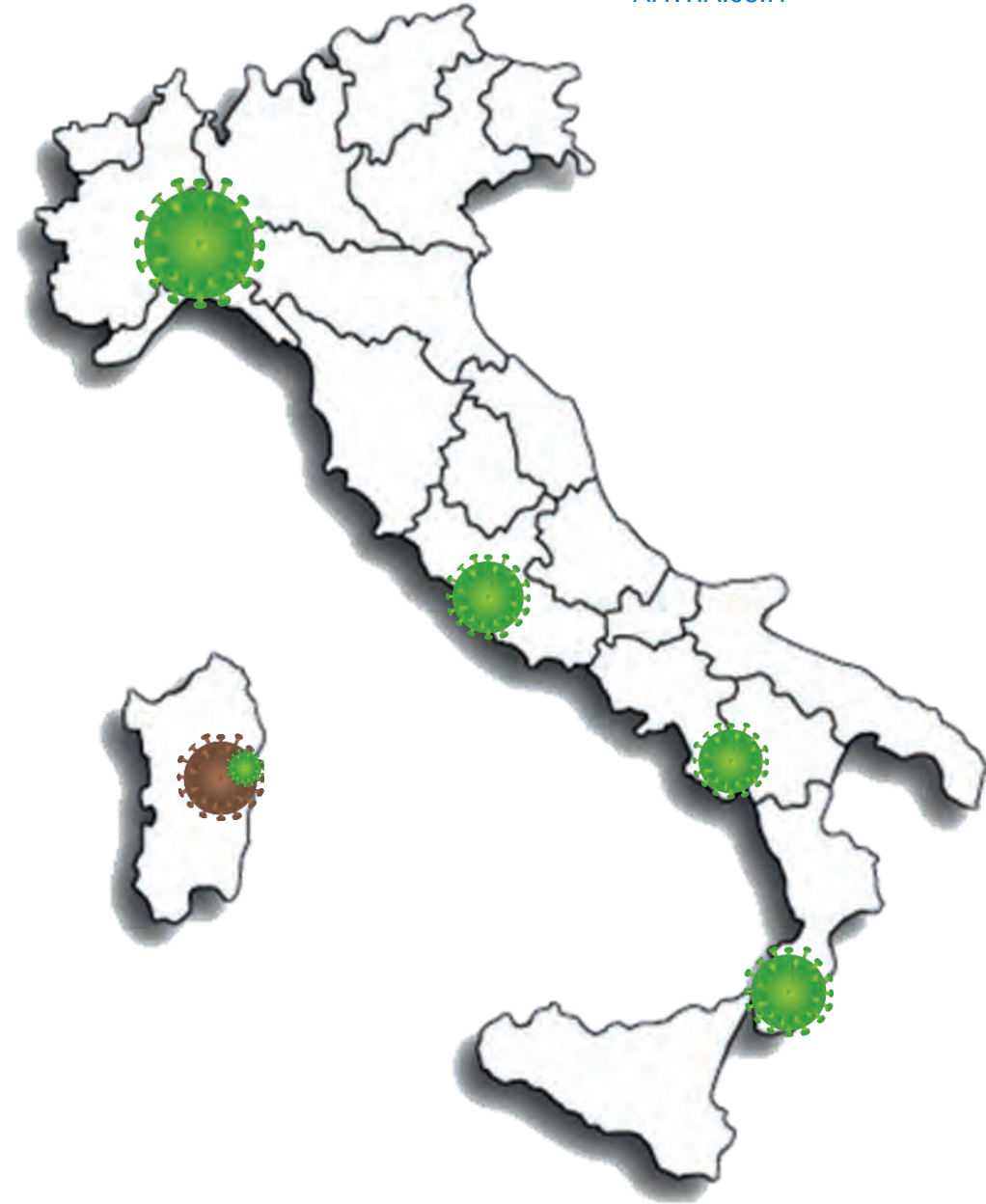




Ministero della Salute

ASF situation in Italy

**Directorate General for Animal
Health and veterinary medicinal
products**



List of Regions/Provinces with restricted zones in 2023

