

African Swine fever in wild boar in Belgium

PAFF Committee 17 October 2018



Animal health

Competence :

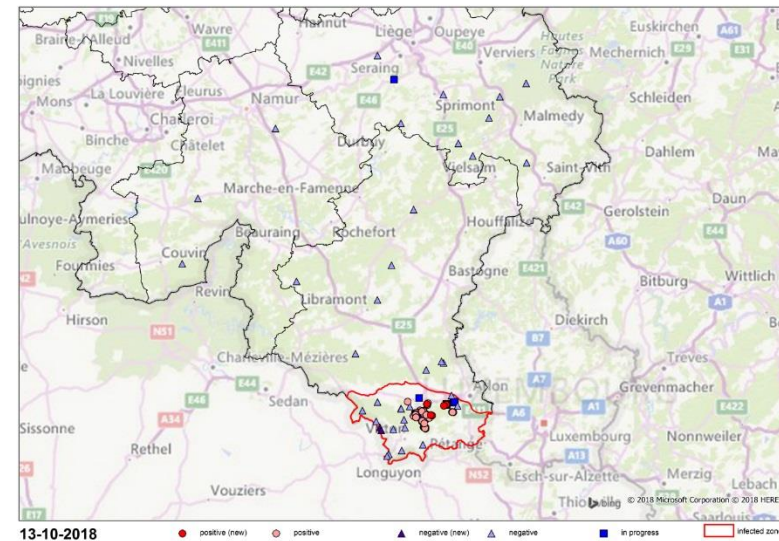
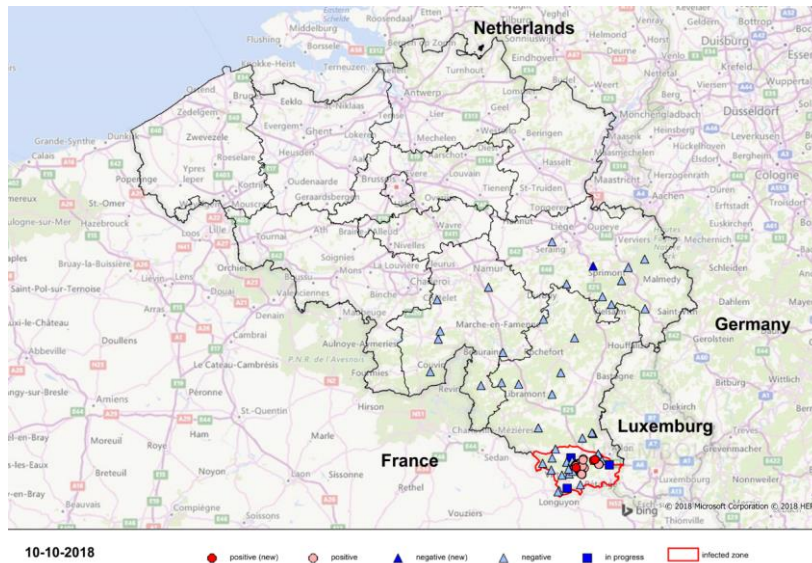
- **Food safety => Federal competence**
“from farm to fork”, incl. Animal health domestic and other captive animals
- **Wildlife => the Regions**
- **Coordination at all levels!**



