitis and Mrs. Bulc was sent on 24/10/2018: request for increased cooperation.
  - Request for cooperation and awareness raising in the sector of long-distance road transport and along major highways.

• **Common event on ASF with EU hunters organizaiton (FACE)** – January 2019, Dortmund at "*Jagd&Hund*" hunting exhibition.
Research
Research on ASF

- **FP7 projects:**
  - **ASFORCE** – 2012 to 2015 – **5 MEUR** - contributed to better preparedness for ASF.
  - **ASFRISK** -2008 to 2011 – **3 MEUR** - generated serological and molecular diagnostic tools.

- **H2020 projects:**
  - **DEFEND**  Topic SFS-10-2017: - **5.5 MEUR** - to identify the drivers of ASF emergence in Europe and to develop tools for its management (wild boar) and will also address preliminary work on development of a vaccine.
  - **Other:** **SWINOSTICS (3 MEUR), ASF-STOP** (COST action for an international network with a broad aim on ASF surveillance and control), **VETBIONET (10 MEUR)** network of facilities researching animal diseases on infectious animal diseases - including ASF.
  - **Topic SFS-12-2019**, an IA (10 MEUR) support the development of an effective ASF vaccine.
  - **ERANETs in agri-food** amended to broaden its scope to infectious animal diseases, with a strong focus on ASF/wildlife/epidemiology (5 MEUR). It is also expected that further calls/activities under this ERANET would pull additional €10-15 million over the years.

The portfolio of actions taken/planned covers extensively aspects of ASF and mobilizes at least €43-48 million.
Thank you!

CHRONOLOGY of MAIN INITIATIVES on ASF TAKEN or SUPPORTED by THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION: