



# National action plans on wild boar management in the context of EU legislation on ASF

Ministerial conference on ASF

27 September 2022

*Bernard Van Goethem*

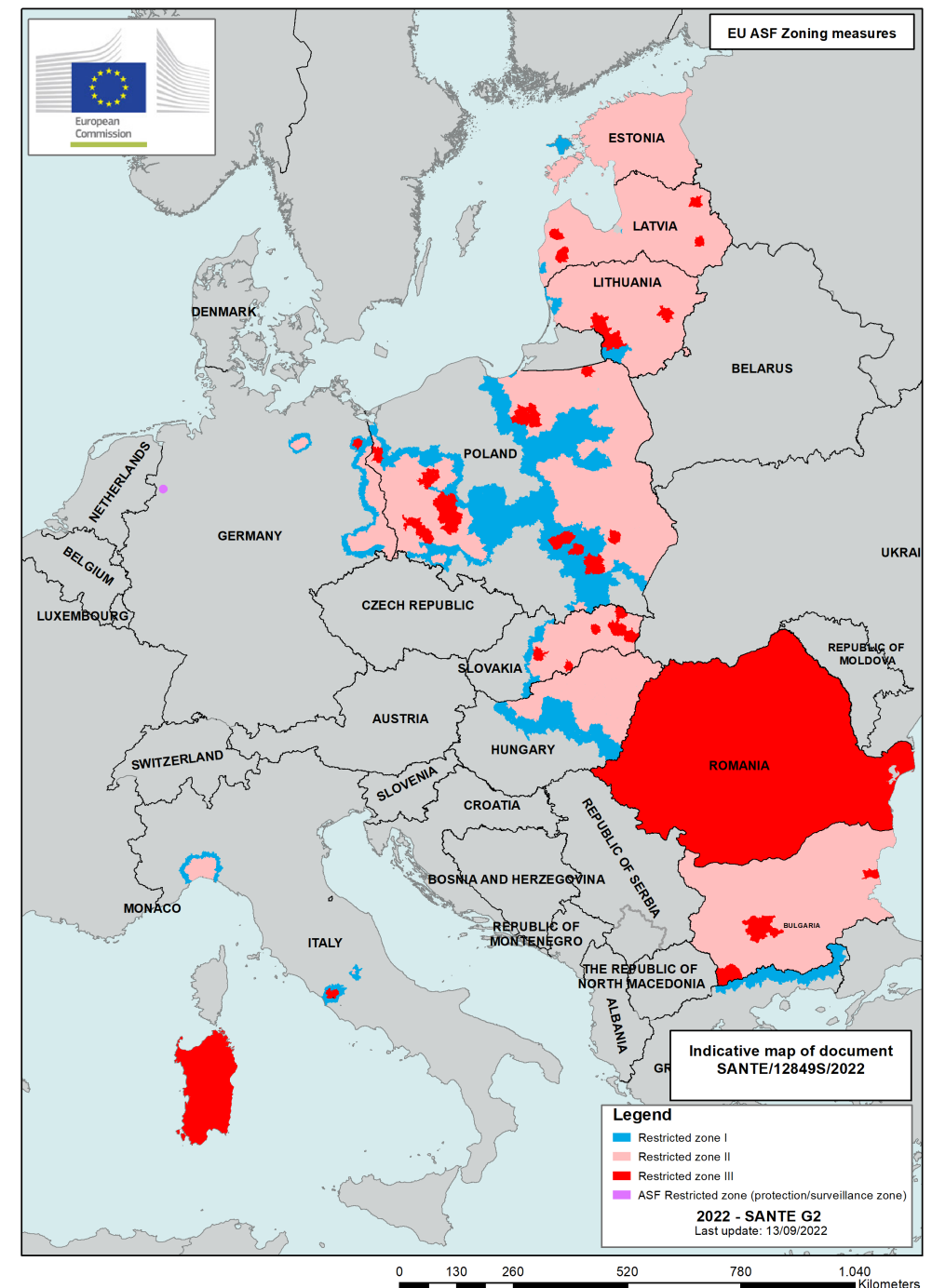
*Director of Directorate G*

*Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants*

*DG SANTE, European Commission*

# Impact of ASF

- **ASF negatively affects EU pig sector** (one of the most economically significant farming sectors in the EU) **and other sectors**
- **Negative impact** on the local, national and EU economy
- ASF detection in a country = **long-lasting trade disruptions**