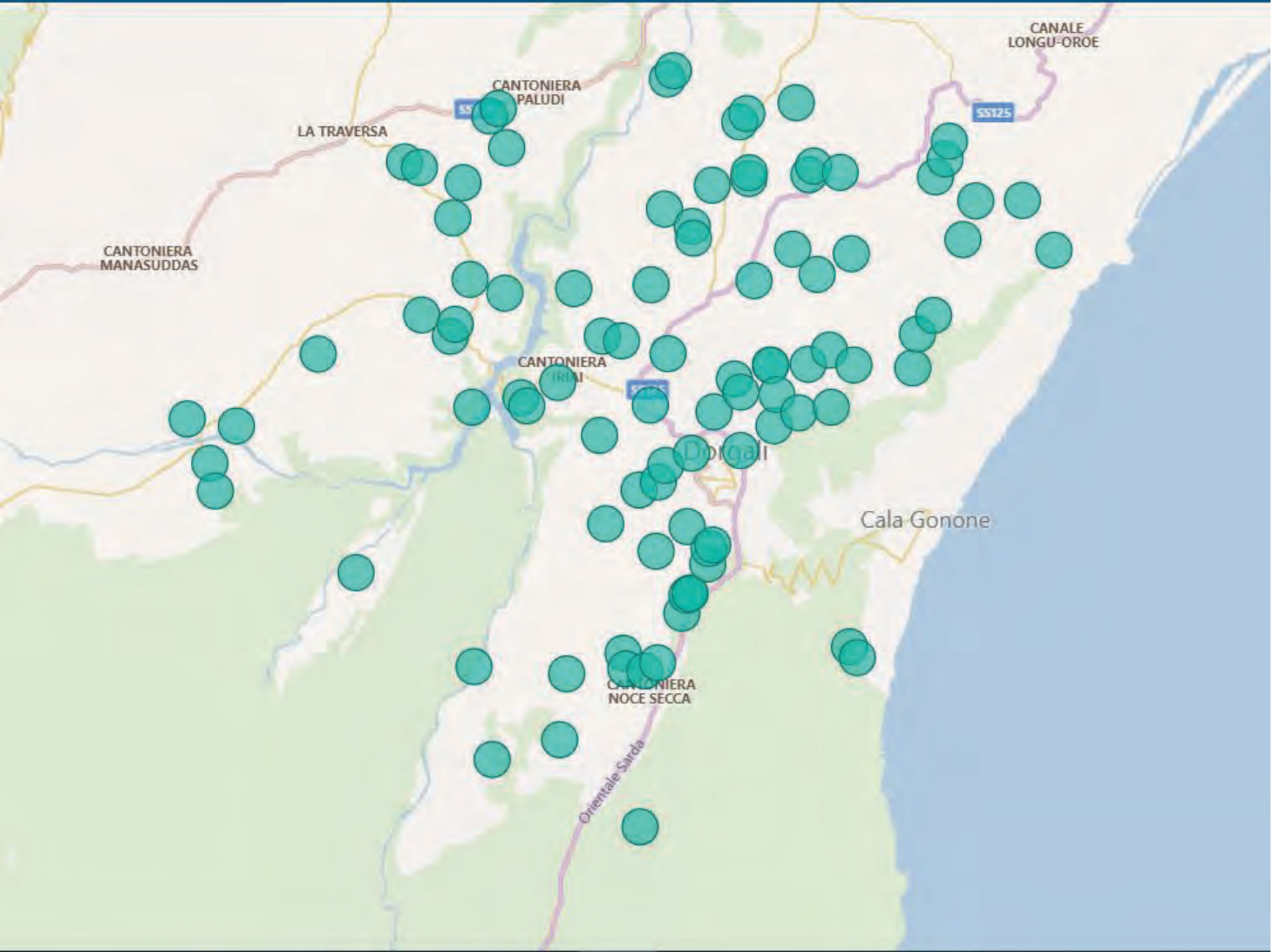
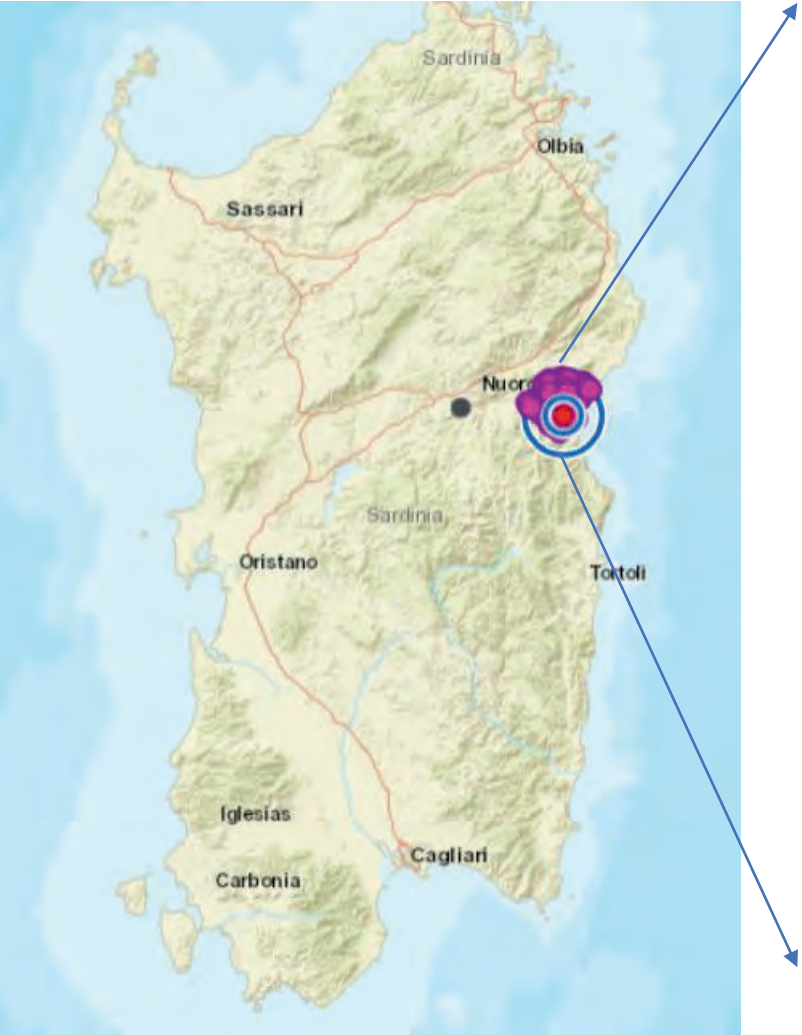
Genotype I:

- Sardinia – Nuoro, Sassari and South Sardinia – 1 outbreak in a farm in Nuoro confirmed (serological confirmation) in December 2022. No detection in wild boar population

