



Developing strategy and building capacity to  
holistically address animal health issues at  
the wildlife-livestock-human interface in  
Eastern and Central Europe

# Wildlife health and management

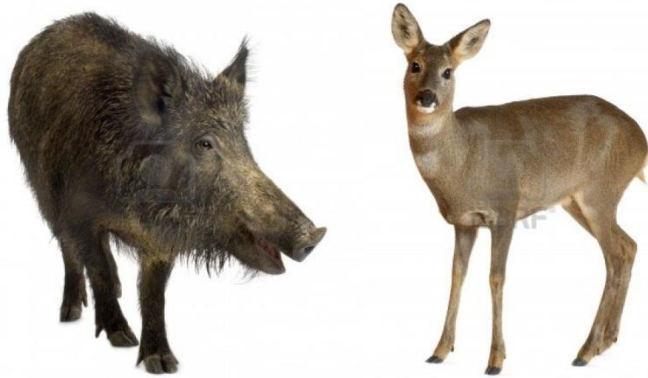


Keith Sumption (EuFMD), Sergei Khomenko (FAO),  
Naci Bulut (SAP, Ankara) & Tsviatko Alexandrov (BFSA)

## Issues addressed:

- Wildlife population - concerns and threats
- Historical evolution of disease in wild life in Europe
- Surveillance and control strategies
- ecology and disease: space use and social interactions





