



FEDERATION OF ASSOCIATIONS FOR HUNTING AND CONSERVATION OF THE EU

Ministerial Conference on the “Eradication of ASF in the EU and the long-term management of wild boar”

Ludwig Willnegger, FACE Secretary General

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FACE IS THE VOICE OF EUROPEAN HUNTERS

Work with us to ensure hunting remains good for hunters, society and nature

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FACE IS THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION FOR HUNTING AND CONSERVATION

Established in 1977, FACE represents the interests of Europe's 7 million hunters as an international non-profit-making non-governmental organisation (INGO). This makes FACE the largest democratically representative body for hunters in the world and probably one of the largest European civil society organisations.

” *The Voice of European Hunters*

FACE is made up of its Members: national hunters' associations from 36 European countries including the EU-28. FACE also has 7 Associate Members and has its Secretariat in Brussels.

FACE upholds the principle of sustainable use and has been a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) since 1987. FACE works with its partners on a range of hunting-related matters, from international conservation agreements to local implementation issues with the aim of sustaining hunting across Europe.



Torbjörn Larsson, President of FACE

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT'S INTERGROUP “BIODIVERSITY HUNTING COUNTRYSIDE”

Through the Intergroup more than 100 MEPs from different political groups and various stakeholders promote wildlife conservation, sustainable hunting as well as the sustainable management of the countryside and cultural heritage.

[LEARN MORE](#)

822.000 wild boar hunted in DE in 2017/2018

-> Ø 20 h to hunt a wild boar

-> 16,4 Mio h in total

-> 145 Mio € (based on German minimum wage)