Genotype II

- Piedmont – Alessandria, Asti and Cuneo
 - Liguria – Genoa and Savona
 - Emilia Romagna – Piacenza and Parma
 - Lombardy - Pavia
 - Lazio – Rome – 43 wild boar
 - Campania – Salerno
 - Basilicata - Potenza
 - Calabria – Reggio Calabria – 16 wild boars.
 - Sardinia – Nuoro – 1 outbreak confirmed in September. No detection in wild boar population
- 788 wild boars
9 outbreaks in domestic
- 874 cases in wild boar
16 outbreaks

Sardinia – Genotype II Surveillance in farms in Protection and Surveillance Zones



All farms were checked and results were favourable


Surveillance in wild boar population

Passive

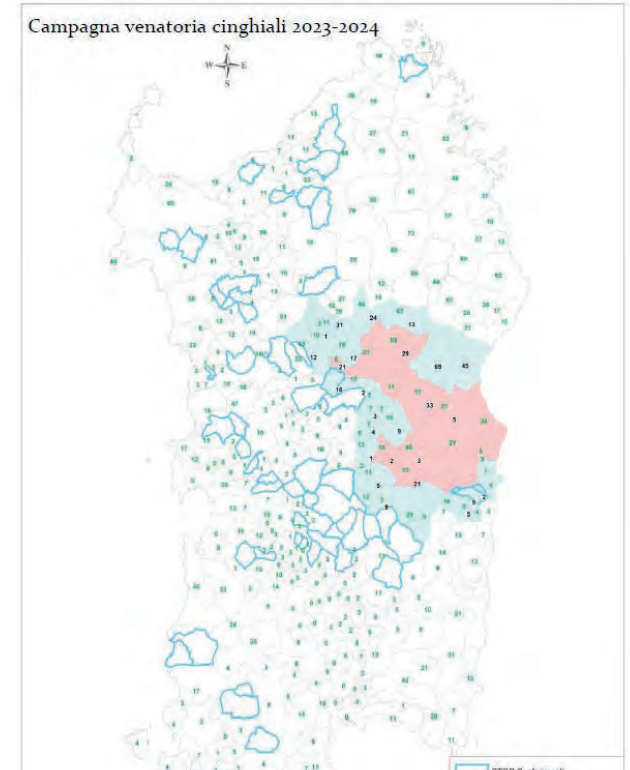


Surveillance in wild boar population is ongoing for both genotype I and II

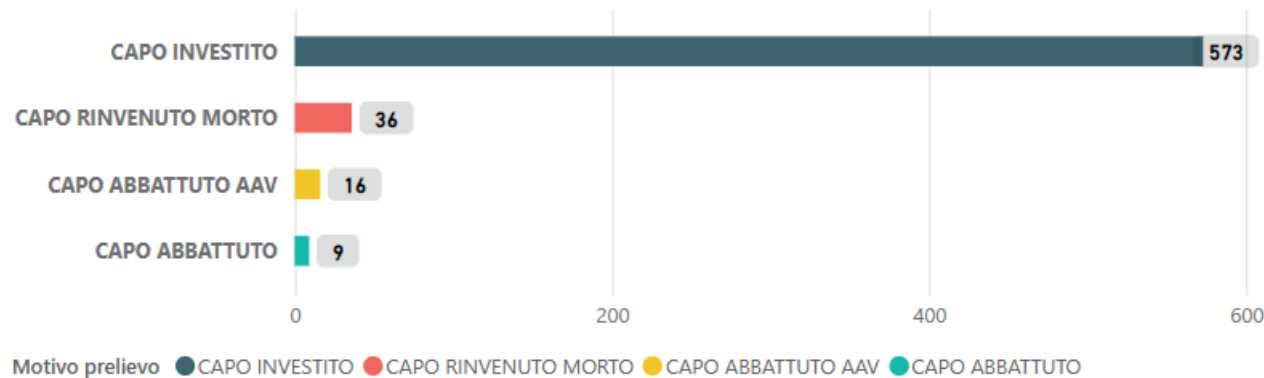
Active and passive surveillance are giving favourable results

Concerning active surveillance the n. of planned checks in hunted WB is achieved and are encircled by the light blue line 