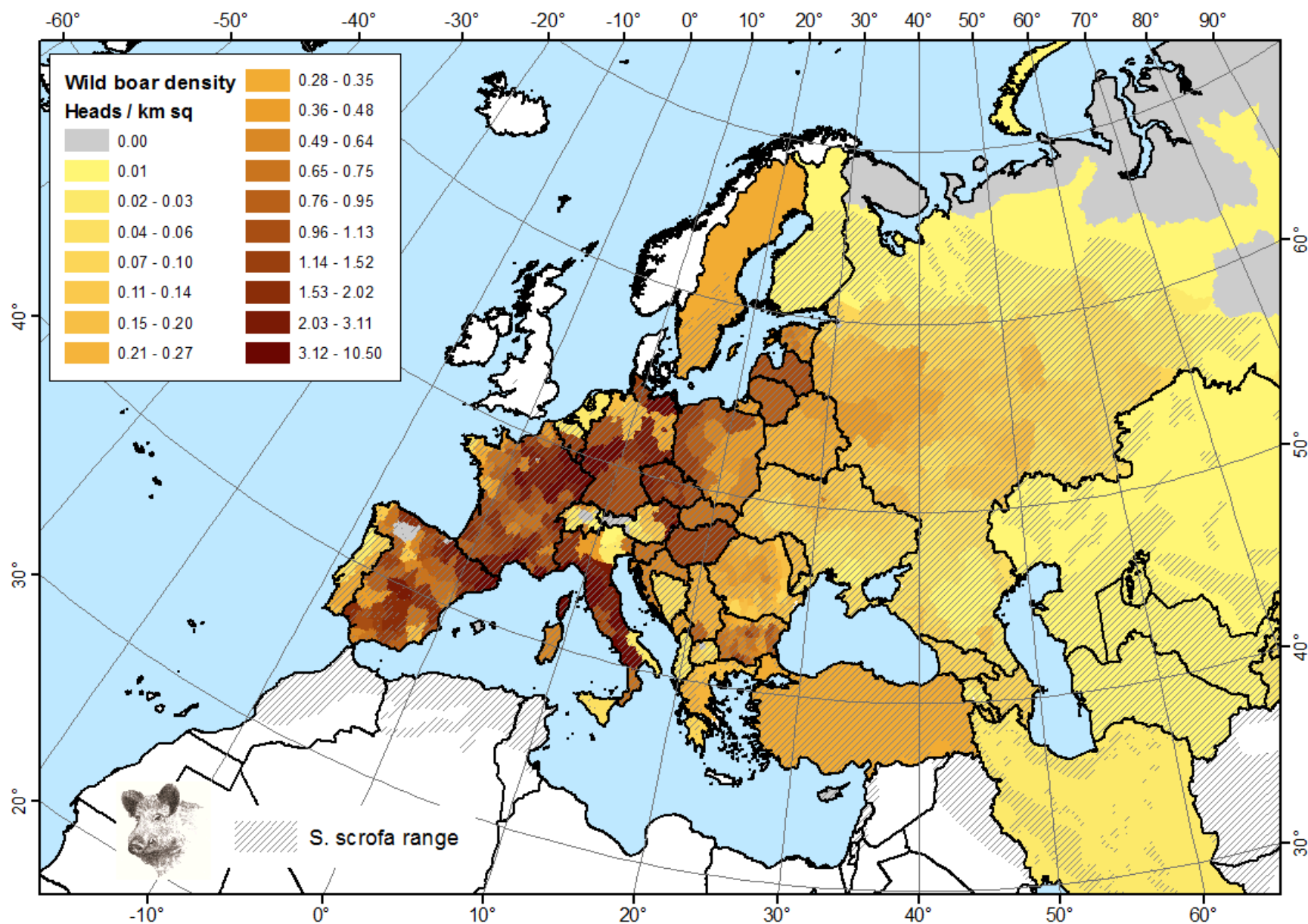
# Population sizes in Europe

*Spring (post harvest) census data*

- **Wild Boar – 4,500,000**  
(Putman, 2011; EMPRES data);
- **Roe Deer – 9,500,000**  
(Burbaitė & Csanyi, 2009);
- **Red Deer – 1,700,000**  
(Burbaitė & Csanyi, 2010).



**20 – 22 million FMD susceptible  
ungulates after reproduction**







# Background

- 🦌 Remarkable increase of wild ungulate population in Europe
- 🦌 significantly increased epidemiological role (particularly of wild boar), as actual (e.g. ASF, CSF, *trichinellosis*,) or potential (e.g. FMD) host species for a range of important livestock and human pathogens
- 🦌 threat for re-emergence, spread and maintenance of some endemic and exotic diseases



## Recent examples

- CSF outbreaks in Latvia (2012, 2014)
- FMD incursion to Bulgaria (2011),
- ASF epidemic in the Caucasus and Russian Federation (2007-2013),
- ASF epidemic in wild boar in Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Poland (2014 →)



## Radical solutions to these problems?

- Local extermination of wild boar as a species (Russia, Belarus), or
- building fences to create ecological barriers to discontinue wildlife populations, thus preventing spread of disease (Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland), seriously considered by the governments
- “repellents” for wild boar (Latvia)

unacceptable from ecological and economical standpoint  
these “simple” solutions do not solve the problem, but  
**rather create new ones.**



## Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD) and wildlife

- ✓ Short lived period of infectivity (hit and run agent) : to circulate needs supply of naive contact groups – OR persistence in environment (e.g carcasses)
- ✓ Domestic and wild pigs easily infected by oral route and shed very large quantities of virus
- ✓ WIDE Range of wildlife species can be infected (ruminants mainly by aerosols)
- ✓ European wildlife species susceptible: wild boar, all deer species, chamois, ibex,...(hedgehogs)
- ✓ Natural reservoir in African buffalo (long term carriers), probably original host before adaptation in evolution to cattle/other species
- ✓ Wildlife might acquire from domestic animals /carcasses of dead wildlife (gazelle-wild boar cycle Israel)
- ✓ Even a single small outbreak in Europe is extremely damaging (100 m €+, to countries if involved in extensive trade).