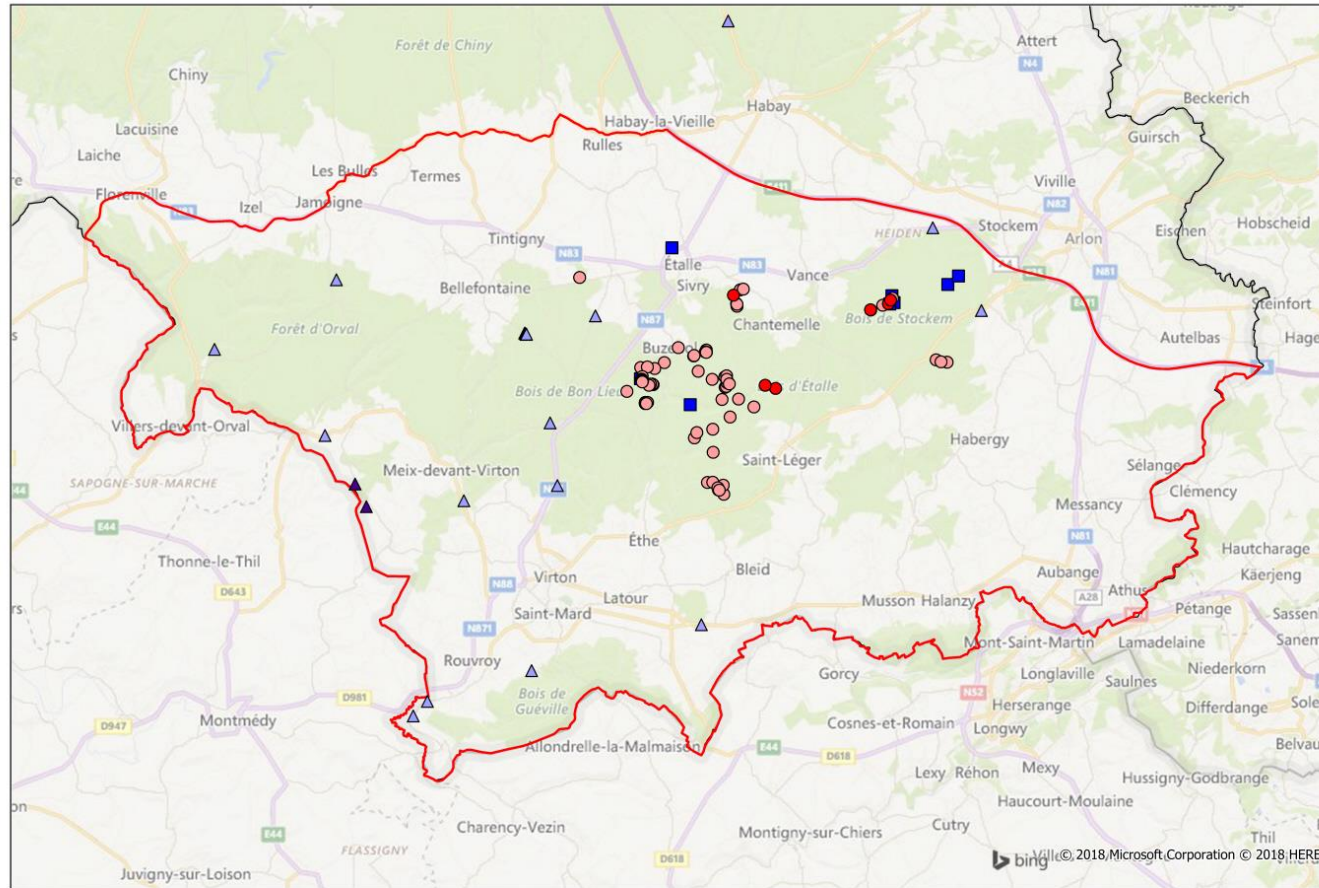
Confirmed cases in wild boar

On the 16th October 2018 :

- 171 cadavers of wild boars found
- 139 in the infected zone (CID 2018/1281)
- 89 confirmed cases of AVP in wild boar, all in the zone (found in the same small polygon situated in the municipalities of Arlon, Etalle and Virton. Most cases were localized within a radius of approximately 1500 m, and the distance between the most extreme finding spots being maximum 14 km)



Infected zone



13-10-2018

● positive (new) ○ positive ▲ negative (new) △ negative ■ in progress □ infected zone



No outbreaks in domestic pigs!



Measures taken

According to Council Directive 2002/60/EC

Infected zone was established (630 km²)

Confirmed by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1281 of 21 September 2018 concerning certain protective measures relating to African swine fever in Belgium



Initial measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region)

Wild boar

- Ban on hunting wild boar
- Ban on feeding wild boar
- Limited access to the forest
- Biosecurity measures
 - vehicles, boots, ...
 - Specific instructions for the staff sampling and transporting carcasses
- Searching, collection and testing of all wild boar found dead
 - => define the real infected area