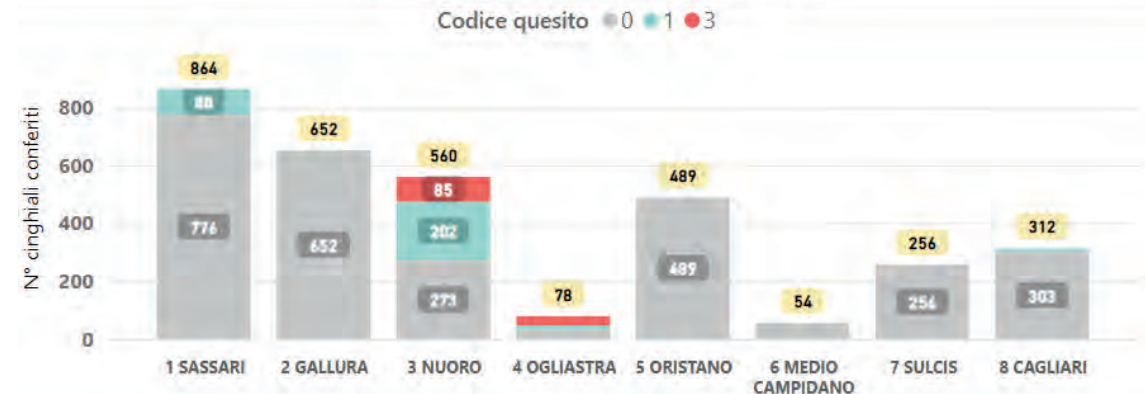
Active



N° cinghiali per Motivo prelievo e Anno



Numero di cinghiali conferiti per Asl

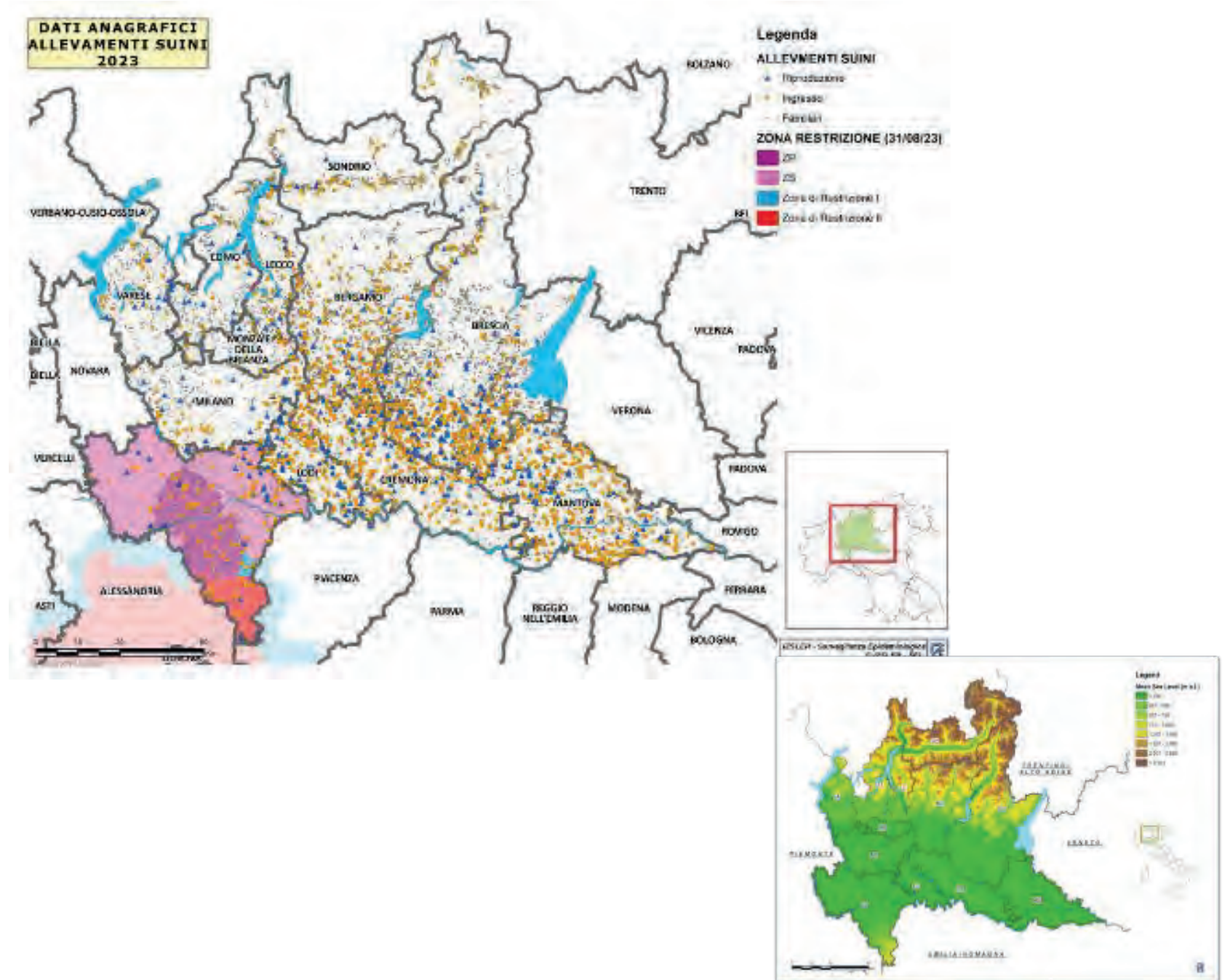


Lombardy

- 12 Provinces
- 1.504 Municipalities

Pig sector

- The heart of pig farming: Cremona, Mantova, Bergamo e Brescia.
- In the other provinces and in hilly and mountainous areas, there are mostly small and/or family farms that usually keep pigs for self-consumption.
- Main production: heavy pig for sausage processing production (160-180kg /270 days - > 9 months



Measures implemented before the epidemic

Passive surveillance and checks on biosecurity

- analyses in order to identify high-risk farms (high turn-over updated on an annual basis, carried out by Regional Veterinary Epidemiological observatory – OEVR – which considers:
 - In each farm, intra and extra region movements using Social Network Analysis (SNA)
 - Wild boar density in the Municipality
 - In each Municipality, total of pig movements intra and extra region
- Regional Decree n. 2086 del 15/02/2023: Guidelines for the annual Local Health Protection Agencies (ATS), veterinary Department plan:

Passive Surveillance, sampling

- All dead pigs in farms with <50 kept pigs
- At least 2 dead pigs/week/Local Health Unit in at risk holdings

Biosecurity checks

- In farms selected based risk assessment
- To check at least 50% of intensive high-capacity farms and all free range in 2023

