

Mission of the Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET) to Poland

(27-28 Novemebr 2017)



Objective

- **Reason: occurrence** of ASF in the outskirts of Warsaw
- ToR: provide assistance to the scientific, technical, managerial and practical on-the-spot assistance on the refinement of the most suitable control and eradication measures for African Swine Fever (ASF) under local conditions, especially as regards wildlife management and epidemiological investigations.
- **Expert**: Vittorio Guberti (ITA), Petr Satran (CZ)





- The introduction of ASF in the Warsaw area was reported in a wild boar found dead in the suburban area of the city.
- At present three different areas are involved: Legionowo, Kampinsky National Park and Piasecsno.
- The landscape of the primary introduction(s) is characterized by: important roads (S7 and S61), sparse small medium size factories, warehouses, private houses, cultivated fields, uncultivated areas and forest patches where wild boar presence is abundant



Background

- Epidemiological evaluation:
- Legionowo district accidentally or unintended release of infected material.
- First case in a car killed animal found dead;
- Carcass approximately one month old.
- Virus introduction estimated around 1st October.
- Apparently the virus followed the direction from Warsaw periphery to north, north west and south west

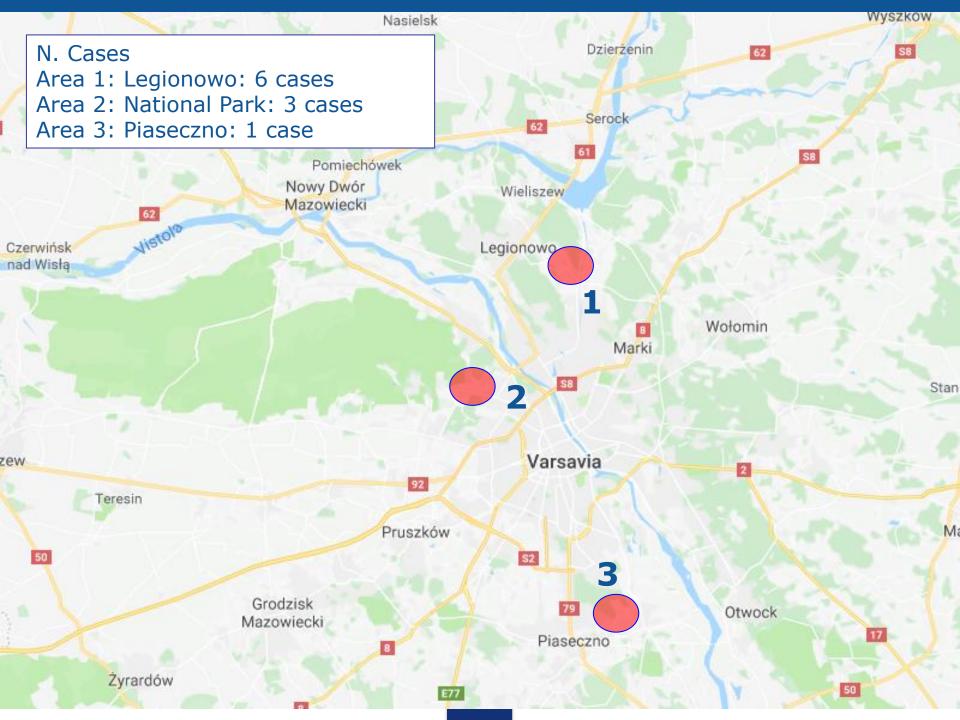


Epidemiological evaluation still on going

Efficient passive surveillance was in place in the area before the introduction;

At present (28 November) the number of found carcasses is still growing and several laboratory tests have to be completed;

The precise borders of the infected area have to be fine tuned





Findings and Conclusions

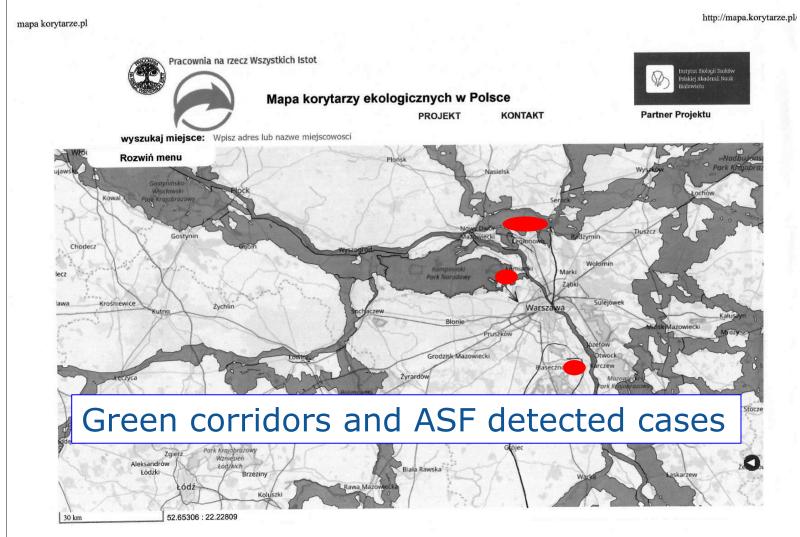
Number of wild boar involved (data from January-March 2017) Hunting grounds: 700 National Park: 1000 Urban forests: 1000