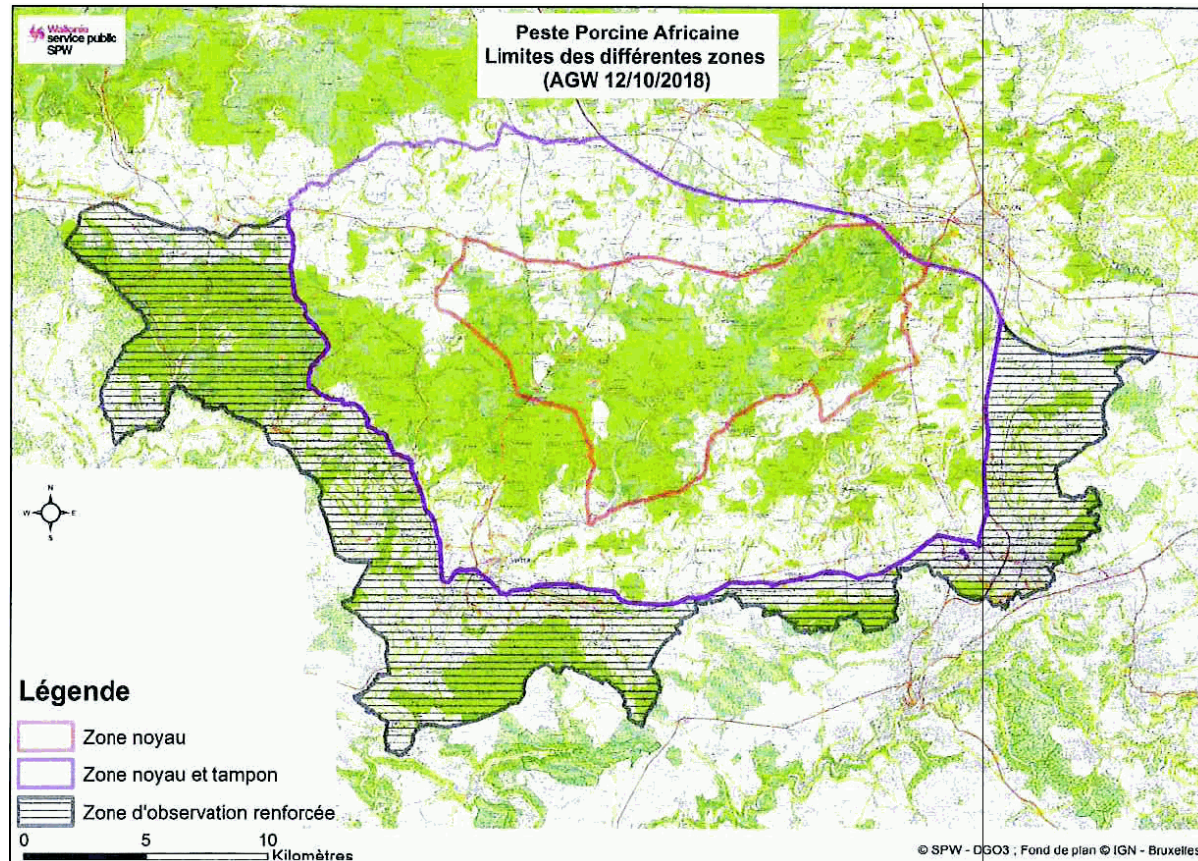
Modified measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region)

Wild boar

- Second EUVET mission 11-12th October 2018
- Modified measures in force since 15th October 2018
- The infected zone is split up in 3 zones with specific measures:
 - Kernel zone (including all infected wild boar): 126 km²
 - Buffer zone: 292 km²
 - Reinforced observation zone: 212 km²



Modified measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region) Wild boar



Modified measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region)

Wild boar

Kernel zone

- Ban on hunting wild boar
- Ban on feeding wild boar
- Limited access to the forest
- Biosecurity measures
 - vehicles, boots, ...
 - Specific instructions for the staff sampling and transporting carcasses
- Searching, collection and testing of all wild boar found dead



Modified measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region)

Wild boar

Buffer zone

- Ban on hunting wild boar
- Ban on feeding wild boar
- Limited access to the forest, **but forest works allowed under strict conditions**
- Biosecurity measures
- Searching, collection and testing of all wild boar found dead
- **Building a fence network**



Modified measures in the infected zone (Wal. Region)

Wild boar

Reinforced observation zone

- Ban on feeding wild boar
- Limited access to the forest, **but forest works allowed under strict conditions**
- **Hunting allowed under strict conditions to reduce the wild boar population**
 - Trained hunters
 - Biosecurity measures
 - Testing of all shot wild boar
 - Rendering of carcasses of shot wild boar
- Searching, collection and testing of all wild boar found dead



