

African Swine Fever

Early warning and preparedness in Austria

PAFF Committee
25th-26th March 2023

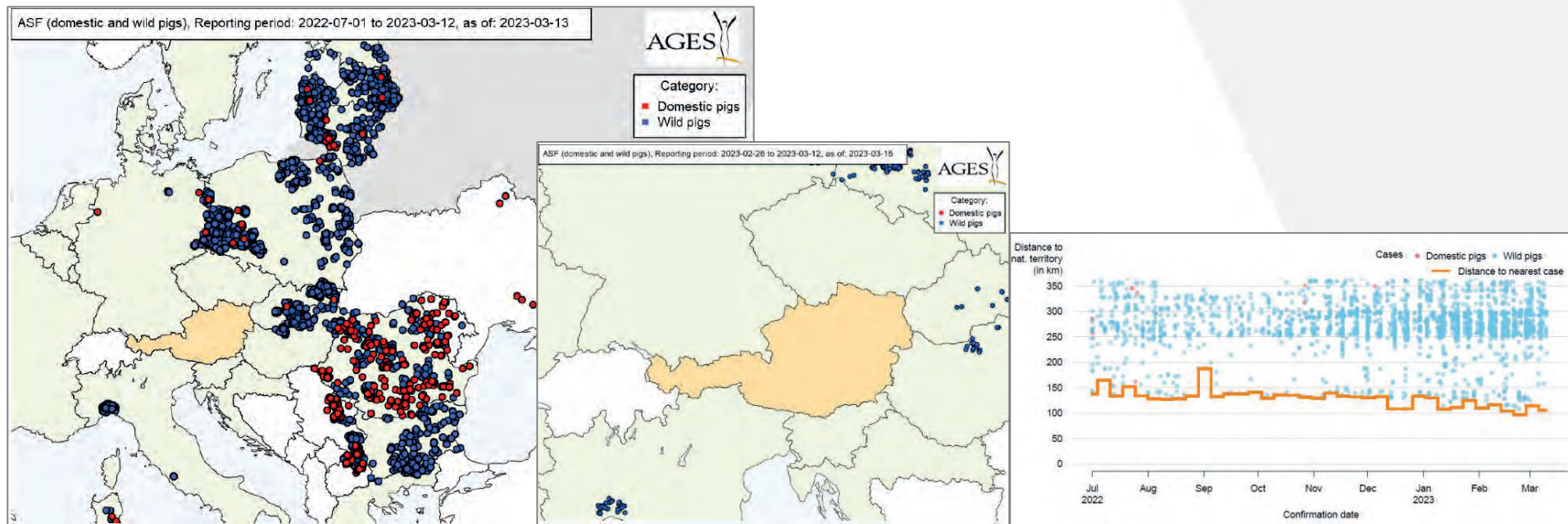


I. Analysis of ADIS data of ASF outbreaks by AGES DSR

- Constant monitoring of the animal disease situation
- Weekly summary of the current state of spread within Europe - Analysis of ADIS data from 1.7.2022 to current date (archive: reports from 2017 – 2021)
- Cases in the past 14 days
- Distance of ASF cases to Austrian border

Information is publicly available on the homepage from the Federal Ministry:

https://www.verbrauchergesundheit.gv.at/tiere/krankheiten/tgb_adns/tgb_adns.html



II. Cross border Conference

- on 29th June 2021 with Hungary, Slovakia and Czech Republic for mutual information regarding the current situation and measures to prevent and control ASF
- Memorandum of understanding regard to the occurrence of ASF in wild boar
 - Parties: AT, HU, SK and CZ
 - immediate information, if the disease crosses natural or artificial borders and when it approaches the common border
 - Mutual support regarding prevention and control to prevent the spread of ASF
 - In case of an event immediate organization of physical or virtual conference of the Parties, stakeholders and hunting organizations
 - Coordinated actions and hunting measures to reduce wild boar density on regions of common borders

