

#### Better Training for Safer Food

*Initiative* 

# Engagement strategies Marius Masiulis

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#### African swine fever in wild boar

African swine fever cannot be managed directly:

No treatment and

No vaccine available...

Following the detection of ASF cases in wild boars:

Definition of the infected area;

Protection of the domestic pig population (census and biosecurity);

Management of the infected wild boar population.

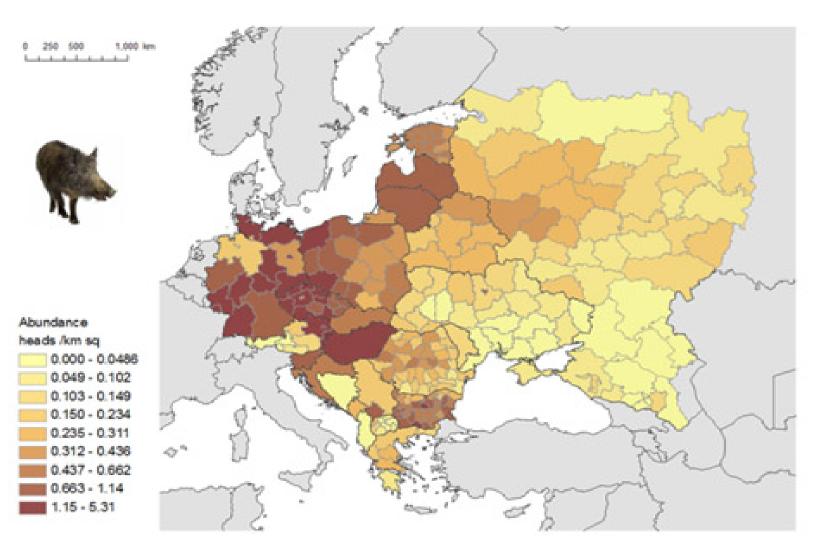


#### African swine fever in wild boar – risk factors

- ✓ Presence of the virus;
- ✓ Size of the population;
- ✓ Density of the population;
- ✓ Size and density define the wild boar geographical distribution:
- ✓ Age and gender of the infected wild boar population;
- ✓ Type of hunting;
- ✓ Period of the year during which the virus has been detected/introduced.



#### Wild boar density





#### Can we control the hunters?









#### Wild boar density - how to estimate??

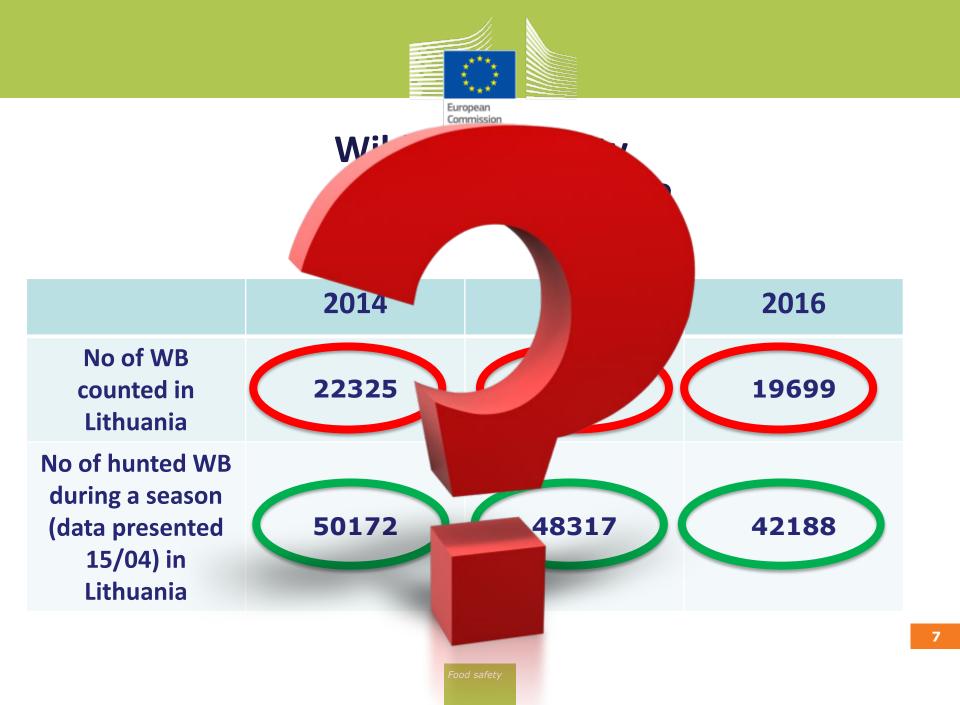
Type of survey	Measurement tool(s)	Potential measurements	Potential metrics of abundance
Track	Tracking plots	Number of track intrusions Presence-absence	Index
Dung	Defined areas for Pellet counts	Number of pellet groups	Index
	DNA analysis	Number individuals and "recaptures"	Known to be alive
			M-R density estimate
Road counts (counts from vehicles)	Human observers	Counts	Index
	Spotlight Night vision	Distance to animals observed	Density estimate
	Thermal imaging		
Aerial surveys	Human observers	Counts	Index
	Video Thermal imaging	Number of animals in strip transect(s) Distance to animals from aerial transect	Density estimate
Animal marking	Trap and mark	Resight/recapture	Density estimate
	Bait markers	Capture and check for mark	Known to be alive index
Take rates	Hunter survey	Hunter take	Take index
		Hunter effort	Take/effort index
Camera	Camera traps	Number photographed	Index
		Resight (recapture)	Known to be alive index
			Density estimate
Plot occupancy	Geographic units	Assessed occupancy within a unit	Density estimate
			Occupancy index