Activity	2022	First half 2023
N. Checked farms/scheduled	160/160	95/95
Biosecurity checks/scheduled	921/921	390/817
N. samples	1.159	513

Measures implemented before the epidemic

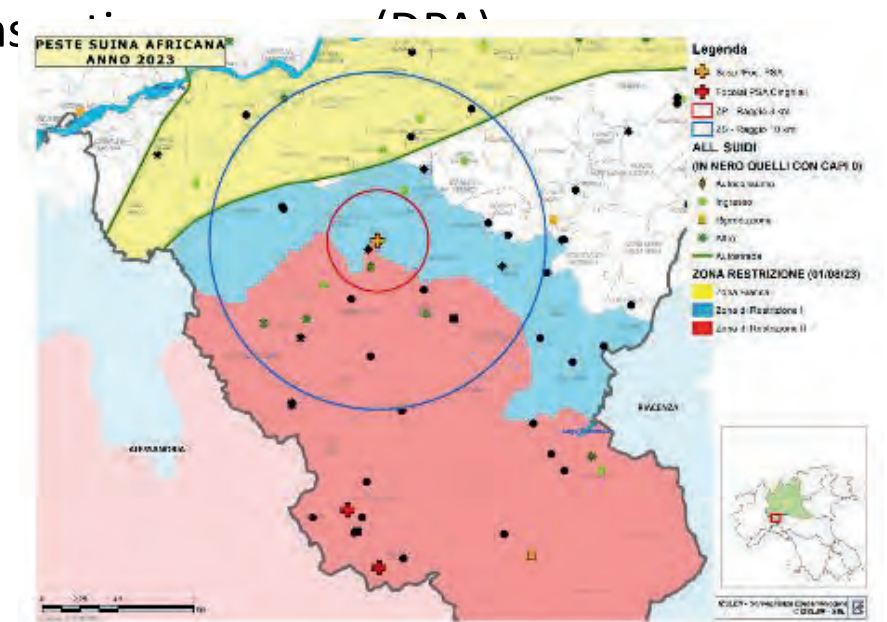
Passive surveillance and checks on biosecurity

Depopulation

- In 2022 and the first-half of 2023, 354 holdings (316 family farm/self consumption) were closed in Pavia.
- closure of holdings that were unable to adapt to enhanced biosecurity measures set out in Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 was encouraged
- In some cases this objective was reached by issuing specific depopulation provisions