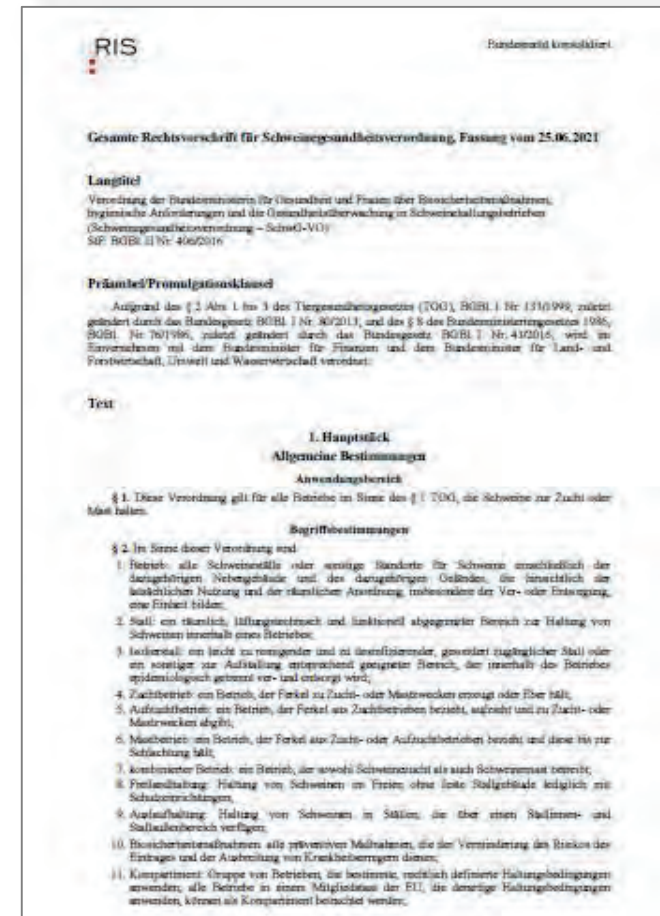
III. National Legislations

A. Revision and early warning Regulation (BGBl. II 399/2019)

- into force since December 2019
- due to the outbreak of ASF in wild boars in neighboring countries, the entire federal territory of Austria is set as a revision area
- all wild boar found dead have to be reported to veterinary authority
- official samples of all wild boar are taken and sent to AGES Mödling (reference laboratory for ASF, NRL)
- hunting:
 - allowed, but has to be carried out in a way that minimizes spread of disease
 - any direct or indirect contact between carcasses of shot wild boar and domestic pigs must be avoided
 - hunting remains (intestines) have to be rendered

B.I. Pig Health Regulation (Schweinegesundheits-Verordnung 2016)

- into force since January 2017
- Amended by 2021
- definition of biosecurity requirements, depending on size and type of holding
- requirements for hygiene and documentation of holders
- requirements for veterinary care and symptoms that have to be reported to veterinary authority
- installation of expert group that provides guidelines for biosecurity on pig farms
- risk based control plan for pig holdings



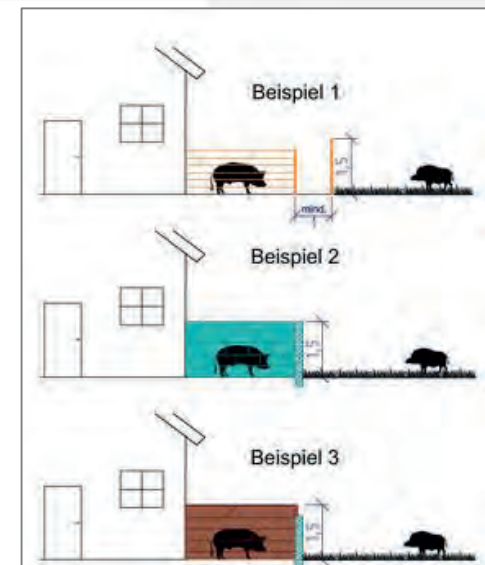
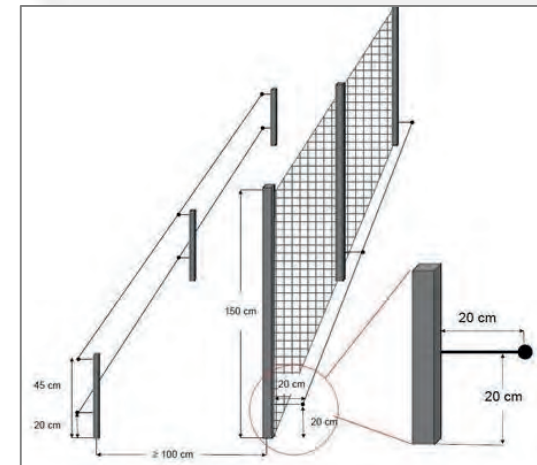
B.II. Manual to the Pig Health Regulation