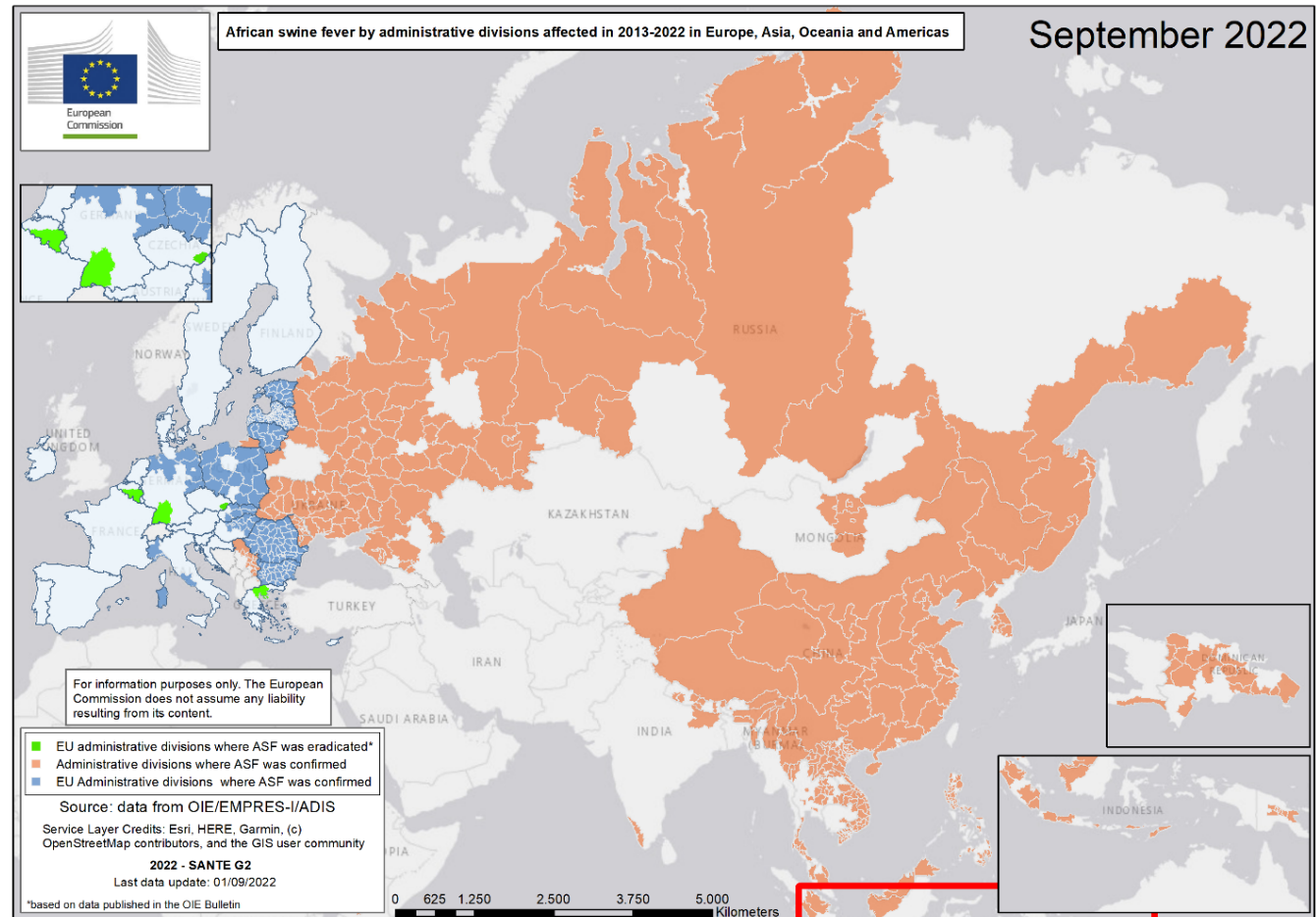
# Impact of ASF

- **ASF affects hunters and environment**
- **hunting bans** in newly infected areas
- **restrictions** for marketing of **wild boar meat**
- **limitations** for hunting tourism
- additional **testing and restrictions**
- significant **reduction of wild boar population**
- **animal welfare** aspects

