



Food and
Veterinary Service
Republic of Latvia



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Eradication plan for African swine fever in wild boar in Latvia

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African swine fever in Latvia: chronology

On **26th June 2014** Latvia notified **first case** of African swine fever (ASF) in three wild boar found dead on the border with Belarus.

On the **26th June** NRL confirmed ASF **outbreak** in three domestic pigs in one backyard holding in Krāslava county, Robežnieki parish about 6 km from Belarus border.



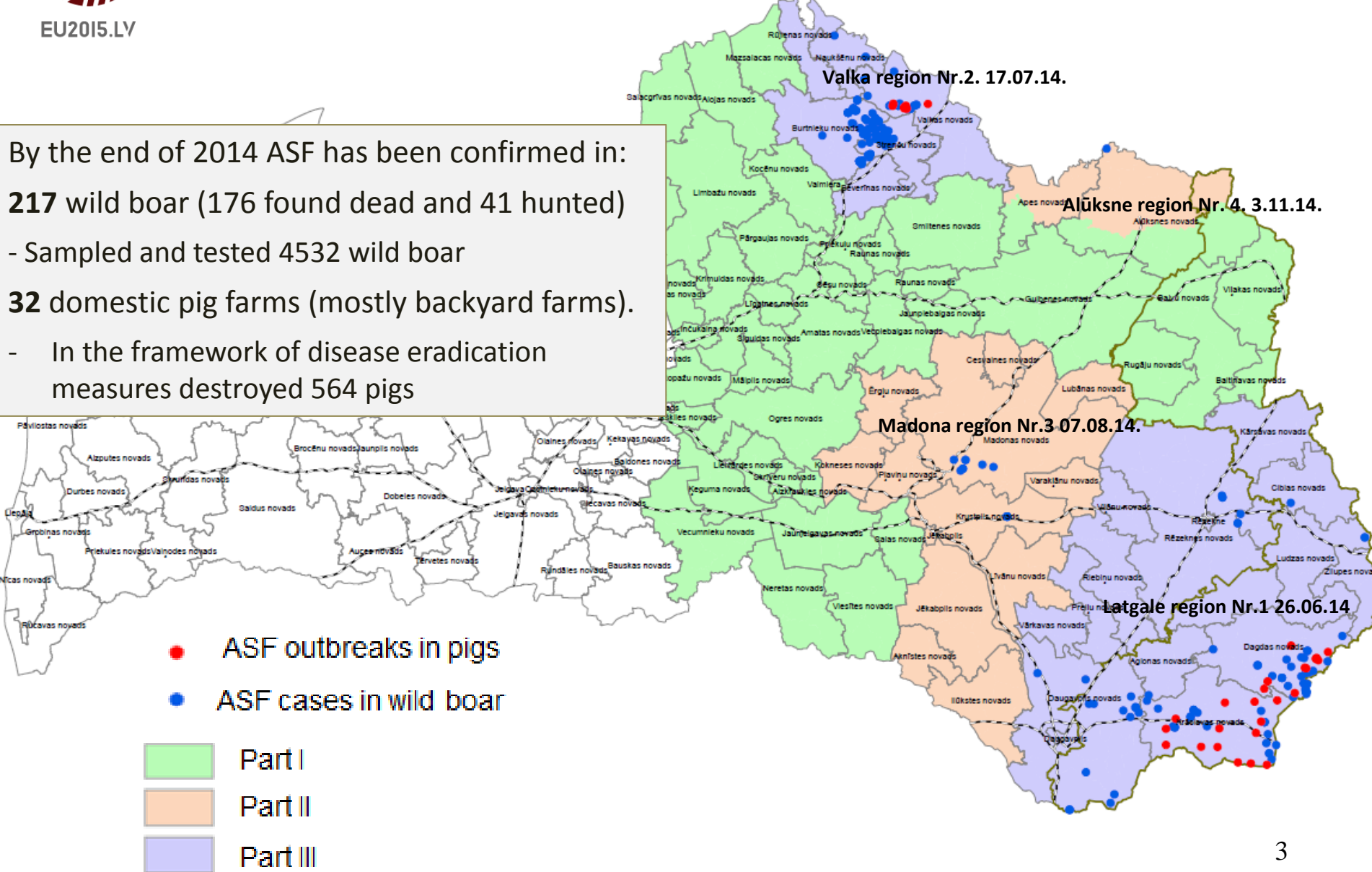


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ASF Summary - in 2014 and restriction territories according to CD 2014/709/EU