- step into force on December 2020, amended by 2023
- Manual for the implementation and control of the biosecurity measures of the holding of pigs in Austria
- according to the requirements of the Pig Health Regulation
- a guide for the implementation of the Pig Health Regulation for pig farmers, veterinarians and official veterinarians
- In addition, the manual contains additional recommendations that go beyond the minimum measures

<h1>Handbuch</h1> <p>zur Umsetzung und Kontrolle der Biosicherheitsmaßnahmen bei der Haltung von Schweinen in Österreich</p> <p>gemäß den Vorgaben der Schweinegesundheitsverordnung BGBl. II Nr. 406/2016</p>	
A) Anforderungen an die Stallhaltung / Auslaufhaltung	
A 1 Bei Schweinen, die nicht in Freilandhaltung gehalten werden, entspricht die Haltung den Anforderungen des Anhangs 1 der Schweinegesundheitsverordnung (Punkte A 8 bis A 16 dieses Handbuchs).	
Rechtsnorm:	Schweinegesundheitsverordnung § 3 Abs. 1 Soweit Schweine nicht in Freilandhaltung gehalten werden, hat die Haltung den Anforderungen des Anhangs 1 zu entsprechen.
Erhebung:	Klärung anhand der Begriffsbestimmungen. Trifft Stallhaltung oder Freilandhaltung zu? Entscheidungshilfe für die Abgrenzung von saisonaler Haltung, Stallhaltung, Auslaufhaltung und genehmigungspflichtiger Freilandhaltung von Schweinen
Erfüllt wenn	die Punkte A 8 bis A 16 dieses Handbuchs erfüllt sind.
Übergangsfrist:	Keine

B.III. Recommendations by the Pig Health Commission

- Recommendations for outdoor keeping:
 - disposal of domestic pig carcasses and other animal by-products
 - double fencing
 - constructional requirements
 - cleaning and disinfection
 - storage of feed and litter protected against wild boars
- Recommendations for enclosure of stables, open-air areas, stationary loading facilities, manure storage areas and entrances and exits



C. Further revisions of national legislation

- Implementation of Animal Health Law (AHL)
- **Wild boar – Swine Fever Regulation** (Wildschweine-Schweinepestverordnung 2003)
 - measures in case of CSF or ASF outbreaks in wild boar
- **African Swine Fever Regulation** (ASP-Verordnung 2005)
 - measures in case of ASF outbreaks in domestic pig holdings