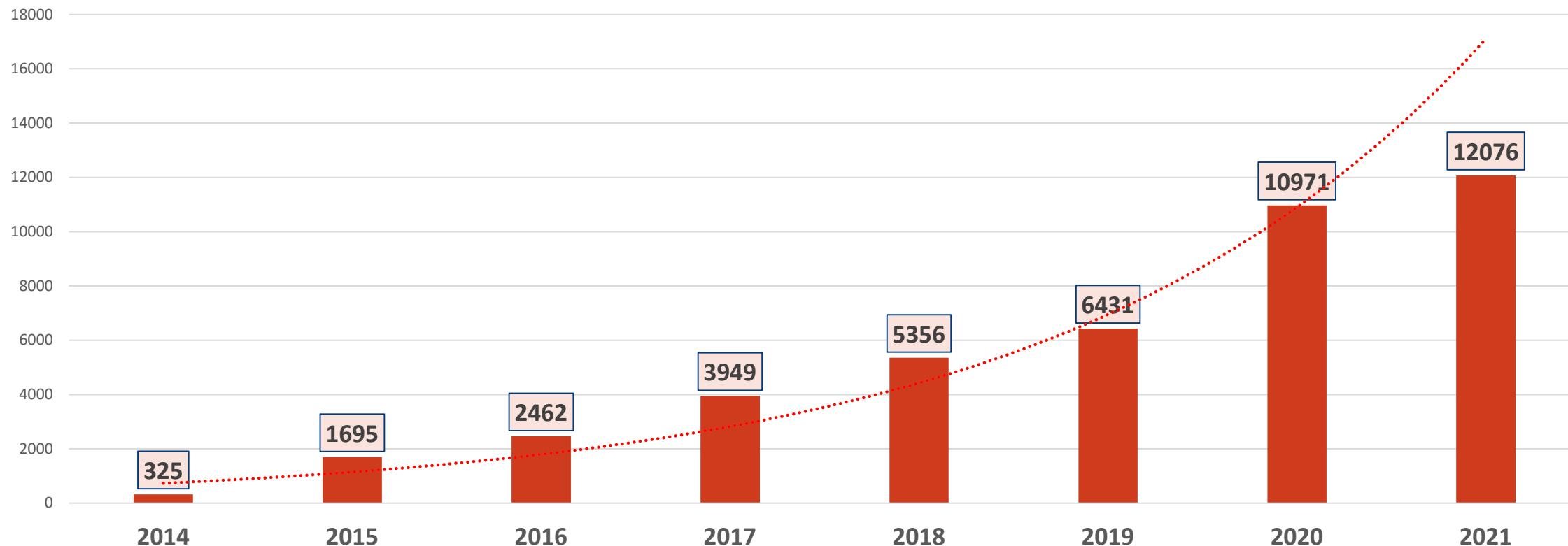


# Why wild boar management is important in the context of ASF?

- High densities of wild boar = **increased risk of ASF appearance** and **difficult eradication**
- **Persistence of the virus in wild boar** for a long time and spread further to **new areas**
- Infected wild boar contaminate the environment making **more likely secondary outbreaks in domestic pigs** (both non-commercial and commercial farms)
- As some experience shows, **the absence of action in wild boar could result in an uncontrolled, rapid and devastating spread of ASF** throughout vast territories.