# Foot-and-Mouth Disease and wildlife

Until 2011

- No evidence of wildlife involvement in the recent major epidemics in Europe 1920s-2007
- It was assumed wildlife will have limited role in domestic FMD outbreaks (spillovers of limited consequence)

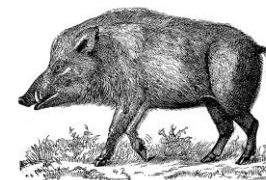
## SHOCK !!!! FMD in Bulgaria- 2011

- ✓ Detected first in hunted wild boar
- ✓ lab staff familiar with FMD
- ✓ Lesions along coronary band
- ✓ FMDV detected and reported

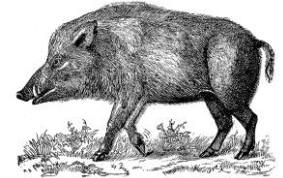




# Problems – the FMD epidemic in Bulgaria



- Entry of infection to free region - unable to prove if started in wild animals or domestic
- Many missing links between the outbreaks in domestic animals. Wildlife involved?
- Duration of epidemic in domestic stock: 4 months
- Total period to regain freedom : 17 months (UK 2001, 11 months)
- Extremely difficult to prove freedom when wildlife have been shown to be involved
- Issues between neighbouring countries re: wildlife – fear of being infection being driven across borders



### *Epidemiologically:*

- Spread was spatially and temporary limited, did not extend to all the population in Strandzha forest;
- Transmission between livestock and wildlife was both ways (facilitated by humans?);
- NOT highest density wildlife and domestic interactions in Europe – longer persistence elsewhere???

### *On surveillance*

- Hunting or trapping wild boar has severe limitations
- Antibodies in wildlife do not indicate WHEN infection occurred
- Far more intensive sampling of wildlife (for active infection) needed than possible
- Alternatives to killing wildlife for sampling needed

EFSA, 2012; Alexandrov et al., 2013, Dhollander et al. 2014



## Instructions available

- 🐾 EU legislation ???
- 🐾 EFSA Scientific Opinions /Statements /Guidances of the Panel on AHAW on CSF, ASF, FMD in Thrace
- 🐾 Guidelines on surveillance/monitoring, control and eradication of classical swine fever in wild boar European Commission, 2010 Document SANCO/7032/2010 (EC Homepageaddress: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/csf\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/csf_en.htm))





## Needs and perspectives

- 🐾 a comprehensive, holistic approach to address the “wild boar/wildlife problem”.
- 🐾 Scientifically sound population management and wildlife health status control strategies, based on the best available knowledge, standardized and officially accepted on the pan-European scale (both in EU and non-EU countries);
- 🐾 practical solutions to the disease surveillance, prevention and control efforts, including use of innovative techniques, methods and management options that are to be disseminated and incorporated into the routine work of wildlife/hunting communities

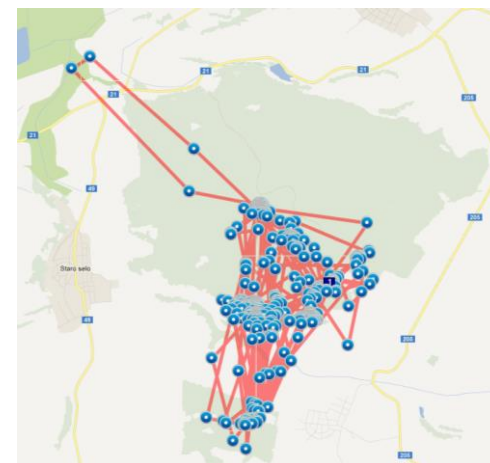
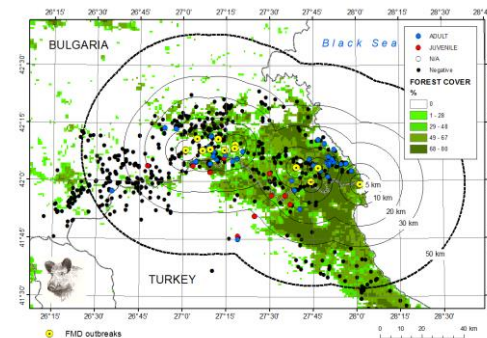


## Experience so far....

- 🐾 Plan for FMD control in wildlife/ BG
- 🐾 Surveillance for FMD in wild boar in Thrace and Anatolia /BG,TUR
- 🐾 Laboratory trials for FMD surveillance in wild boar/FLI
- 🐾 Wild boar telemetry study /BG
- 🐾 Trials on NI sampling /BG, SER, FLI, Nepal
- 🐾 Game collection centers in case of epidemics in wildlife/GER, BG
- 🐾 Trapping as alternative method to eradicate disease /BG
- 🐾 Data on wildlife attendance at feeding sites and salt licks/BG

