






How to foster R&D for an ASF Vaccine?

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First thoughts

- Animal Health industry is willing to invest in R&D for vaccines for any important disease.....

provided the right conditions exist:

- to encourage R&D we first need consensus from multiple stakeholders
- if R&D into a vaccine is not supported properly, we need to consider animal welfare and environmental impacts,
- societal acceptance of mass culling is decreasing



The challenges with vaccination...

- Many political, policy, trade and societal hurdles need to be overcome before investing in R&D

And with African Swine Fever

- Already 50+ years of research by industry and academia into ASF
- Many scientific and development capacity hurdles exist for researchers and manufacturers

Scientific and development capacity hurdles

- Very large virus!
I.e. a typical virus = 10-12 proteins vs. ASF = 150+ proteins
- Very diverse virus - multiple genotypes
- Virus strategies to evade host immune system
- Both humoral and cellular immunity needed
- Lack of suitable cell line for virus isolation and propagation
- Difficult to grow the virus in-vitro
- Research must be done in Biosafety Level-3 (or higher) labs





Political, policy, trade and societal hurdles

- Companies need the clearest possible understanding of the European position on vaccination to encourage R&D
- Both farmers and consumers must be brought in from the start
They remain important players in decisions to vaccinate
- If trade becomes a barrier to use there is no point in investing in R&D
- Need to secure recognition for DIVA vaccines and to allow their use
- Vaccine banks or 'an agreed order' of vaccines should be considered before asking companies to invest



How to further support R&D

Policymakers can:

- Increase funding available to public institutions or research consortiums and establish a positive environment for disease research.
- Allow researchers to swiftly obtain proper certifications and access necessary equipment and materials for vaccine development.
- Continue to facilitate effective public-private partnerships: technology transfer, licensing agreements, and joint research programmes to spur R&D.
- Consider vaccine bank commitments to provide tangible market incentives for both public and private R&D.
- Policymakers and regulators work with researchers to better understand potential control methods and establish clear pathways for decisions on use
- Work with international partners to remove trade barriers to vaccine use.

Outstanding questions from animal health industry

- Do we prioritise our focus on the vaccine for domestic pigs?
- Is the development of vaccine baits for wild boar also a priority?
- Is the agreed development route a vaccine with a concomitant DIVA test?
- Will there be a market?





Thank you!