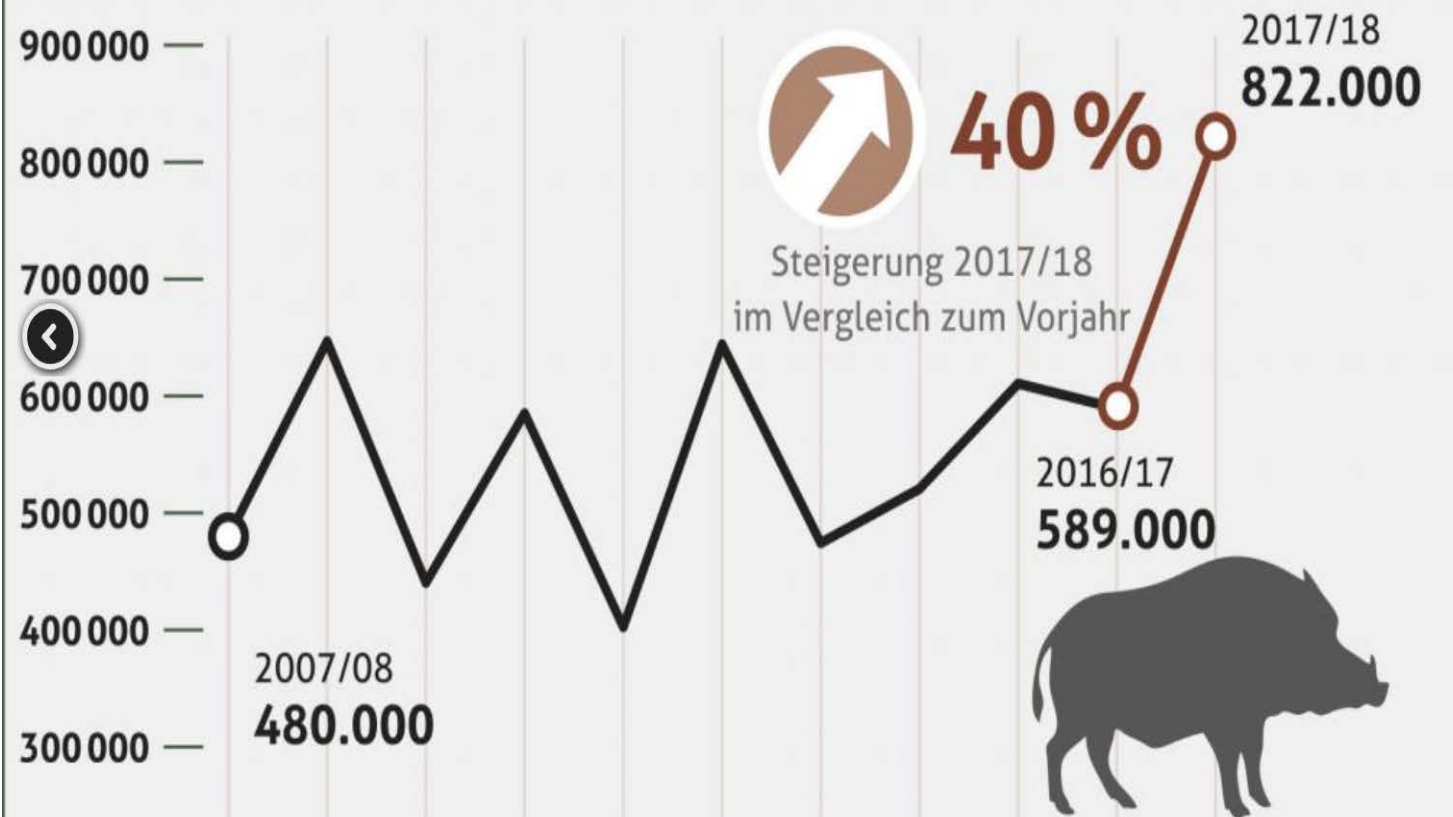
Wild boar reproduction rate of 250%

Erlegte Wildschweine in Deutschland

Verlauf der Jagdjahre* 2007/08 bis 2017/18



*Ein Jagdjahr geht vom 1. April bis zum 31. März des Folgejahres





Wild Boar Populations in Europe

**Population trends and implications
for management**

Conclusions of the study

- Localized analyses indicate that wild boar populations have increased significantly across Europe over the past 30 years
- This increase is affecting the distribution of diseases, affecting human and AH, contributing to negative wild boar interactions, and causing damage to agricultural crops and biodiversity
- Hunting has not prevented the growth of wild boar populations. However, it is likely that without hunting the problem would be worse.

Conclusions of the study

- Decreasing trends in hunters, changing hunting practices, reforestation, increased food availability (mast, agricultural crops) drive wild boar population growth
- Primary factor responsible increased wild boar populations is climate change (milder winter strongly -> reproduction, juvenile survival)
- Changing agricultural practices have created favorable conditions: Availability of multiple food sources & tranquility and shelter

FACE work on ASF...

- Technical knowledge base:
 - Management
 - Biosecurity
 - Monitoring
- Communication:
 - With members
 - Public
 - Other land user stakeholders
- Sharing best practices
- Engagement in policy discussions

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN WILD BOAR FOUND IN CZECH REPUBLIC

6 Jul 2017

FACE is deeply concerned following the recent detection of **African swine fever (ASF)** in two wild boars in the **Czech Republic**. The infected animals were found in Zlin, 300 km south-east of the capital Prague. It is the first reported case of this problematic disease in Czech Republic.



A 10km sanitary perimeter has been established around the infected area, where wild boar hunting is prohibited and monitoring is intensified.

Ludwig Willnegger, FACE Secretary General, stated: *"This is another major development concerning the spread of ASF in eastern Europe. FACE is working with a range of partners to develop best practice information to ensure that hunters play a key role in combatting the spread of this disease. It is paramount that the European Commission and the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) engage immediately in this fight against this malicious disease!"*

Currently, there is no published treatment or vaccination for ASF. Although the disease does not affect humans, it changes all aspects of hunting and wildlife management. This is evident from Latvia, Poland, Lithuania and Estonia where ASF is

A photograph of a group of wild boars in a grassy field. The boars are of various sizes, including several adults and a smaller piglet. They are standing in a field of tall, dry grass. The background is a dense thicket of green foliage. The text 'FACE coordinating between Benelux hunting associations...' is overlaid in yellow on the top half of the image.