## Research topics:

- Surveillance for FMD in wild boar: 2011 epidemic in Thrace v endemic conditions in Anatolia
- To kill or not to kill: non-invasive collection of saliva from wild ungulates for diagnostic purposes
- Wild boar ecology and disease: space use and social interactions in a wild boar population on a year-round basis



## The way ahead: an integrated approach?

Contingency planning to protect wildlife populations and minimise impact if overspill occurs

*Operationalise plans to*

1. **Prevent** - reduce spillovers from domestic animal infections
  - Risks practises identified, targeted measures/communication
2. **Manage** epidemics in wildlife more actively :
  - Part of FMD contingency planning (not only domestic!)
  - ANIMO approach – including NI sampling of wildlife and ANI (accelerated natural immunity)
3. **Recover** : Use NI (non-invasive) sampling to prove freedom

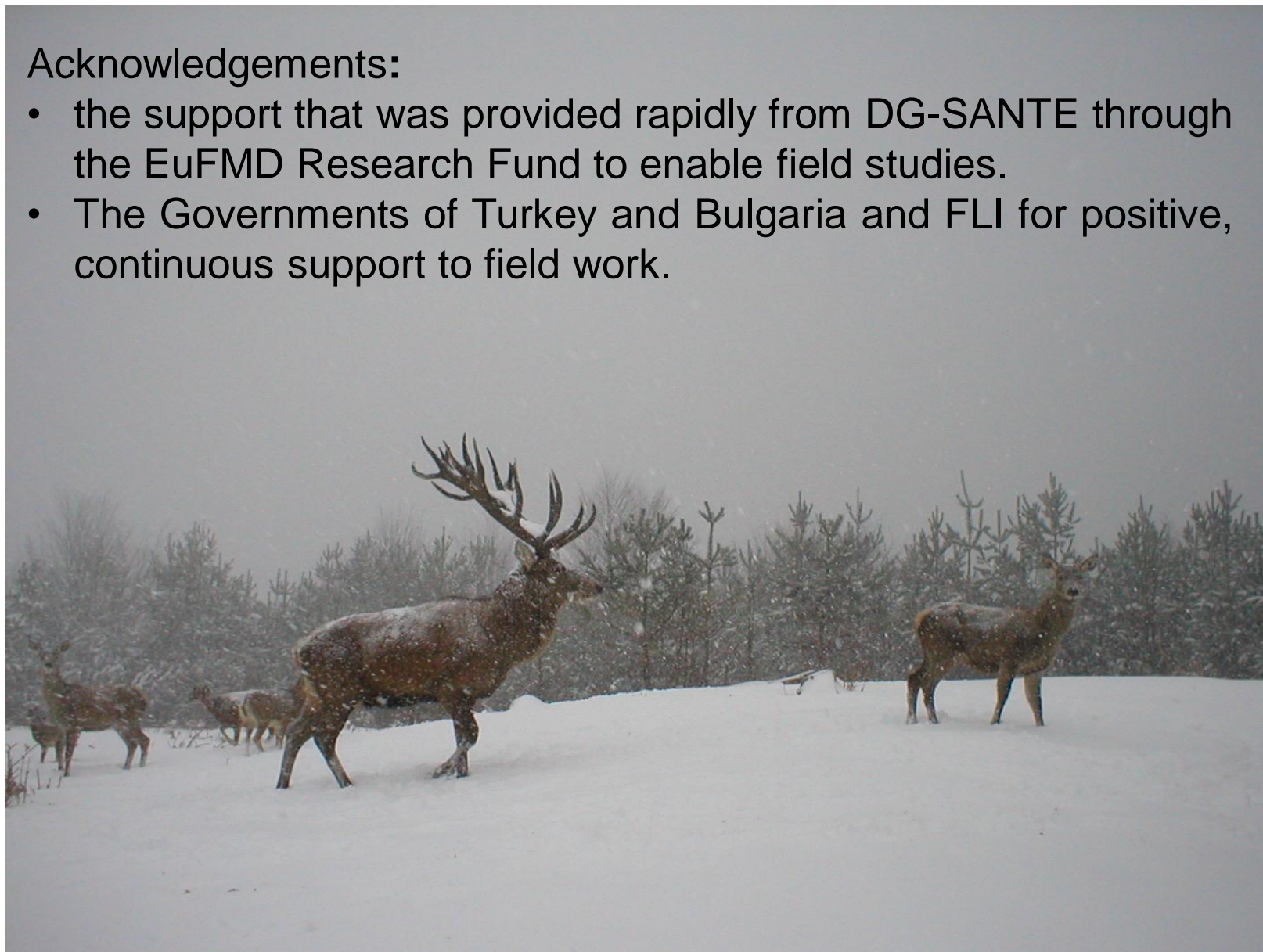
**ANIMO** (Active, Non-Invasive Management of Outbreaks)  
approaches need optimisation and testing in the field – options in  
Turkey , Caucasus and parts of mid-east for FMD