By the end of 2014 ASF has been confirmed in:

- 217** wild boar (176 found dead and 41 hunted)
- Sampled and tested 4532 wild boar
- 32** domestic pig farms (mostly backyard farms).
- In the framework of disease eradication measures destroyed 564 pigs





Eradication plan for African swine fever in wild boar in Latvia

Legal requirements

ASF plan for the eradication of ASF in feral pigs comprises five aspects according to Articles 15 and 16 of Council Directive 2002/60/EC:

1. Epidemiological investigations and considerations,
 2. Definition of infected and risk areas,
 3. Surveillance programmes and preventive measures applicable to wild boars in the defined areas,
 4. Surveillance programmes and preventive measures applicable to pig holdings in the infected area,
 5. Implementation of measures and administrative issues.
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- Submitted to the Commission within 90 days after confirmation of first case.



Surveillance programs and preventive measures

WILD BOAR (1)

1. Sampling will be conducted by official, authorized veterinarians or trained hunters.

1.1. **Infected area** (part III and part II) - **all** wild boars **hunted** and discovered **dead** in the infected area are examined, sampled and tested for the presence of ASF antibodies (ELISA) and genome (RT-PCR).

The territory of the infected area is not smaller than 200 km² (8km radius) around each wild boar case and usually defined as smallest administrative division – parish.

1.2. **Risk area** (part I) - passive surveillance - **all** discovered **sick, dead** and killed in the road incident wild boar are tested for the presence of ASF antibodies (ELISA) and genome (RT-PCR). All hunted wild boars are tested to ASF antibodies and genome before movement of carcasses outside the risk area.

1.3. **free area** - **passive surveillance** are strengthened and enforced throughout Latvia.

2. Driven hunting (hunting with beaters and dogs) are forbidden in areas of Part II and III.



Surveillance programs and preventive measures

WILD BOAR (2)

3. Winter feeding is restricted in all territory of Latvia (Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers are in place since December 10, 2014).

- Feeding directly on the ground is prohibited
- Use of feeders with dosage option only
- Restrictions on the amount of feed– 400 l to 1000 ha

4. Information campaigns are enforced in order to increase hunter's awareness and avoid any spread of the disease.



Surveillance programs and preventive measures

DOMESTIC PIG HOLDINGS (1)

1. A surveillance programme and preventive measures are applied to all the holdings situated in the restricted and risk areas (Part III – Part I).
 - 1.1. Holdings within **Part II and III** will be checked **2x /year**.
 - 1.2. Holdings within **Part I** and **free area** will be checked **1x /year**.
2. All sick or dead pigs, for which ASF cannot be excluded on clinical or other grounds, will be inspected by an official veterinarian and examined for ASF in accordance with the provisions laid down in the diagnostic manual (Commission Decision 2003/422/EC of 26 May 2003 approving an African swine fever diagnostic manual).
3. Biosecurity requirements are set by the Cabinet of ministers No.621 (23.07.2014.) In a context of biosecurity 3 categories of pig farms are defined:
 - 3.1. Commercial farms
 - 3.2. Non-commercial farms (including backyards)
 - 3.3. Outdoor keeping farms



Surveillance programs and preventive measures

DOMESTIC PIG HOLDINGS (2)

4. Farmers are obliged to report immediately to FVS on suspicion in pigs.
5. In the infected and risk areas animal markets and events with the participation of animals susceptible to ASF is forbidden.
6. Awareness campaigns – video clips, booklets, leaflets, training and seminars for farmers.



Surveillance programs and preventive measures

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUES

- Food and Veterinary Service (FVS) is Competent authority in Latvia responsible for animal health surveillance and control.
- Laboratory functions perform - National Reference Laboratory - Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment - "BIOR"
- ASF expert group are established and headed by the FVS (according to article 15 of Directive 2002/60/EC).
- Community Veterinary Emergency Team support (up to now 2 visits) .
- The plan will be revised upon necessity (epidemiological situation etc.), but not later than one year after approval by the European Commission.



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Thank you for your attention