



**REGIONE AUTONOMA DELLA SARDEGNA**

**Direzione Generale della Presidenza della Giunta Regionale**

# **African Swine Fever in Sardinia**

## **New approach to eradication**

**Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed**

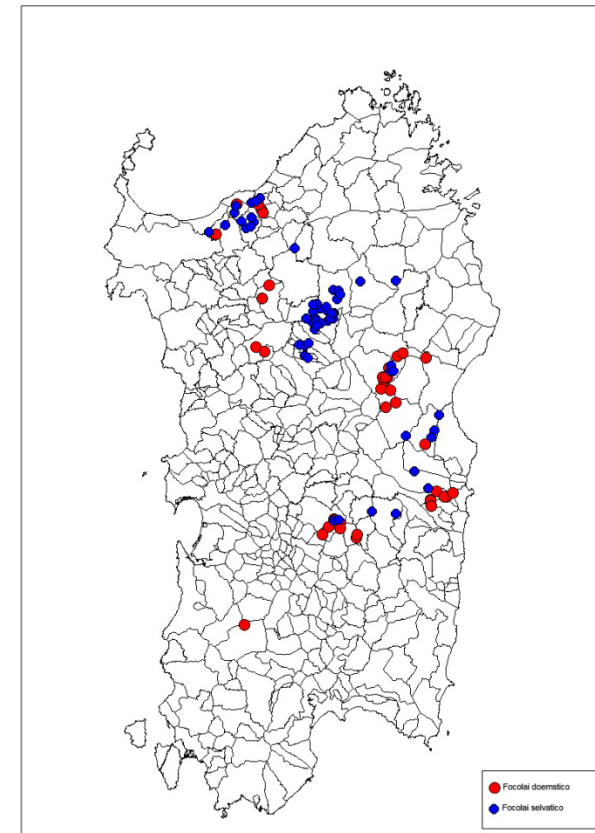
**Brussels, 14 January 2015**



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## Epidemiological situation

	2013	2014
Outbreaks in domestic pigs	109	40
Cases in wild boars	67	59



**(Apparent?) positive trend in dp, not (yet?) in wb**



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## Main factors allowing ASF to persist in Sardinia

- Presence of an illegal population of free ranging pigs, (not less than 10 000 head) where ASF is endemic, living at the interface between wild boar and regular pigs, mainly in central Sardinia
- Very high number of family-type farms with poor biosecurity
- Cultural resistance to change
- Insufficient co-ordination of authorities





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## **New approach to disease eradication**

- **New 2015-2017 eradication programme, fully in line with the recommendations of the Commission (2013 FVO report)**
- **Programme supplementing EU legislation on ASF**
- **Main new elements:**
  1. **Clear chain of command**
  2. **Strong actions against illegal free-ranging pigs**
  3. **Sinergy between eradication measures and the animal welfare programme under the rural development programme**



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## New chain of command

- Establishment of a task force (*“Unità di Progetto”*) to coordinate all players at regional level
- The Head of the task force has extra-ordinary coordination and decision making powers
- Supported by 2 recent Regional Laws (the first on the organization of the regional administration, the second one on the ASF task force) and 2 formal acts of the Regional Government

**The new chain of command fully responds to the FVO recommendations and it reflects the strong political willingness to address and solve the ASF problem once and forever!**



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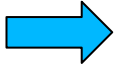




## **Strong action against the illegal free-ranging pigs**

- Information and training for farmers (750 meetings already scheduled for 2015), the rural community and the whole population
- Limited possibility to go back to legality
- Specialized body of contractors to depopulate the illegal pigs under the responsibility of the Head of the task force



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## Synergy with the animal welfare programme under the rural development fund

- Based on the good results of the AW programme on sheep in the last 5 years:  more hygiene  less stress  better AW  
 lower somatic cells in milk  higher milk price
- Programme now extended to pigs
- **Pig owners will only get financial support if they comply with minimum EU law requirements + additional AW and biosecurity**



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## Enhanced controls and qualification of pig holdings

- Official controls on all pig holdings , leading to their qualification:
- “holding controlled for ASF”: regularly registered, pigs identified and tested negative for ASF, minimum biosecurity requirements  
– essential for 2015 AW payments
- “holding certified for ASF” as above plus more stringent biosecurity requirements – essential for 2016 AW payments

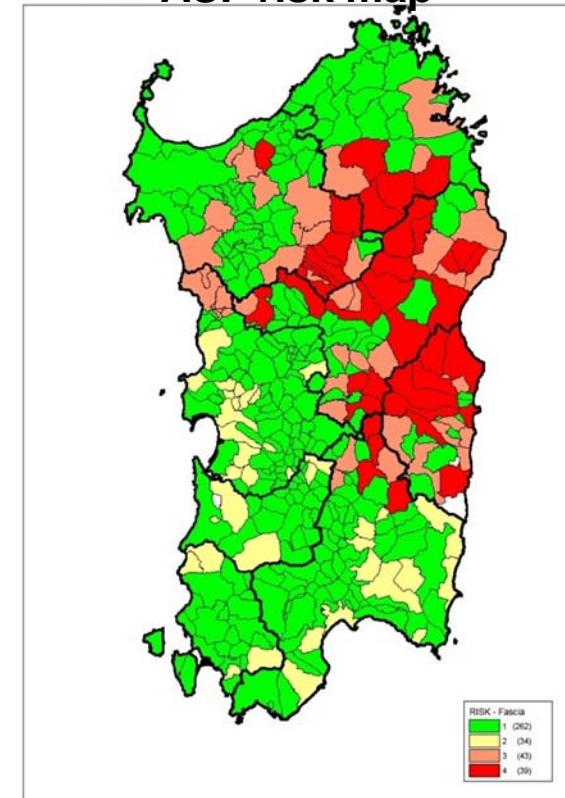




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- Programme to be implemented in a risk-based, coordinated, gradual, progressive and centripetal way
- **Appropriate modulation of carrot** (regularization of pigs, AW programme payments) **and stick** (killing of irregular pigs)
- First results by end of 2015
- Review on the bases of precise indicators
- Disease to be eradicated in three years

ASF risk map





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Many thanks to the Commission for the authorization  
given to Dr. Alberto Laddomada to cooperate with  
Sardinia and for the financial support for 2015

**Many thanks to all of you for your attention!**