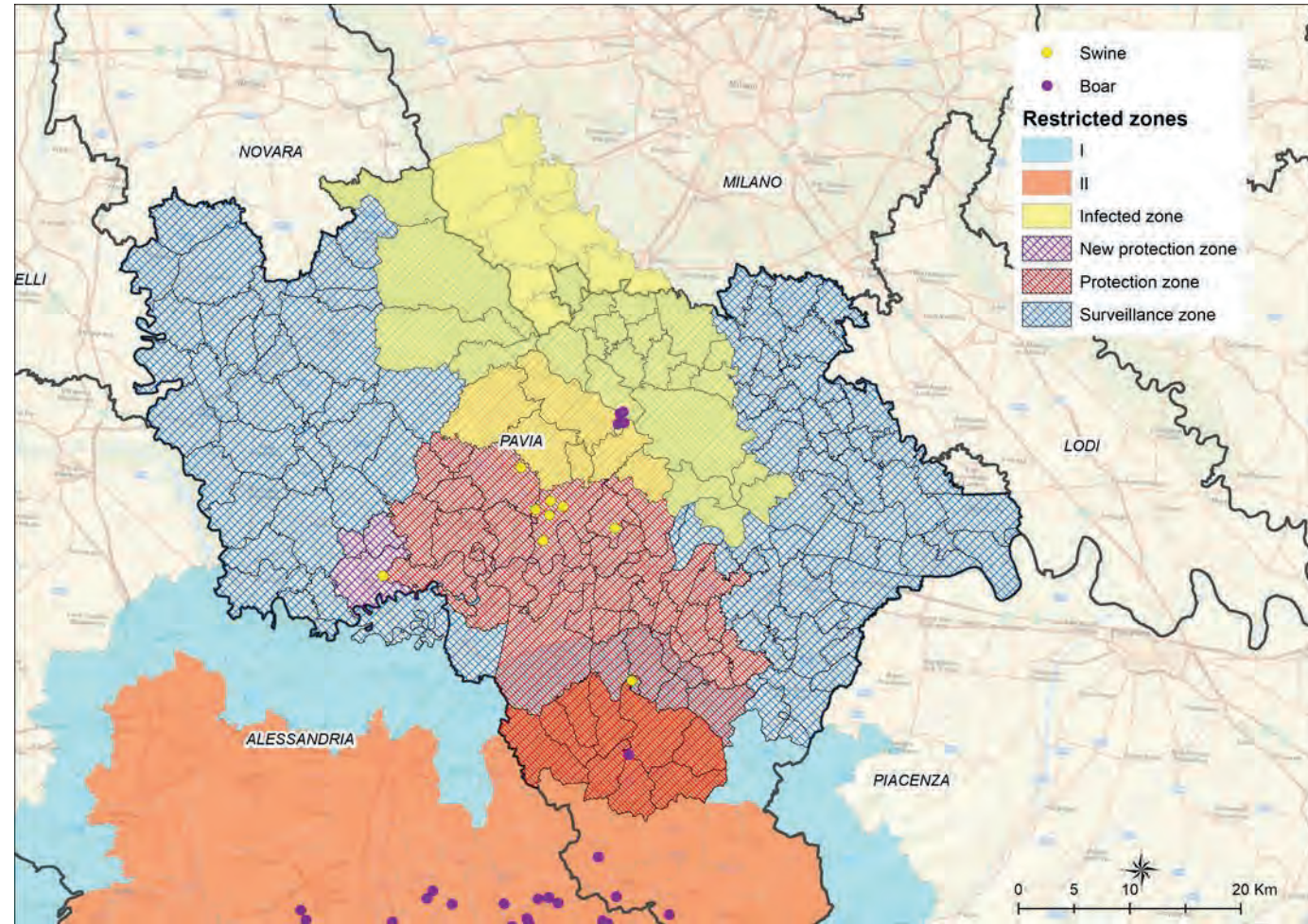
Outbreaks in farms and management

- **On 18 August 2023**, the first ASF outbreak (IT-ASF-2023-00779) was confirmed on a pig farm in Montebello della Battaglia (Pavia). On 16 August an ASF-positive wild boar was detected in the same area. Checks carried out in the protection and surveillance zone gave favourable results..
- **On 28 August 2023**, the second ASF-positivity e herd (IT-ASF-2023-00790) was identified in the municipality of Zinasco (Pavia), leading to further 7 outbreaks in a restricted area (3,4 Km²) The suspect raised during a follow up check (control on biosecurity carried out in June). The follow up check was anticipated because the official vet was aware of abnormal movements as they were done before the scheduled end of the breeding cycle
- 4 in Zinasco (Pavia), one of which in an holding not for human consumption
- 1 in Dorno (Pavia)
- 1 in Sommo (Pavia)
- 1 in Pieve del Cairo (Pavia)
- **On 27 September 2023**: the last outbreak was confirmed in Pieve del Cairo (Pavia), in a farm related to the same supply chain of three outbreaks in Zinasco



Zones

- Due to ASF detection in wild boar, were established restricted zones I and II in Southern area of Pavia Province (June 2023) and infected zone in the northern part (October 2023)
- Commission Implementing Decision (EU) concerning certain interim emergency measures relating to African swine fever in Italy 2023/1684 of 31 August 2023, established the Protection (10 km radius) and Surveillance Zones (the rest of Pavia Province)
- Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/2421 of 24 October 2023 amending Annexes I and II to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594 laying down special control measures for African swine fever that established infected zone and Protection surveillance zones for last outbreak



Tracing activity and preventive culling

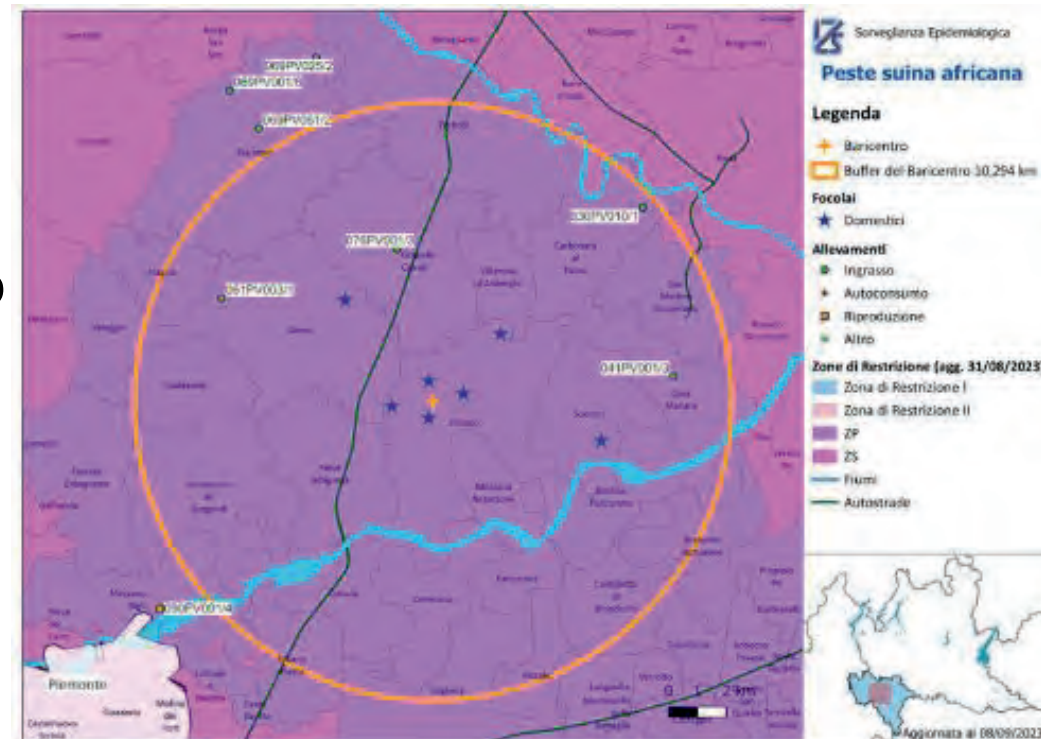
- During the epidemiological investigation, in all outbreaks, inter alia:
 - movements of people and vehicles (vehicles for the transport of feed, animal and carcasses), considered to be at risk, were traced
 - All pig farms traced were placed under a health restriction (15 days) and subjected to weekly clinical examinations and in-depth diagnostic tests on dead animals, with favourable results
- **127 farms were traced because of direct contact - All checks gave favourable results**
- **6 farms at risk** (proximity, same owner, belonging to the same supply chain, introduction of animals), following the epidemiological investigation . For those was provided the **preventive culling**:
 - related to the Zinasco cluster (end of culling activity 11/09/2023)
 - 1 related to the outbreak in Pieve del Cairo, located in the Province of Mantua (end of culling activity 02/10/2023)

A total of 13,863 animals were culled as preventive measures

Preventive depopulation

- **Preventive depopulation**, due to territorial proximity spreading risk from Montebello della Battaglia and Zinasco, were carried out:
 - In Montebello delle Battaglia Protection Zone
 - farms present in the 10.294 m² (distance from center plus two standard deviations) from the centre of the Zinasco cluster (note G1.2023.0035564 of 11 September 2023),
 - 9 farms were involved
 - N. of culled animals: 12.905
 - End of depopulation activities due to proximity with Zinasco: 21/09/2023.