## Acknowledgements:

- the support that was provided rapidly from DG-SANTE through the EuFMD Research Fund to enable field studies.
- The Governments of Turkey and Bulgaria and FLI for positive, continuous support to field work.





# Foot & Mouth Disease

epidemics in Bulgaria in 2011 and the silence of wild boar

*Practical Training of Wildlife Surveillance, Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria, 22-25 Feb 2016*

Tsviatko Alexandrov





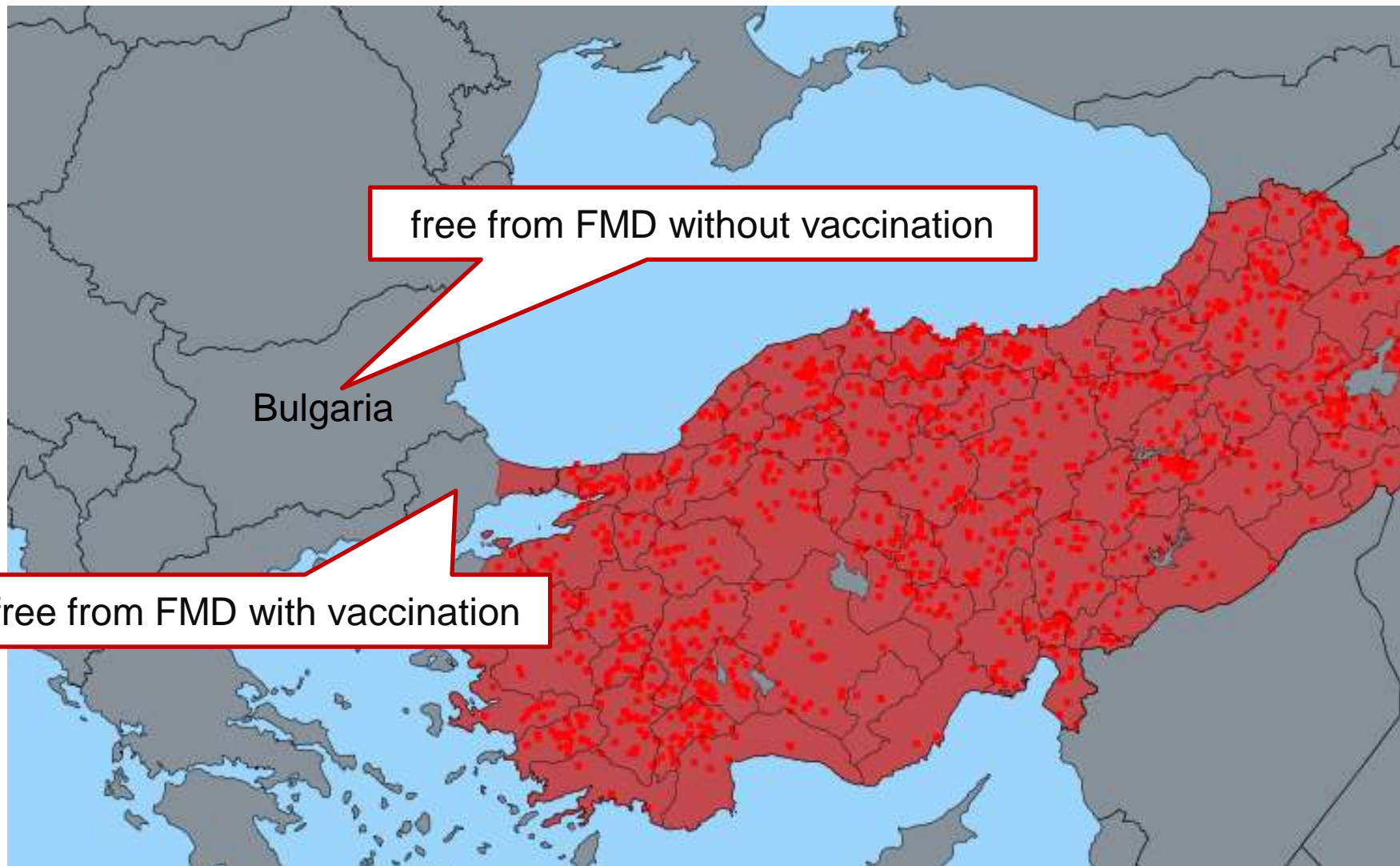
# History of FMD in Bulgaria in the 90-ies



