

EFSA

Current status of EU risk assessment work on African Swine Fever

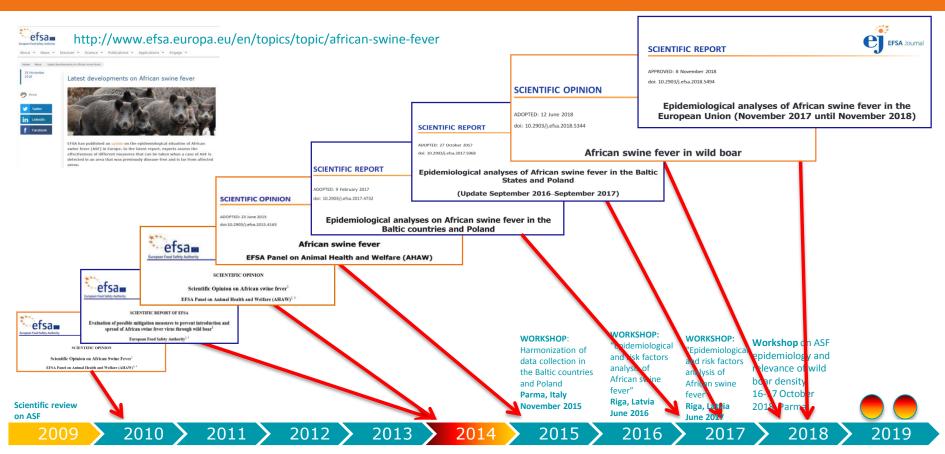
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30 January 2019
Dortmund, Germany





OVERVIEW OF EFSA'S PAST ASSESSMENTS ON ASF





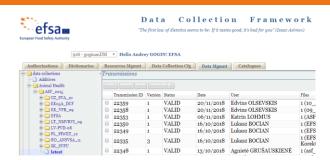
SCIENTIFIC OUTPUTS AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Technical assistance (EC and MSs)

- Harmonised laboratory data collection (2015)
- Involvement of MS's representatives
- Updated epidemiological analysis of ASF
- Assessment and review the management options for wild boar



 To assist in the fine-tuning of control measures







ASF situation in eastern Europe

- Localised epidemic
- Slow spread from the epidemic front in a west- and southwards direction: median spread between 8 and 17 km per year
- Notably slower than some other infectious diseases in wild boar
- Continued sporadic detection of cases despite very low wild boar densities



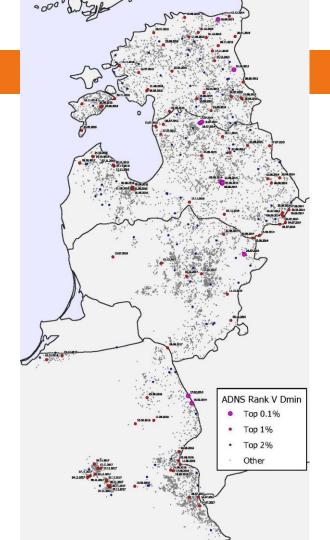


ASF situation in eastern Europe

Jumps of the disease have led to focal introductions of ASF - humanmediated cases

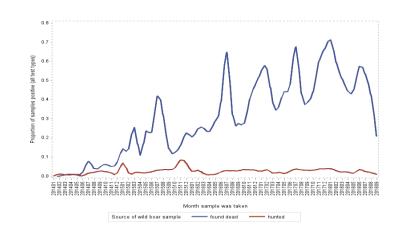
Wild boar-domestic pigs interface:

- direct contact mostly excluded
- inadequate biosecurity
- exact sources of introduction mostly unknown
- Focal introduction in the Czech Republic was apparently controlled



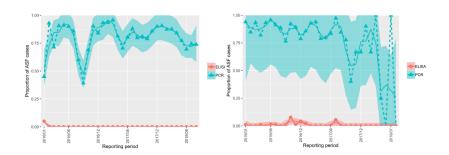


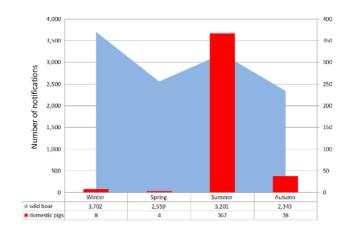
- Surveillance of dead wild boar (passive surveillance) is the most efficient method
- Proportions PCR positive samples are generally much higher than ELISA positive samples
- PCR or ELISA positive proportions in hunted remains low (below 5%)





- Temporal patterns of detections are consistent with the epidemiological situations in the countries
- Probability of ASF occurrence: winter and summer peaks are observed in wild boar found dead
- Summer peak in domestic pigs
- Several driving forces could explain them