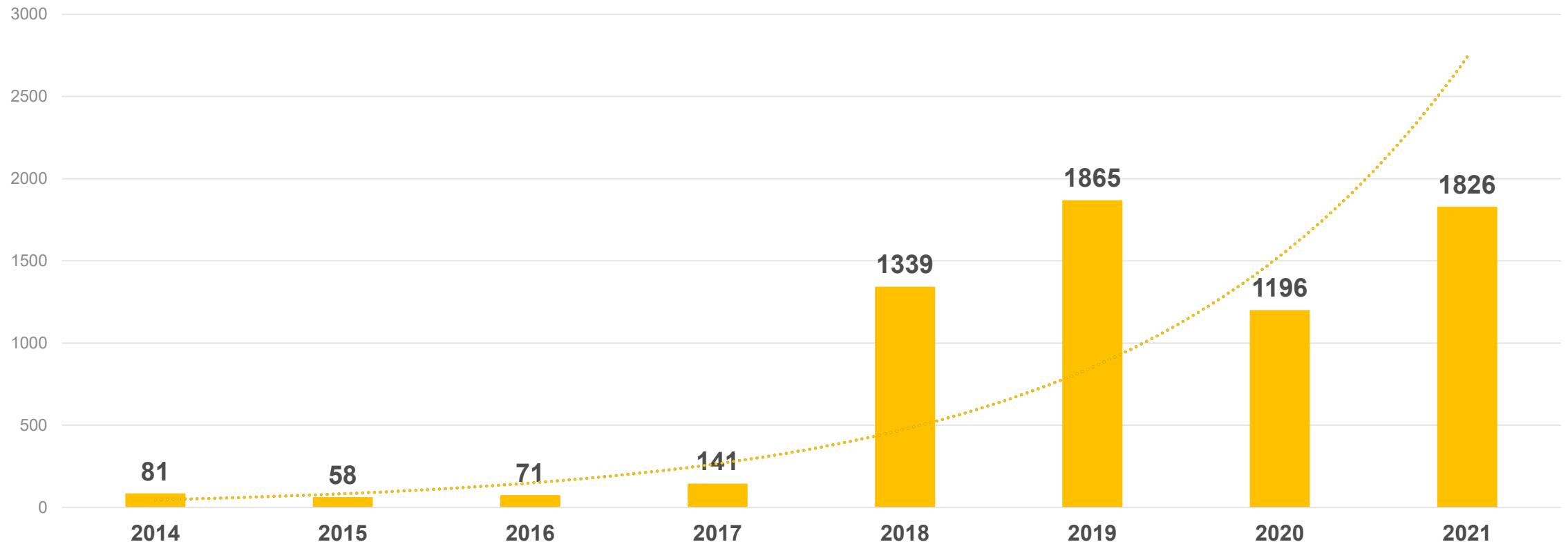


# ASF cases in wild boar in the EU (2014-2021)



**~ 50.000 cases of ASF in wild boar in the EU in 2014-2022**

# ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs in the EU (2014-2021)

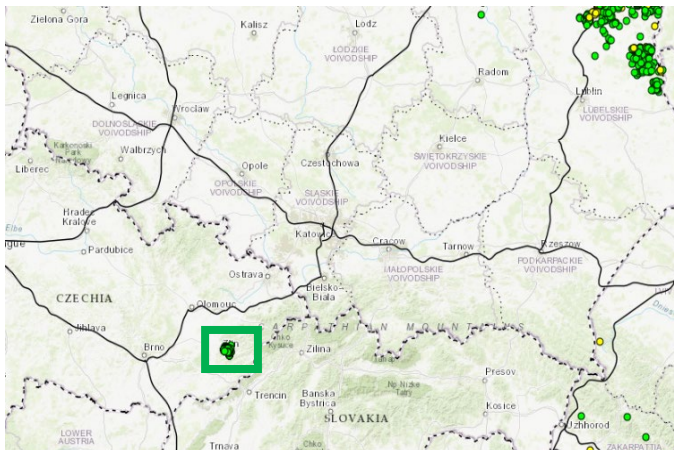


**~ 7.000 outbreaks of ASF in domestic pigs in the EU in 2014-2022**