FACE coordinating between Benelux
hunting associations...

**14 SEP URGENT CALL FOR QUICK AND DECISIVE ACTION:
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER DETECTED IN WILD BOAR IN BELGIUM**

Posted at 11:28h in Animal Welfare by FACE

FACE members engaging with governments on ASF...



PPA : rencontre au ministère de l'Agriculture avec la filière porcine

3 octobre 2018

2 octobre 2018 à Issy-les-Moulineaux Le 2 octobre 2018 à 10h, le ministre de l'agriculture, Stéphane Travert, a convié l'ensemble de la filière porcine et une délégation de la Fédération Nationale des Chasseurs (FNC) composée de Jacky Desbrosse, vice-président, et de Pascal Secula, Trésorier, pour évoquer le sujet brûlant qu'est la peste porcine africaine, en...

FACE ASF video coming soon on...



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**WILD
BOAR
FEVER**
— IX —

FACE very thankful for collaboration with EC...



CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN THE EU The key role of hunters

African swine fever (ASF) is a devastating, usually deadly, infectious disease of pigs and wild boar for which no vaccine exists.

The **consequences** of the disease affect:

1. Farms and the economy:

- the virus kills animals.
- economic losses for EU farmers are aggravated by disruption of international trade of animals and meat.
- economic losses for the hunters.

2. Wildlife and hunting:

- because of the disease wild boar populations can decrease significantly or even disappear.
- hunting may be restricted or even banned in some infected areas (including collection of carcasses and trophies).

The pig sector is one of the most economically significant farming sectors in the EU.

It represents **8.5% of the total output** of the EU agricultural industry, the highest when compared to other meat sectors.

Pigmeat accounts for **50% of total EU meat production**.

Pigmeat is the **most exported of all meat produced in the EU**: it represents **62% of EU total meat exports**.

Hunters can make the difference - for better or worse - as they may increase or reduce the spread of the disease.



Disease transmission and spread

Transmission can happen through direct contact of healthy pigs or wild boar with infected (dead or sick) pigs or wild boar. However, humans and especially hunters - while not being affected by the disease - can help spreading it by:

- Any contact with infected animals and dead bodies (carcasses).
- Contact with anything contaminated by the virus (e.g. clothing, vehicles, other equipment).
- Feeding the animals with meat or meat products from infected animals (e.g. sausages or uncooked meat) or garbage containing infected meat (e.g. kitchen waste, swill feed, including offal).

Hunters have a key role to play

The EU and national authorities in the affected countries are taking wide range of measures to control and eradicate the disease, but better **cooperation with hunters (and their associations) and with farmers (and their associations)** is vital. Hunters monitor the health status of wild animals and play a key role in protecting animal health, including that of domestic animals.

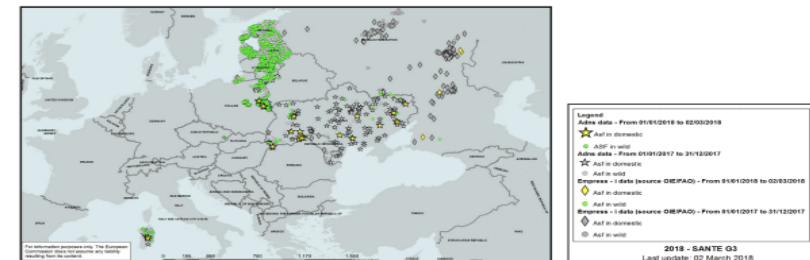
If you see unusual wild boar behaviour or, most likely, if you find a dead animal, you should consider the possibility that it has been infected by African swine fever (especially in the infected areas or areas at risk).