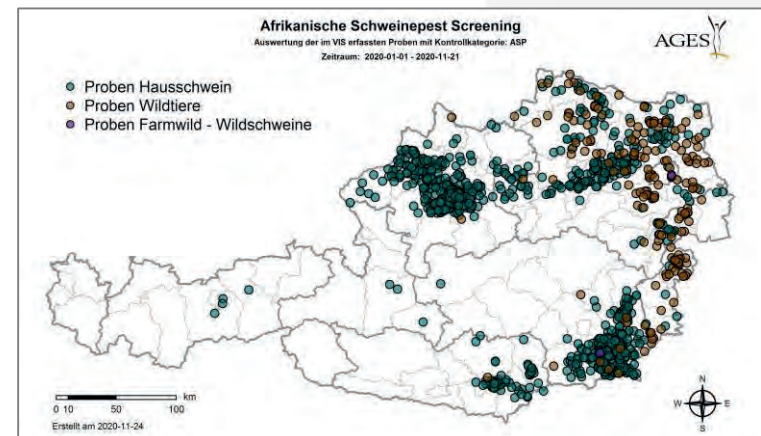
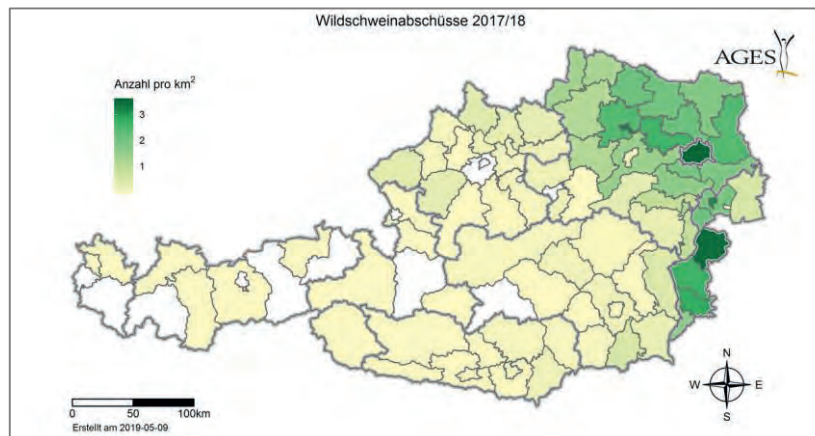
D. Manual according to Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605

- Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605 laying down special control measures for African swine fever
- Implementation of EU legislation regarding
 - movements of porcine animals kept in establishments to slaughterhouse or further use and
 - germinal products, fresh meat, meat products, products of animal origin and animal by-products
 - movements of wild porcine animals and
 - products of animal origin and animal by-products obtained from wild porcine
 - movements of manure obtained from porcine animals
- *The chapters of the manual are all structured uniformly*



E. Surveillance

- Passive surveillance
 - all found dead wild boar in revision area (entire federal territory of Austria)
- Enhanced passive surveillance
 - EU co-financed surveillance program for domestic pigs - risk-based
 - Samples from slaughterhouses (unsuitable domestic pigs carcasses)
 - Samples from rendering plant
 - blood samples from domestic pigs sent to AGES for analysis



F. Further preventive measures (1/3)

Disease awareness

- Cooperation with hunting organisations:
Action plan for management of wild boars
- **National contingency plan**
- **multilingual folders and posters, videos**
- **regular meetings of national and international experts**
- regular meetings with all relevant **stakeholders (Task Force)**
- **immediate information** of national experts in case of new ASF developments
- **presentations** for agricultural sector, hunting organisations and stakeholders

https://www.verbrauchergesundheits.at/tiere/krankheiten/asp_allg.html



F. Further preventive measures (2/3)

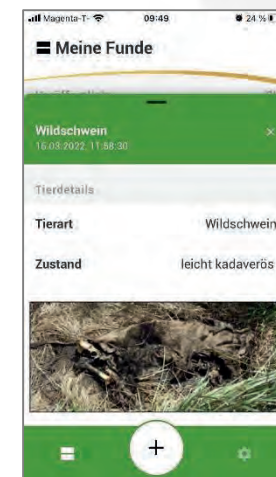
Preparedness

- **Simulation exercises in preparation for an ASF outbreak in the federal states**
(according Art. 45 of Regulation (EU) 2016/429)
 - **Styria**
 - Epidemiological investigations
 - Culling methods (captive bolt, electric pliers)
 - Cleaning and disinfection; Biosecurity measures
 - Construction of the decontamination areas
 - **Burgenland**
 - Field exercises: Searching carcasses with drone, retrieval and sampling
 - Cleaning and disinfection
 - **Lower Austria**
 - Movements of consignments of porcine animals according IR (EU) 2021/605
 - Searching carcasses with dogs



F. Further preventive measures (3/3)

- **Mobile and fixed fences**
 - were purchased centrally and are available to the federal states if required to limit the disease immediately
- **Information booklet for hunters**
- **Wildlife-Find-APP** to report dead wild boars; usage for searching carcasses (in progress)



Thank you for your attention!