1. Stefan Karadjovo 1991; 2. Simeonovgrad 1993; 3. Malko Sharkovo 1996;



# FMD outbreaks in 2010







4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011, 22:00 p.m.

Wild boar positive for FMD type O;

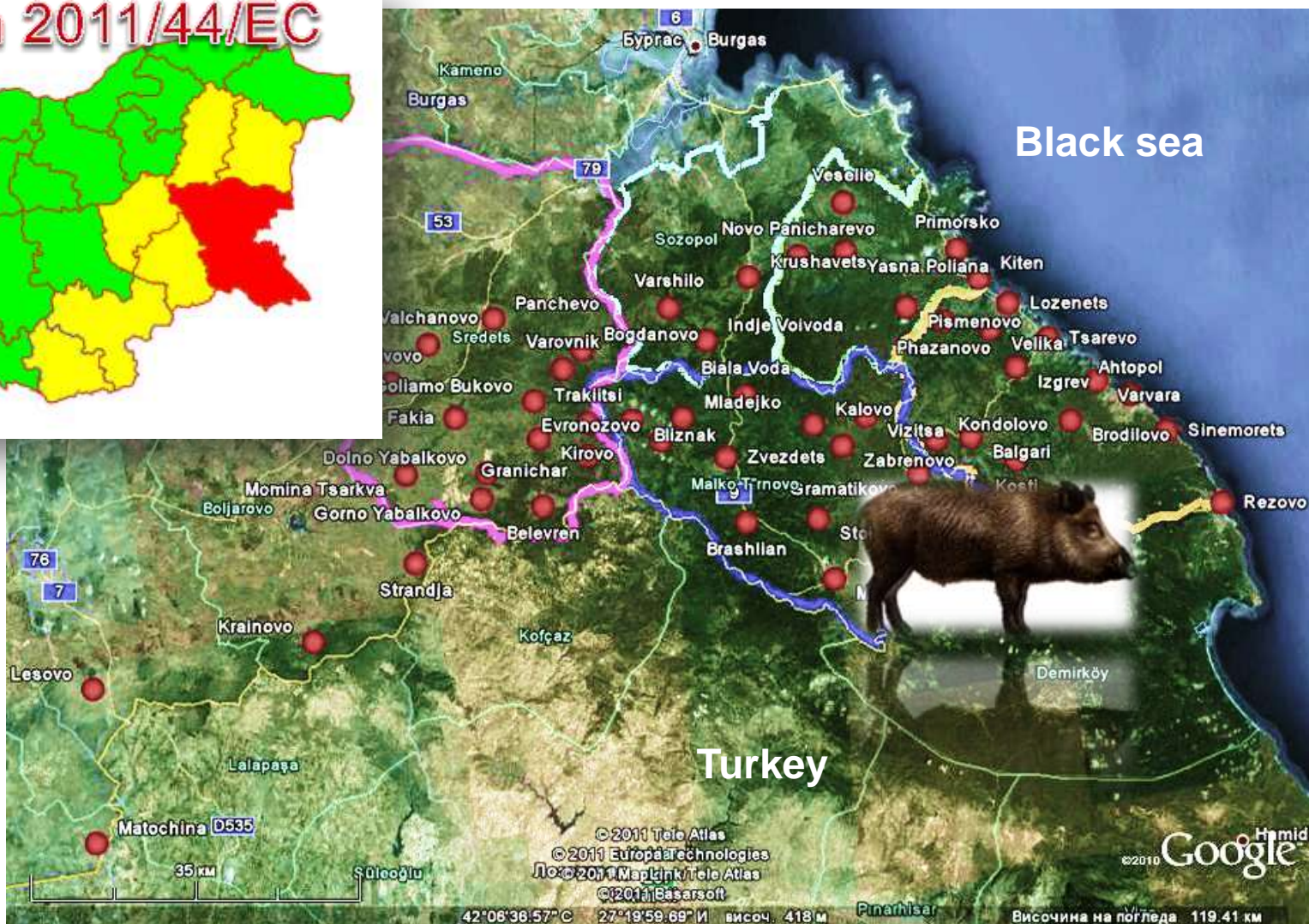






5<sup>th</sup> Jan - Start of the measures for control and eradication of FMD according to Dir. 2003/85/EC. Clinical and epidemiological examinations as well as blood sampling of susceptible animals in all villages located in the risk area

## Decision 2011/44/EC







# First wave – Jan 2011



1. Kosti, (9<sup>th</sup> Jan) in the vicinity of the place where the wild boar was shot;
2. Rezovo, (15<sup>th</sup> January) located at the border with Turkey;
3. Gramatikovo, (31<sup>st</sup> Jan) situated about 7 km west of Kosti,



# Kosti – the village of the bones







15.01.2011

















15.01.2011

ЗАБРАНЕНО  
ФОТОГРАФИРАНЕТО  
НА СЪСЕДНА ТЕРИТОРИЯ  
  
NO PHOTOGRAPHY PERMITTED  
IN NEIGHBOUR TERRITORY

No admittance!  
Infectious animal  
disease!

Влизането  
забранено!  
Заразна болест  
по животните!















# Rezovo





No Man's land beyond the barn wire







© 2010 Tele Atlas  
© 2010 Basarsoft  
© 2011 Ches/Spot Image  
© 2010 Basarsoft

41°59'11.96" N 28°01'34.95" E elev 33 m

© 2010 Google  
Eye alt 1.78 km



## Disinfection at the only exit from Rezovo





















# Gramatikovo, Jan 31<sup>st</sup>

Tsarevo

Gramatikovo

Kosti  
Kosti

Image ©  
© 2011 Cnes  
© 2010 Basemap  
© 2010 Tele Atlas

©2010 Google

Дати на изображенията: 2 мар 2003 г. - 25 юли 2010 г. 42°03'03.74" С 27°43'20.16" И височ. 124 м