These areas are currently completely depopulated.



Restriction Zones

Control and surveillance measures

- All farms in protection (n.18) and surveillance (n. 79) zones that were subjected to official controls (clinical examination, biosecurity check and sampling for laboratory analysis) gave favorable results.
- In Oltrepò Pavese area has been designated a slaughterhouse plant, in accordance to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594, in order to slaughter pigs coming from holding in Restricted zone II.
- Prohibition of pig movement both towards other farms and slaughterhouses and movement of carcasses and sewage except for specific exemptions pursuant to Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687. In particular:
 - Compliance with specific health and management requirements ensuring that the animals are free from ASF (clinical examinations and sampling for laboratory analysis) and that procedures aimed at reducing residual risk are applied at destination
 - Biosecurity checks both in the farm of origin and of destination

These exemptions were not envisaged for movement of live pigs from protection zones and for three week after the date of last outbreak confirmation (26 September – 15 October)

Tracing and securing food and animal by-products as regards outbreak IT-ASF-2023-00790 (Zinasco)

Hazard	Risk based categorization		Trace back and destruction	Trace back and Risk based management (Annex VII Reg EU 2020/687)
Animals moved from infected farm IT-ASF-2023-00790 to slaughterhouses starting from identified "safe date" (15 th July 2023) till the day of the confirmation of the outbreak (28 august 2023)	1	meat and/or products derived from animals coming from infected farm	x	
	2	meat and/or products from animals coming from non-infected farm but slaughtered together with animals coming from infected farm (same slaughtering days).		x
	3	meat and/or products derived from animals coming from other facilities, including rest stables, in which slaughtered animals came into contact with those coming from the infected farm		x
	4	meat and/or products that came into contact with those referred to all the previous points during any movement		x

Tracing and securing food and animal by-products as regards outbreak IT-ASF-2023-00790 (Zinasco)

The traceability exercise shows that the meat was largely released for human consumption, partly subjected to heat treatments aimed at reducing the risk of transmission of the ASF virus and partly destroyed as category 2 by-products

	CE IT 544M (Lombardia Region)		CE IT 791M (Emilia-Romagna Region)	CE IT 773M (Veneto Region)		TOTAL
	04-august	11-august	21-august	23-august	24-ago sto	
animals from 190PV004	120	120	250	55	17	625
animals coming from non-infected farm (same slaughtering days of animals coming from 190PV004)	2.017	877	130	-	2	3.026
TOTAL	3.134		380	74		3.588
Quantity of meat produced (Kg)	805.895		145.237	1.733		952.865
Quantity of meat traced and returned to the slaughterhouse or destroyed (Kg)	44.014		37.886	174		82.074
Quantity meat traced and Risk based Managed (Kg)	761.881*		107.351*	1.559*		870.791

* "Risk Based Management" has resulted in the destruction of meat in many cases. Data can be obtained by iRASSF follow-up

Rest of the regional territory - Control and surveillance measures

- Enhancement of early detection system, in relation to the epidemiological situation, through provisions based on critical issues that emerged during the outbreaks
- Strict compliance with all the structural and management biosecurity measures envisaged by current legislation was recalled, with particular reference to farming situations which imply frequent entry/exit of people and vehicles also intended for other agricultural activities
- ban on moving pigs to participate in trade fairs and exhibitions;
- rendering companies were asked to report cases in which there is an increase in the frequency of withdrawal of carcasses from pig farms;
- only people and vehicles strictly connected with the farming activity may access the farm;
- planning of official controls and the objectives of the Directors General of the Local Health Unit, established at the beginning of the year, were redefined in order to guarantee priority, in terms of effectiveness and efficiency, of surveillance and control actions relating to ASF;
- pursuant to Regulation 625/2016 article 138, paragraph 2: measures were adopted to prohibit further placements of animals and limit movements of breeding animals, where fundamental structural and/or management deficiencies in biosecurity are found.