Data refer to the pre-reproduction period, hence not considering new born animals and hunted animals from 1 April to November 2017.

Three main legal entities involved in the Wild boar management a) Hunting grounds following the usual hunting legislations b) National Park (37.000 ha plus 30.000 ha buffer area) c) Warsaw Municipality Forest Management (8.000 ha)

The area is well connected to the west direction through Green Corridors







Findings and Conclusions

DOMESTIC PIG

Approximately **1777 holdings with a total of 42083 pigs are** present in the involved area.

Since the size and the borders of the restricted areas have been defined during the last day of the mission, the exact number of holdings and pigs could not be provided.

At the date of 28 November no domestic pig suspect cases were reported



 Wild boar passive surveillance has to be permanently enforced; each found dead wild boar has to be reported to the local Veterinary Service;

AIMS:

- 1. Reduce as soon as possible the virus environmental load (thus probability to infect domestic pigs)
- 2. Define precisely the size of the infected area
- 3. Follow the evolution of the epidemic and thus allowing to fine tune control measures



PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE

Active search of carcasses to be implemented:

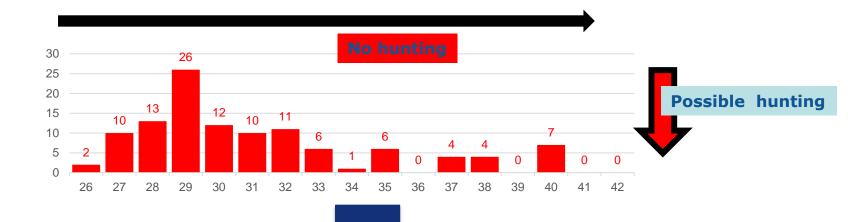
- 1 Around the ASF hot spots (Hunting grounds, Kampinoski National Park and Municipal Forests);
- 2 East to the channel connecting Warsaw with river Narew
- *3 Green corridor on the Vistula river west to the Kampinoski National Park*
- 4 Area connecting the municipality of Piaseczno with Bolimowski Park
- 5 Municipality forests around Piaseczno



- Involved hunters must be informed about procedures to reduce the possible further spread of the virus in the environment and outside the infected area;
- Carcasses secured in plastic bags and transported to the nearest road and then to the render plant by authorized vehicles
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- Samples taken at the rendering plant by an authorized veterinarian



- Ban of wild boar hunting in infected area until:
- 1. Proper hunting biosecurity has been will be implemented
- 2. Passive surveillance will reveal the final stage of the local epidemic;





- Ban of wild boar feeding (both sustaining and attractive)
- Limit any possible wild boar disturbance that could increase the use of the green corridors west to the Kampinosky National Park
- Consider compensation for passive surveillance
- Consider electric fences to limit the use of the above corridor



Hunting around involved areas

- The **wild boar hunting strategy** has to be modified to achieve a strong reduction of wild boar density:
 - Hunting should target adult females followed by sub-adult females; the sex ratio of the hunting bag has to be set at 1 male : 2 females;
 - 2. Ban of **any feeding activity**; hay only should be permitted;



Domestic pigs

- **Census** of holdings and pigs in the restricted area;
- Passive surveillance implemented: each dead pig (adult, post weaned) tested irrespectively of the of the mortality causes; at least 2 dead piglets tested for each day during which abnormal mortality is observed;
- **Biosecurity** measures implemented in the domestic pig farms have to be reinforced and verified regularly directly by the Competent Veterinary Authorities;



AWARENESS

- Hunters: dead wild boar
- Farmers: suspect cases
- **General public:** dead wild boar, presence of the virus in the forest and recreational areas



Thank you for your attention!

The CVET team wish to thank all colleagues from Poland for their support and help given. The working atmosphere during the mission was very good. The colleagues from Poland gave all their support and assistance to facilitate a fruitful mission.