During your hunting trips, especially to the areas considered at risk, you should:

- ▶ Collaborate with the competent authority in the finding and reporting of wild boar carcasses.
- ▶ Clean and disinfect your equipment, clothes, vehicle and trophies on site and always before leaving the area.
- ▶ Eviscerate shot wild boar in the designated dressing area of the hunting ground.
- ▶ Contribute to the gradual reduction of the wild boar density in the areas not yet affected by the disease, including targeted hunting of adult and sub-adult females.
- ▶ Do not feed wild boar throughout the whole year.

* Specific provisions provided by national competent authority should be checked.

Which are the areas at risk and which EU countries are affected?



*Animal Disease Notification System (ADNS) https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/not-system_en

What are the EU and Member States' competent authorities doing?

The EU has developed an **African Swine Fever Strategy** and a **solid legislative framework** to help control and eradicate ASF, including **specific regionalisation measures** which are focused on control measures and prevention of the spread of the disease (in order to protect disease free areas in the EU) requiring hunters' cooperation among other things. This is based on science as provided by European Food Safety Authority (EFSA).

The EU budget for the prevention and eradication of the disease equals **€48.2 million** for the period 2013-2018. The EU ensures the coordination work with the Member States and is working with the Eastern neighbours.



For more information:
https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en#description.
More about ASF: <http://asf-reference-lab.info/asf/en/the-disease>

@Food_EU





During the FACE General Assembly, the **EU Health and Food Safety Commissioner Mr. Vytenis Andriukaitis** acknowledged his strong support for the role of the European hunting community in wildlife conservation and combatting a range of serious animal diseases, especially African swine fever in wild boar. FACE also welcomed Dallas Safari Club as a new associate member.



17 MAY DEEP CONCERNS EXPRESSED BY STAKEHOLDERS REGARDING THE FIGHT AGAINST AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Posted at 17:21h in Animal Welfare by FACE

On 16 May 2018, **MEP Iveta Grigule-Pēterse** (ALDE, LV) organised with the help of FACE a conference on "**The Threat of African Swine Fever in Europe: The Key Role of Hunters**" in the European Parliament. Different stakeholders expressed the need for better knowledge on wild boar biology, more financial resources to support research and stakeholder incentives to combat African Swine Fever (ASF) and stronger awareness-raising. It was stressed that there is no one size fits all solution, but rather the need for specific measures to be adapted for specific situations.



ASP: always on agenda of FACE lobbying in EP

The role of hunters...

- Hunters are the **eyes and ears of the countryside**
- **Deep understanding of wildlife management**
- Often **the first to find evidence** of AH issues in the wild:
- Providing samples of carcasses
- Assisting in managing diseases: surveying, information exchange
- **Shooting**
- Biosecurity awareness: essential for containing ASF



What's needed now for ASF?

- ***EFSA recommendation 2017:*** “*Drastic depopulation, targeted hunting of female wild boar and carcass removal implemented as only measure to control ASF in the WB population need to be implemented in a highly effective manner (at or beyond the limit of reported effectivity in wild boar management) to sustainably halt the spread of ASF*”
- **But we need clarity actions hunters should do:**
 - Searching and dealing with carcasses
 - Which method to use for reducing wild boar populations?
 - Emergency plan for first case in the region? (good example: CZ)
 - Follow-up measures

A brown bear is shown in profile, standing in a snowy forest. The bear's fur is dark brown and appears thick. Its nose is covered in snow. The background consists of snow-covered ground and trees. A large white circle with a black border is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing red text.

WANTED
ONLY
DEAD!!!
100 €

FACE Recommendations

- Improving our **knowledge base**: new science, surveys, funding for wildlife biology research activities
- **Modern Wild Boar Management Plan:**
 - Cross territory driven hunts, targeted hunt for female wild boars
 - Use of modern hunting equipment: night vision, silencers,...
 - Allocating resources (50 Euro/wild boar, cooling equipment,...)
 - Compensation for agricultural damages
 - Biosecurity courses
 - Hunting in non-hunttable areas (e.g. nature reserves)
 - Better international collaboration (e.g. with Belarus)
- **Integration of hunters' delegates in ASF crisis management**

Risk of ASF

- WILD BOAR: Infected pig spreads the virus with all the secretions;
- CARCASS: dead wild boar remains infectious in nature for months;
- MAN - carries the virus/ transmits with footwear, clothing, equipment
- VEHICLE - inadequate cleaning of vehicles that have been in contact with contaminated material;
- ADDITIONAL FEEDING - stocking of grain and food waste in the forest.