Checks on 76% of regional farms (1566/2060)

throughout Lombardy Region, 164 farms were subject to an official block with a ban on rehousing until resolution of the Recommendations

Remarks

Measures provided by Reg. (EU) 2020/687 were extended to the whole Pavia Province (Decision 2023/1684 of 31/08/2023) for 3 months:

- Managing the risk of spread and re-establishing the epidemiological situation
- The compulsory application of risk reduction methods (Annex VII of Reg. (EU) 2020/687) for meat from pigs originating from restricted zones limits the possibility of animals being sent to slaughter

The long period of strong measures linked to the type of pig production in Lombardy (heavy pigs for the sausage industry) leads to strong critical points:

- Impossibility to decrease livestock density in Surveillance zone
- Overcrowding of animals that cannot be moved to the slaughterhouse
- Overcrowding of animals that cannot be moved to another farm
- Necessary culling for welfare reasons, with important economic and ethical repercussions

Remarks

- After confirmation of the first outbreak in Zinasco, the virus in the other holdings was early detected (absence of relevant dead) thanks to farmer and supply chain collaboration
- The veterinary service reacted promptly, implementing all actions to close the outbreaks as quickly as possible
- Significant amount of work and effort
- Huge commitment of economic and human resources. In about 50 days:
 - **Inspected 1,566 farms**, covering about 75% of the intensive pig population
 - Performed **9,745 inspections**
 - Carried out **9,040 laboratory analyses**
 - About **4.5 million euro spent on culling** management
 - Around **13.5 million spent on compensation** to farmers

New restricted zones proposal

- Delisting of Protection and Surveillance zone

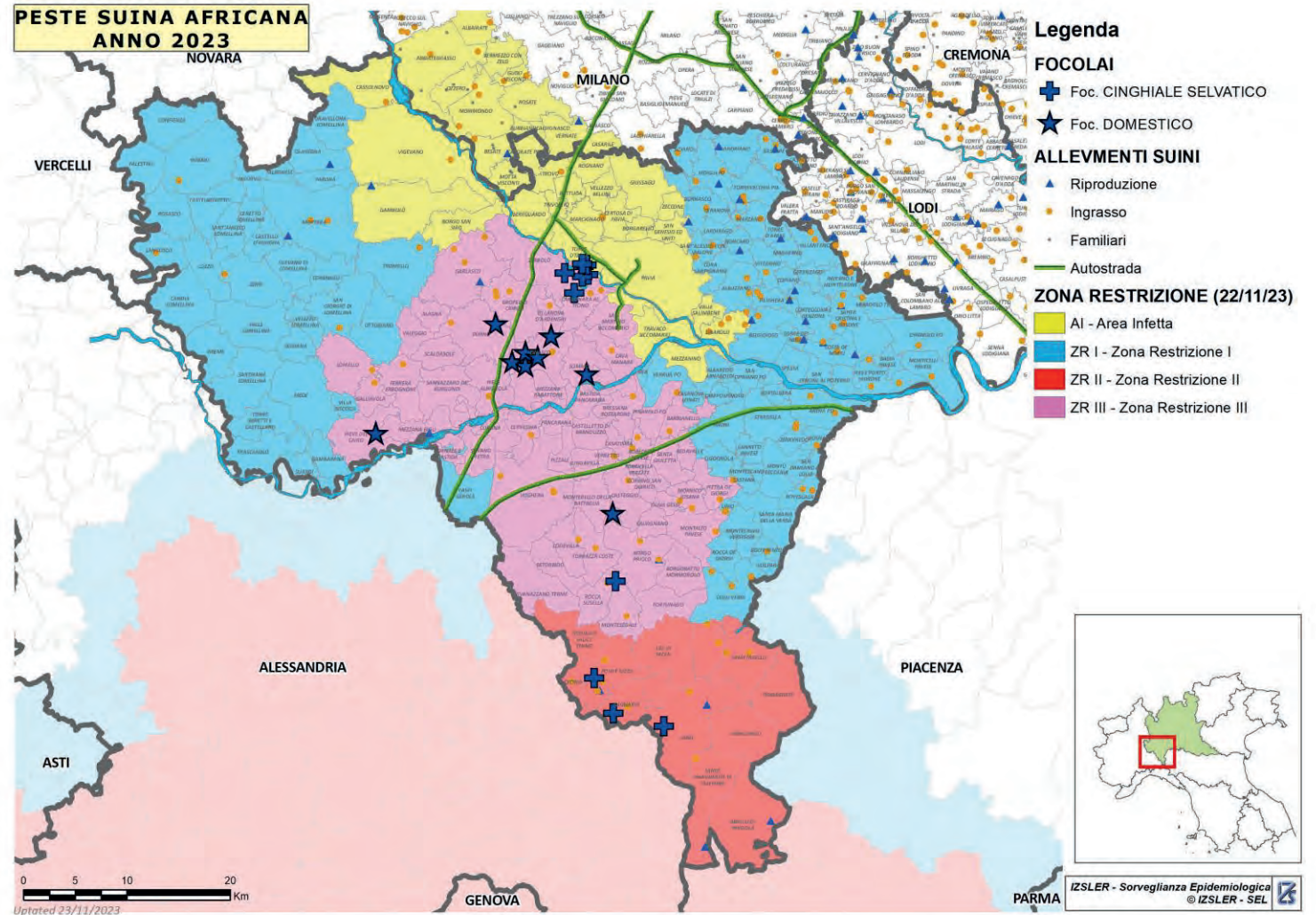


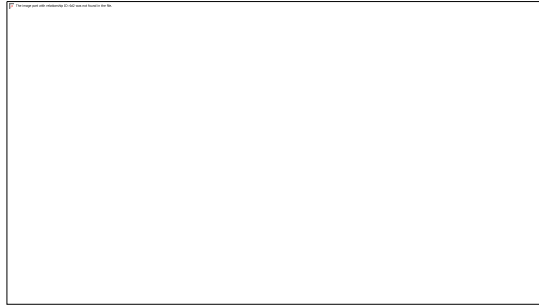
zone I and zone III

- Overlapping of part of zone III and Infected Zone



application of the more stringent measures provided in the Regulations for both domestic and wild sectors





Thanks for your kind attention