#### Wild boar density - how to estimate??

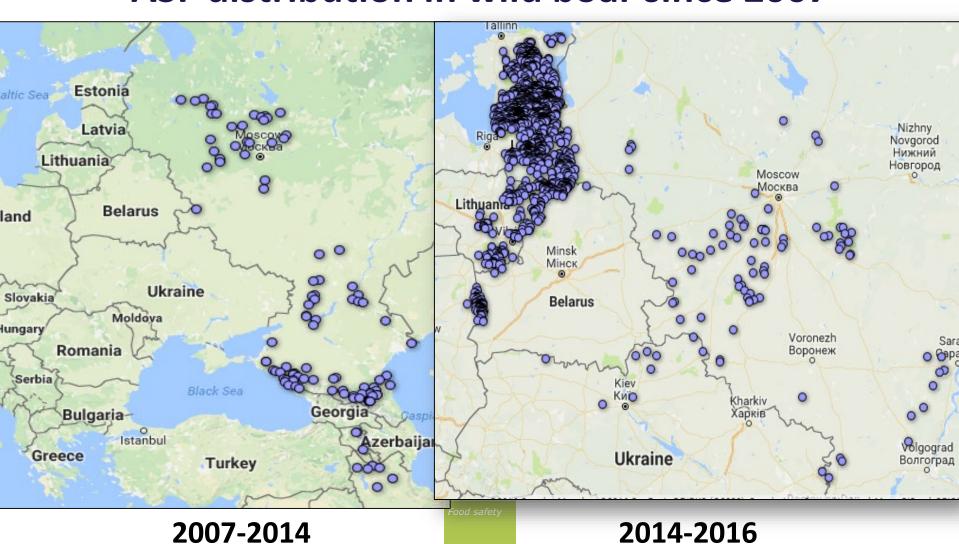








#### ASF distribution in wild boar since 2007





**Continuous awareness campaigns** should be foreseen for hunters for informing about the new strategy and the intended goals so to encourage the participation of hunters in the strategy.





#### Infected area – how to define?

The historical and current geographical distribution of the infection;

Epidemiological investigations;

Wild boar home range, geographical distribution;

Landscape structure;

All the suitable wild boar habitat in geographical continuity;

Borders defined by artificial or natural barriers;

Not less than 200 km2:

It is possible to see the infection after several months;

It is a reasonable wild boar management unit;

According to the average wild boar densities it is possible to sample with appropriate intensities.

Easy to identify.



### Risk of spread after introduction of the virus in to wild boar population

- Delayed diagnosis;
- Wild boar population size and density;
- Forest connectivity;
- Inappropriate hunting methodologies;
- Lack of biosecurity measures applied during hunting;
- Infected wild boar carcasses available for healthy wild boars;
- Poaching...





#### **ASF** surveillance strategy

#### Needs to be tested:

- •All found dead or killed in road incidents wild boar!
- •Any hunted wild boar showing any abnormal behaviour.

















#### **ASF** control measures in wild boars

- Wild boar feeding is forbidden; only baiting is allowed;
- Compensation for targeted hunt hunted females;
- Collection, testing and disposal of wild boar carcasses;
- All hunted wild boars within infected area are subject to laboratory tests for ASF;
- It is forbidden to use the meat of hunted wild boars and to move the meat from the hunting place within the infected area <u>before the results</u> of ASF testing have been obtained from the laboratory;
- Till the laboratory results of ASF testing are obtained, the carcasses of wild boars should be stored isolated or in places authorised by territorial SFVS;
- Biosafety requirements for hunters clubs.......



#### **ASF Strategy**

- Minimum biosecurity requirements for the hunters should be foreseen by the competent authority; at least these aspects should be included:
- dedicated authorized dressing facility should be available in each hunting ground;
- inside each hunting ground a facility/premise should be equipped with refrigerator;
- hunted wild boar should remain in the premises of the hunting ground until tested;



#### **ASF Strategy**

- Offal from hunted wild boar should not be removed from the animal in the field; shot wild boar should be brought to dedicated authorised dressing facilities limiting loss of body fluids (including blood).
- After dressing the wild boar, the place and equipment used (including transport vehicles) should be washed and disinfected with authorized disinfectants.
- Animal by products should be collected and processed by burn, burial or rendering / incineration.



#### **Biosecurity**

#### **Definition:**

"The implementation of measures that reduce the risk of the introduction and spread of disease agents;

it requires the adoption of a set of attitudes and behaviors by people to reduce risk in all activities involving domestic, captive/exotic and wild animals and their products"...





#### Transportation of hunted wild boars









#### Transportation of hunted wild boars







#### **Dressing area**

- To be used in order to minimize the risk of ASF viral contamination of the environment;
- Open air or closed facilities;
- Designated exclusively for animal dressing;
- Authorized by Competent Authority, recognized by hunters and ensure the basic biosecurity...
- Equipment used for dressing should not be used in any other places or moved to the animal keeping places;
- Authorized disinfectants should be used.







#### **HUNTED WILD BOAR**

- ✓ All hunted wild boars within infected area are subject to laboratory tests for ASF by ELISA and PCR;
- ✓ It should be forbidden to use the meat of hunted wild boars and to move the meat from the hunting place within the infected area <u>before the results of ASF testing</u> have been obtained from the laboratory;
- ✓ Till the laboratory results of ASF testing are obtained, the carcasses of wild boars should be stored isolated or in places authorised by CA.





#### **Biosafety**

Hunters should process hunted wild boars in special designated places and all ABPs should not be moved outside but kept in special tightly closed animal waste pits or containers.







## Role of hunters: disposal of offal, by-products or dead wild boars



Containers

**Example (Latvia)** 



### Role of hunters: disposal of offal, byproducts or dead wild boars





Food safety

**Example (Czech Republic)** 



## Any questions / suggestions / remarks?





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