# Additional challenge: **human mediated** “jumps” (ASF spread in long distances)

## Czechia: 2017

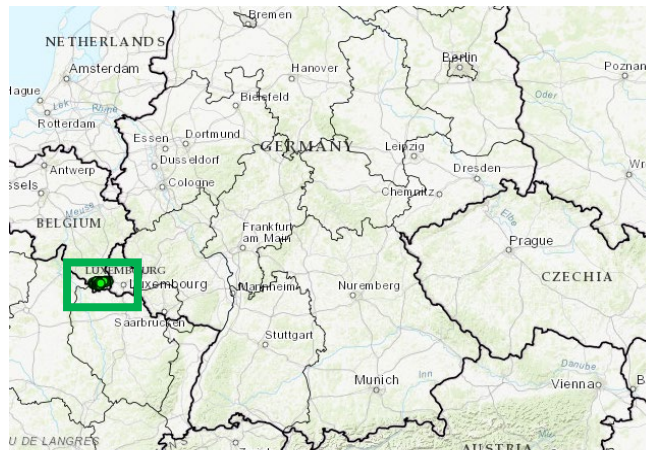
- Confirmed in **wild boar**
- Eradicated in 2 years!



~ 400 km from the closest case

## Belgium: 2018

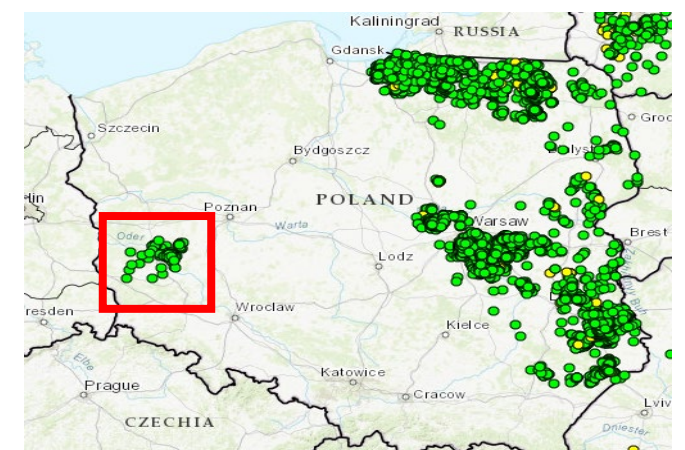
- Confirmed in **wild boar**
- Eradicated in 2 years!