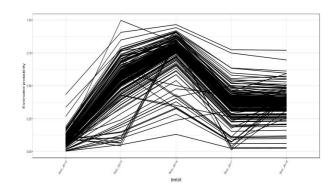


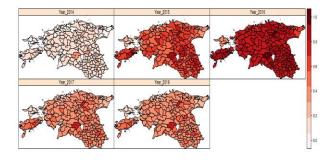




RISK FACTORS

- Bayesian hierarchical and general additive models
- Conducted on data provided by Estonia (incl. number of hunters, dogs, hunting bag...)
- Increased domestic pigs and wild boar densities and a decreased density of roads were associated with a higher probability of ASF occurrence in wild boar

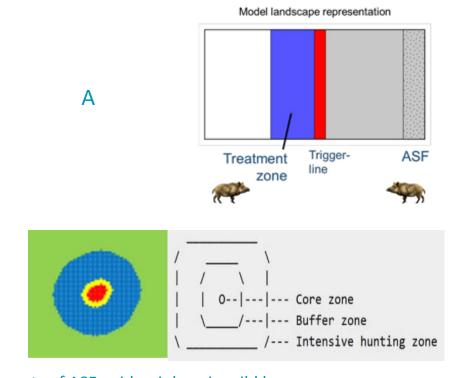






ASSESSMENT OF MEASURES

- A spatio-temporally explicit individual-based model approach in structured geographic landscapes
- Combinations of the intensity of measures (hunting, carcass removal, fences) and the size of the zones
- Forward spread (A)
- Focal introduction (B)



considerable uncertainty about many aspects of ASF epidemiology in wild boar, including the carcass contact rate, the contact rate between groups, and the role of insects



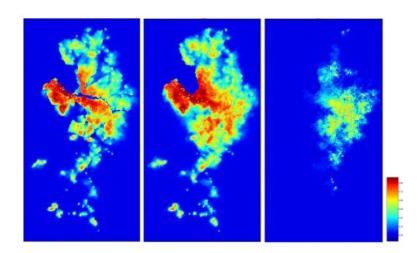
ASSESSMENT OF MEASURES TO STOP ASF SPREAD

- Intensive hunting in intensive hunting area applied as ONLY measure is both for the focal as the adjacent situation not effective unless it is applied > 80 % efficacy
- <u>Combination of different measures</u> together increases the chance of success in both situation (carcass removal, intensive hunting...)
- <u>Carcass removal as early as possible (in all zones)</u>
 increases chance of success in both situations



BOUNDARIES

- Based on a comparison of model outputs and ADNS data, it was **not possible** to demonstrate an effect of natural barriers (e.g. roads, rivers) on ASF spread.
- It appears that assumed humanmediated translocations are particularly influential in overwhelming any positive effect of such barriers.





RECOMMENDATIONS PREVENTION – FAR FROM ASF

- Control of borders
- Contingency planning
- Key role of passive surveillance for early detection
- Biosecurity (DP and WB) based on ASF epidemiology:
 - virus survival
 - human-assisted movement of virus
- Increase awareness (hunters, travellers)
- Long term options for hunting to stabilize wild boar population over large areas are needed
 - Limit carrying capacity and culling of wild boar



RECOMMENDATIONS. PREVENTION. HIGH RISK

- Stabilize wild boar density
 - hunting,
 - highest achievable level,
 - urgent,
 - including protected areas
- Carcass removal
- Planned, systematic passive surveillance



Courtesy of P. Wagner



RECOMMENDATIONS. EPIDEMIC. FOCAL INTRODUCTION

- Define areas (core, buffer, intensive hunting areas)
- Core and buffer areas:
 - WB population undisturbed
 - Carcass removal with high biosecurity
 - Following the decline in the epidemic culling
- Intensive hunting area:
 - Drastic reduction in the WB population





RECOMMENDATIONS. ENDEMIC (>1 YEAR)

- Surveillance objectives according to phases following ASF introduction (Active and passive surveillance)
- Ongoing hunting of wild boar populations (The age profile of seropositive animals should be assessed.
- Passive surveillance and carcass removal
- Feeding ban, minimum baiting
- Further research to clarify:
 - the mechanism of persistence
 - to assist the interpretation of seropositivity
 - to define a pathway to ASF freedom following detection of the last known infected animal/carcass.



Courtesy of P. Wagner



KNOWLEDGE GAPS

- There are significant gaps in knowledge about the epidemiology of ASF in Europe, including:
 - the carcass contact rate,
 - the contact rate between groups,
 - potential role of vectors in ASF spread
 - The exact sources of ASFV introduction in domestic pig farms
- Further research in each of these areas is recommended.
- Two new ASF mandates for 2019





ASF STANDING WORKING GROUP

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Thank you for your attention...