Measures in all regions

Wild boar

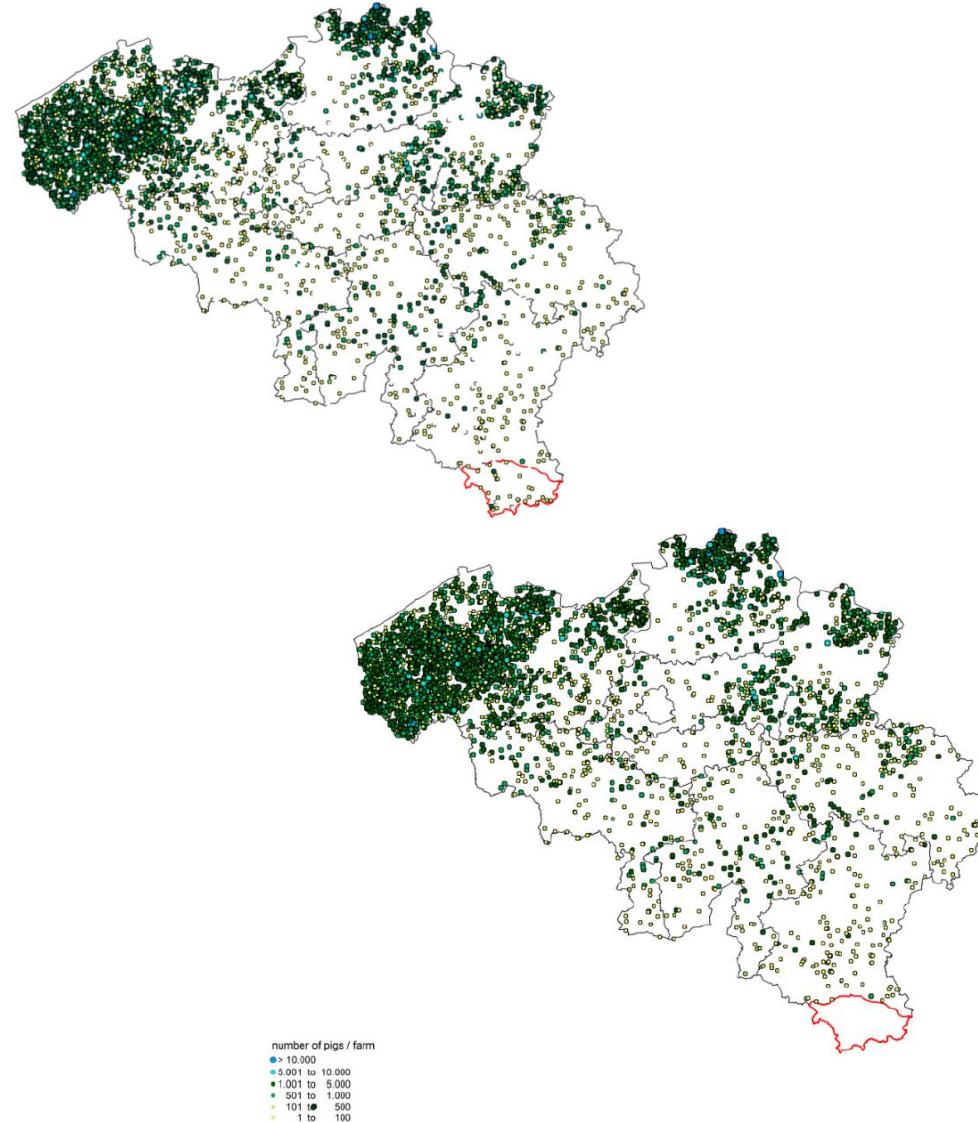
- Call center to notify dead wild boar
- Collection and testing all wild boar found dead
- Hunting to reduce the wild boar population



Measures in the infected zone - Pigs

The vast majority of the pig holdings in the infected zone were non-commercial holdings keeping a few fattening pigs for personal use. There were only a few commercial pig holdings present : 50 (5) - 400 (1) -1000 pigs (1)

All pigs (5 222 pigs on 22 holdings) were preventively culled (27th Sept => 2nd October), no pigs remain in commercial and non-commercial pig holdings of the infected zone



National measures - Pigs

- Preventive measures permanently in place
 - Biosecurity measures
 - After contact with wild boar: no access to pig farms for 72 h
 - No introduction of dead or shot wild boar in pig farms
 - No outdoor access or effective double fencing
 - No contact with possibly contaminated feed, utensils
 - Cleaning and disinfection of vehicles after each transport



National measures - Pigs

- Additional measures following the introduction of ASF
 - All assemblies of pigs prohibited
 - Only 1-1 transports of pigs
 - No visitors allowed to pig farms if not needed
 - All introduced pigs must pass quarantine
 - Increased surveillance: no treatment of sick pigs without sampling for ASF tests: **885 tests on 286 pig farms: all negative!**
- Raising awareness of farmers, hunters and vets (newsletter)



Conclusions

- Measures for the eradication of ASF are in place
- All concerned partners are actively involved
- Preparation started in case an outbreak would occur in domestic pigs



Thank you for your attention

