African Swine Fever facing Romania

(main problems and measures)
Main problems for Romania as a risk country for ASF (1)

**The traffic of animals and products** – there is a risk that the ASF virus may be entered in our country, in particular in localities which are carrying out "unauthorized local trade". We cannot be sure that we manage to block all the illegal traffic.

The relatively **large number of border crossing points** with Republic of Moldova and Ukraine. There are: 7 crossing points on the border with the Republic of Moldova and 5 crossing points on border with Ukraine.

**Lack of an efficient rendering system** in situations of large farms with over 10,000 pigs.

**The weak cooperation** with Republic of Moldova and Ukraine regarding the communication of the epidemiological situation in relations with wild boars.
Main problems for Romania as a risk country for ASF (2)

Since the first CVET Mission from January 2016, NSVFSA made progress in promoting two government decisions:

One referring to the control of passengers at national border and the framework of ASF strategy in Romania; this Decision establishes the administrative competences in border control and confiscation of illegal meat products at BIP’s.

One which enforce the ASF strategy and the Contingency plan for ASF. This Decision includes biosecurity measures in backyard farms, compensations for those who brings sample for passive surveillance and for hunters.
Supplementary measures to prevent the occurrence of ASF in Romania

N.S.V.F.S.A. held constant activity for preparing the legal framework for disease control, staff training, specific resources for intervention and prevention of this disease. In this regard, developed necessary support documentation, has conducted simulation exercises, issued leaflets, concluded protocols with unit decision structures, and trained the administration responsible for animal disease in Romania.

We called up the Local Center of Combating Disease of the Prefect Institution from each county, by notice about the risk in which Romania is subjected on ASF, in order to support actions against ASF and information on taking all measures that will be required to be imposed in case of occurrence of the virus.

We informed all the official and free practice veterinarians regarding of ensuring of a proper active surveillance of this disease. A particular attention was addressed to the communities located on the border with the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine in terms of morbidity and mortality cases occurred in domestic pigs in this period.

We informed all hunting associations from each county regarding the risk of our country to become infected with ASF virus, with the express request to urgently notify any symptom that is affecting wild boars (morbidity, mortality).

We supplemented the measures on border control in order to avoid the entrance of African swine fever virus in Romania - the control of animal movements, particularly on localities which are carrying out "unauthorized local trade". The controls at borders on passenger luggages have been intensified in BIP’s since May 2016, and the permanence of personnel is assured 24/24 hours. Approximately 10 Tons of goods were confiscated in 6 BIPs at the border with Republic of Moldova, and approximately 2 Tons, in 3 BIPs at the Ukraine border. All confiscated illegal goods were destroyed.
Supplementary measures to prevent the occurrence of ASF in Romania

In 2014, it was drafted and sent to the European Commission the program for ASF surveillance (passive and active) on 2015, in the counties found at the border with Ukraine and Moldova (SM, MM, SV, BT, IS, VS, GL, TL), and approved by the Grant Decision SANTE/VP/2015/RO/SI2.700828/30.01.2015.

In 2016, it was extended the passive surveillance for all 42 counties and active surveillance only in the 8 counties found at risk.

On 13th of October 2016 it took place a trilateral reunion between Romania, Ukraine and Republic of Moldova in Odessa - Ukraine. It was established a focal point between the all three countries and it was emphasized that we will inform each other regarding all the measures we will take regarding this disease. Also, we assumed a public MEDIA information campaign meant to ban animal origin products, especially pork, coming to Romania throughout personal luggage.

Version for 2017 was updated and compensations were introduced for samples presented for passive surveillance and wild boar females hunting.
Results of Programme for eradication, control and surveillance 2015

The programme was applied in 8 counties found at borders with Ukraine and Moldova Republic (SM, MM, SV, BT, IS, VS, GL, TL) and considered at risk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passive surveillance domestic pigs (PCR tests)</th>
<th>Passive surveillance wild boars (PCR tests)</th>
<th>Active surveillance wild boars (PCR tests)</th>
<th>Active surveillance wild boars (ELISA tests)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>152</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>732</td>
<td>2155</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Results of Programme for eradication, control and surveillance 2016

Passive surveillance: entire country
Active surveillance: the eight counties and considered at risk (SM, MM, SV, BT, IS, VS, GL, TL)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Passive surveillance domestic pigs (PCR tests)</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1542</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>1446</td>
<td>3590</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Supplementary measures to prevent the occurrence of ASF in Romania
- the GOVERNMENT DECISION no. 830/2016’s approval on 16th of November 2016-

On 16th of November 2016 it was published in the Oficial Monitor of Romania the Government Decision no. 830/2016 for approving veterinary actions contained in the National Programme for surveillance, prevention and control of African swine fever and for supplementing certain acts.

The Decision includes biosecurity measures in backyard farms, as follows:
- the domestic pigs from backyards must be kept in enclosed spaces without the possibility of coming in contact with domestic pigs from other farms, or with wild boars or foreign owners of domestic pigs.
- the animals are not fed with food scraps/swill which are containing scraps of pork cooked in the family, in accordance with Reg (EC) No. 1069/2009
- there is no contact between domestic pigs and any product or by-product originating from feral pigs, including those hunted or dead
- sows/boars are not removed from the holding for mating with animals from another holding
Updates from the beginning of the year for ASF

On 25th of January – 2nd of February 2017 in Romania took place the audit mission DG(SANTE)2017-6118 of Directorate-General For Health And Food Safety from the European Commission on ASF.
Updates from the beginning of the year for ASF

A warning campaign very well done which the advice increase awareness and biosecurity recommendations thru:
  - service notes
  - media campaign
  - trainings

Current biosecurity level and the regularly controls in place by CA on industrial farms reduces the likelihood of introduction and spread of infection.

Main findings and preliminary conclusions of the audit mission regarding the implementation of the programme for surveillance & emergency preparedness in relation to ASF

Extra measures were put in place after the Ukraine ASF outbreak to increase awareness- protocol with border guards

At the risk counties (SM, TL, VS, BT, GL, SV, MM, IS) pigs markets are closed and periodically are checked to ensure no pigs are traded.
Updates from the beginning of the year for ASF

On 16th of February in Romania took place an one day workshop on surveillance and wildlife management for African Swine fever which was organized within the Better Training for Safer Food initiative of the European Commission in cooperation with OIE within the GF-TADS’s programme.
Updates from the beginning of the year for ASF

- workshop on surveillance and wildlife management for African Swine fever -

13 counties from Romania took part to the workshop (included all the counties found at risk)

The total number of participants was 46 members

The structure of the audience:

The participating institutions:

- NSVFS (central)
- CSVFSD (local)
- Danube Delta Biosphere Reserve Authority
- Ministry of Water and Forest
- The Faculty of Silviculture and Forest Engineering
- “Romsilva” - National Forests Body (central)
- Silvic Directorates (local -“Romsilva”)
- The General Association of Hunters and Anglers Romania
- veterinarians
Follow-ups

On 27th of March- 30th of March 2017 Romania will host the meeting of the Task Force for the monitoring of animal disease eradication - subgroup for ASF
Media campaign
outcome

MEDIA CAMPAIGN
FOR BREADERS

MEDIA CAMPAIGN
FOR HUNTERS

MEDIA CAMPAIGN
FOR PASSANGERS
Media campaign outcome

- Rising awareness
- Building public trust
- Voluntary compliance
Thank you for your attention!