~ 800 km from the closest case

## Poland: 2019

- Confirmed in **wild boar**
- Ongoing

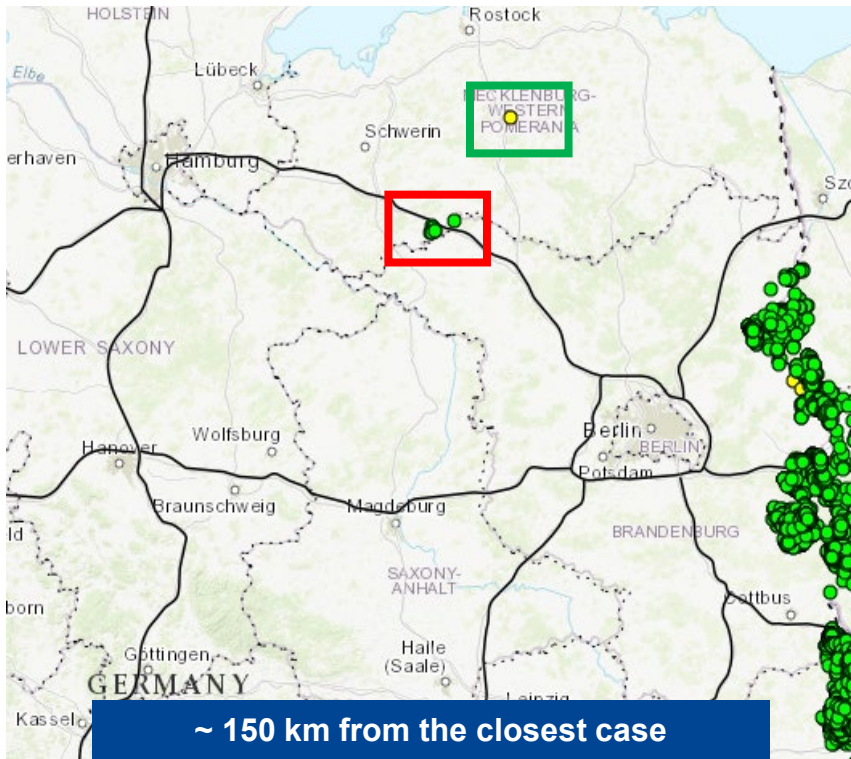


~ 250 km from the closest case

# Additional challenge: **human mediated** “jumps” (ASF spread in long distances)

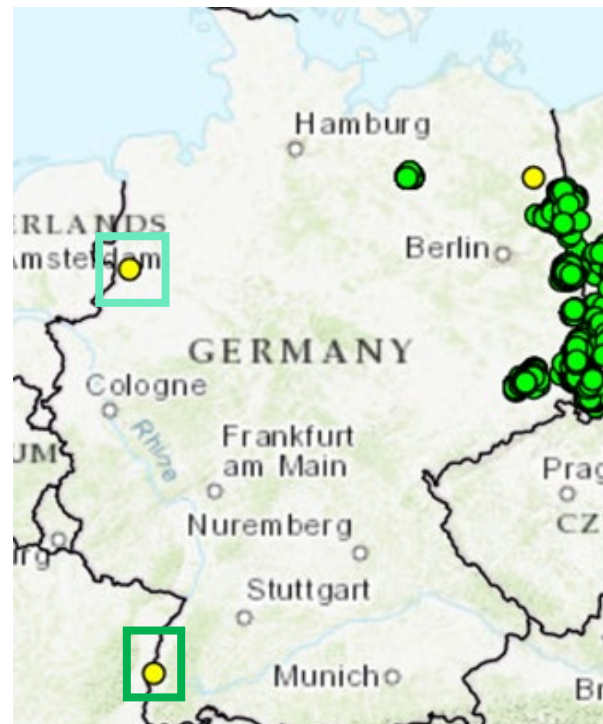
## Germany: 2021

- Confirmed in **wild boar: ongoing**
- Confirmed in pigs: **eradicated**



## Germany: 2022

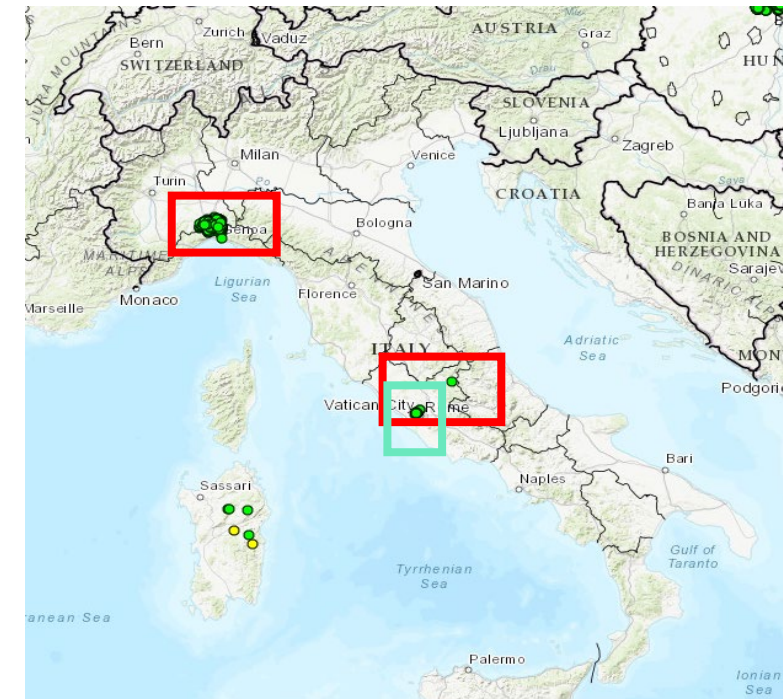
- Confirmed in **wild boar: ongoing**
- Confirmed in pigs: **eradicated\***