INFOGRAPHICS: BIOSECURITY IN FOREST TO ERADICATE ASF

- Each wild boar is a potential carrier of infection and spreads the virus with all secretions (blood, faeces, secretions from nose and mouth)
- In risk areas, all hunted wild boars must be tested for ASF and **The local Veterinary office must be informed of all wild boars found dead**
- The location of the dead wild boar carcass must be determined accurately
- The carcass found must be buried as close to the finding site as possible or transported/delivered to the container
- To test the wild boar a blood sample must be taken from the heart or lung.
- Label and pack the sample correctly and deliver to the laboratory as fast as possible. **Before delivery to the laboratory, the blood samples must be stored at temperature +4...+6°C. Do not freeze the samples!**
- Extract carcasses separately ensuring no infectious material is left (blood, offal, ...)
- The vehicle used for transportation must be cleaned and disinfected
- Carcasses must be stored separately to avoid contamination, hanging in a room where the temperature is 0-7 degrees Celsius and can only be skinned or cut into pieces once the test shows to be negative
- Carcase must be identifiable AND ASF positive carcass must be taken into the container

INFOGRAPHICS: BIOSECURITY IN FOREST TO ERADICATE ASF

- When hunting, it must be taken into account that each hunted and dead hunted wild boar is a risk of infection, **and it is therefore very important to ensure biosecurity at every step.**
- **The use and marketing of wild boar meat is prohibited.** Until the results of the tests are received, the carcasses of wild boar must be stored in one piece in a hunting house fully equipped for primary handling of meat. To handle small quantities of game meat an economic activity report must be submitted to the Veterinary Board.
- After hunting, all surfaces exposed to possible contaminants must be cleaned and **disinfected** - clothing, footwear, weapons, vehicles and other hunting equipment. Within 48 hours after hunting, it is prohibited to enter the territory of a pig farm.
- Ask for instructions for disinfection from the Veterinary Office. The blood sample must be delivered to the Veterinary Laboratory office. Samples can be taken into the Veterinary and Food Laboratory 24/7, to the VTA county veterinary offices on working days from 8AM to 4PM and on weekends by agreement.

Rebhühner in Deutschland

2009 und 2017 im Vergleich



Anteil der Reviere
mit Vorkommen

Brutpaare
je Quadratkilometer

-33 %

-44 %



THE NEXT CAP ARMAGEDDON FOR HARES, PHEASANTS & Co.?

European Parliament - 04 Sept 2018
Register at www.face.eu/register



FACE on Common Agricultural Policy

- Defining biodiversity as a production objective
- Promoting concrete measures to restore and protect habitats for huntable, non-huntable species as well as field birds: multiannual flowered areas, energy from wild plants, abolition of mulching, set-aside, reducing pesticides, etc.
- Linking direct payments to concrete and effective agri-environmental measures

EC/FACE ASF Conference at Jagd und Hund, Dortmund

- “Jagd und Hund”: largest hunting fair in Europe (90.000 visitors)
- 30 January 2019
- Focus on the role of hunters eradicating ASF
- Leading experts from EC, MS and stakeholders are invited
- Press briefings, panel discussions



European Commission/FACE Conference
**PREPARING EUROPEAN HUNTERS TO COMBAT
AFRICAN SWINE FEVER**



Interpretation: EN-DE
Livestream provided

30 January 2019, 10:00-16:00
Kongresszentrum Westfalenhallen, “Silbersaal”



Kongresszentrum Westfalenhallen, “Silbersaal”
(Rheinlanddamm 200, 44139 Dortmund)





Thank you very much for your attention!

Ceterum censeo:

Wolves must be hunted and NOT strictly protected!

