



# Mission of the Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET) to Romania

(8 – 9 August 2017)

# Objective

- **Reason:** first occurrence of ASF in a backyard holding in Romania (in Satu Mare)
- **ToR: provide assistance** to the scientific, technical, managerial and practical on-the-spot assistance on the refinement of the most suitable control and eradication measures for African Swine Fever (ASF) under local conditions, especially as **regards epidemiological investigations and outbreak management.**
- **Experts:**
  - Silvia Bellini (team leader, Italy)
  - Edvīns Oļševskis (Latvia)



# Background

- Two outbreaks in backyard holdings in Satu Mare
- **Index case:**
  - 1 sow, 2 females and 1 male
  - from 11 to 25 of July a boar from a neighbouring farm was present in the holding for breeding purpose
- **Secondary outbreak:**
  - 1 boar and 2 sows
  - This farm is approximately 800 m – 1 Km far from the index case
- **Contact holding:**
  - located in protection zone
  - At the time of the CVET visit no clinical signs were identified



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## Conclusions

- the boar, is the link between the two farms.
- **ASF appeared almost simultaneously in 3 out of four pigs present in the primary outbreak and in the boar of the secondary outbreak.** This could be consistent with a common source of infection (feed).
- Most probably, the infection has taken place between 21 and 25 of July. In fact, on July 21st, the boar of the secondary outbreak left the index case and for one day he had contacts with animals of the susceptible species but the exposed animals have not been infected. So, probably, at that time the boar was not infective.
- In the index case, **swill feeding** could be the possible source of infection.
- The police has been involved in the investigation to determine the possible origin of the infected products.
- The **secondary outbreak was infected by direct contact trough the boar**

# Conclusions

- ASF was early detected
  - a) suspicion was immediately reported by the farmer to the local veterinarian;
  - b) samples were immediately sent to the local laboratory;
  - c) preliminary diagnosis was carried out locally; and
  - d) given the situation of risk, after preliminary diagnosis, animals were stamped out and contact holdings placed under restriction and strict surveillance.
- Epidemiological investigation was carried out and information carefully collected to identify possible source of infection and contact holdings.
- Control measures were immediately adopted in the outbreaks and in the affected area

# Conclusions

## *Recommendations*

- Surveillance in domestic pig population

In the risk area, there is already a **good level of passive surveillance** and it should be maintained as well as the high level of awareness.

# Conclusions

## *Recommendations*

- Surveillance in wild boar

**Passive surveillance** in the wild boar is weak and it **should be reinforced** primarily in the area currently affected.



# Conclusions

## *Recommendations*

- Biosecurity

**Minimum biosecurity requirements** in the **backyard** sector should be immediately implemented

Their implementation have to be **controlled** by veterinary authority, as priority, starting with the area currently affected by ASF.

# Conclusions

## ***Recommendations***

- Farm registration and animal identification system

**Veterinary service have to take immediate action to ensure that all pig holdings (including backyards) are registered and pigs identified.** In carrying out such activities, veterinarians must respect relevant biosecurity rules to avoid possible spread of diseases, including ASF.

# Thank you for your attention!

*The CVET Team wishes to thank all colleagues from Romania for their support and help given.*

*The working atmosphere during the mission was very positive. The Romanian Veterinary Authority gave all their support and assistance to facilitate the mission. The Team wishes to thank the interpreters for their support.*