Restrictions in Lower Saxony to be lifted on 5.10.2022

## Italy: 2022

- Confirmed in **wild boar: ongoing**
- Confirmed in pigs: **eradicated\***



Restrictions in Lazio to be lifted in due time



# National action plans for the management of wild porcine animals in the framework of the prevention, control and eradication of African swine fever

Status quo

- **Wild boar** in several regions of the Union **plays an important role in the spreading and maintaining of ASF**
- **National action plans are recommended** for several years already to all Member States **through EU guidelines**
  - Annex IV to ASF Strategic approach
  - Contains background, guiding principles
  - Promoted by the Commission on the basis of best practices
- **Several Member States have already developed such plans** and shared best practices with others within the relevant Standing Committee (PAFF).
- **Legal obligation could further stimulate efficient cooperation between concerned sectors addressing critical issues for the implementation of the plans.**



Brussels  
SANTE (29.04.2020)

SANTE/7113/2015 - Rev 12

WORKING DOCUMENT

Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU

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# National action plans for the management of wild porcine animals in the framework of the prevention, control and eradication of African swine fever

New legislative initiative

- Possible amendment of ASF Regulation (discussion with Member States ongoing at the Standing Committee)
- The legal obligation for the Member States to develop National action plans to ensure:
  - a high level of disease awareness and preparedness;
  - the prevention, containment, control and eradication of African swine fever;
  - effective collaboration and cooperation between agriculture and environmental sectors and the strong collective commitment and mutual understanding by both sectors and relevant stakeholders, such as farmers and hunters.
- The minimum requirements (new draft Annex III to ASF Regulation)
- Measures compatible, where relevant, with the Union environmental rules, including nature protection requirements

15.4.2021 EN Official Journal of the European Union L 129/1

II  
(Non-legislative acts)

REGULATIONS

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2021/605  
of 7 April 2021  
laying down special control measures for African swine fever  
(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2016/429 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2016 on transmissible animal diseases and amending and repealing certain acts in the area of animal health (Animal Health Law<sup>(1)</sup>), and in particular Article 71(3) thereof

Whereas:

(1) African swine fever is an infectious viral disease affecting kept and wild porcine animals and can have a severe impact on the concerned animal population and the profitability of farming causing disturbance to movements of consignments of those animals and products thereof within the Union and exports to third countries. In the event of an outbreak of African swine fever, there is a risk that the disease agent may spread between establishments of kept porcine animals and in the metapopulations of wild porcine animals. The spread of the disease can significantly affect the productivity of the farming sector due to both direct and indirect losses.

(2) Since 1978, the African swine fever virus has been present in Sardinia, Italy, and since 2014 there have been outbreaks of that disease in other Member States as well as in neighbouring third countries. Currently, African swine fever can be considered as endemic disease in the populations of porcine animals in a number of third countries bordering the Union and it represents a permanent threat for populations of porcine animals in the Union. The present African swine fever disease situation also poses a health risk for kept porcine animals in unaffected areas of the Member States currently concerned by the disease, as well as for kept porcine animals in other Member States, notably in view of movements of consignments of porcine animals and commodities from porcine animals.

(3) Commission Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU<sup>(2)</sup> lays down animal health control measures in relation to African swine fever in the Member States and has been amended many times to take account mainly of developments in the epidemiological situation in the Union as regards that disease and new scientific evidence. It applies until 21 April 2021.

<sup>(1)</sup> OJ L 84, 31.3.2016, p. 1.  
<sup>(2)</sup> Commission Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU of 9 October 2014 concerning animal health control measures relating to African swine fever in certain Member States and repealing Implementing Decision 2014/178/EU (OJ L 295, 11.10.2014, p. 63).

# Thank you

[https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en)



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