Височина на погледа 18.75 км





**FMD or not FMD?**

16.02.2011



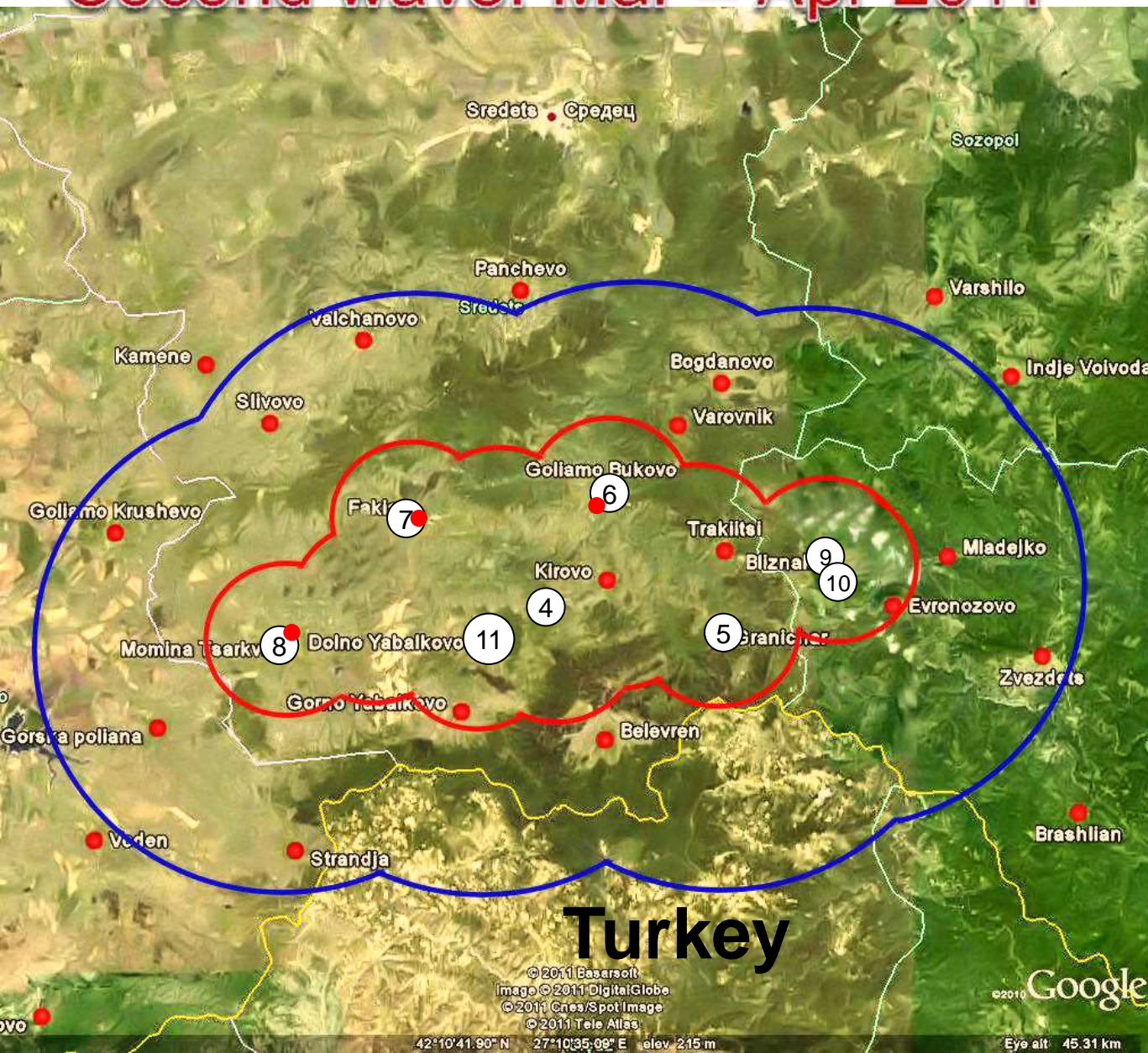
46 days later







# Second wave: Mar – Apr 2011



**Infected area (second wave)**



**not infected village**



**Outbreaks:**

4. cattle farm near Kirovo (19<sup>th</sup> March)
5. Granichar (24<sup>th</sup> March)
6. G. Bukovo (25<sup>th</sup> March)
7. Fakia (25<sup>th</sup> March)
8. Momina Tsarkva (25<sup>th</sup> March)
9. Bliznak (3<sup>rd</sup> April)
10. Farm near Bliznak (3<sup>rd</sup> April)
11. Dolno Yabalkovo (7<sup>th</sup> April)



**Protection zone**



**Surveillance zone**





**EU FMD**

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE



**eofmd**  
e-Learning



**III**  
3 PILLARS of the EU FMD



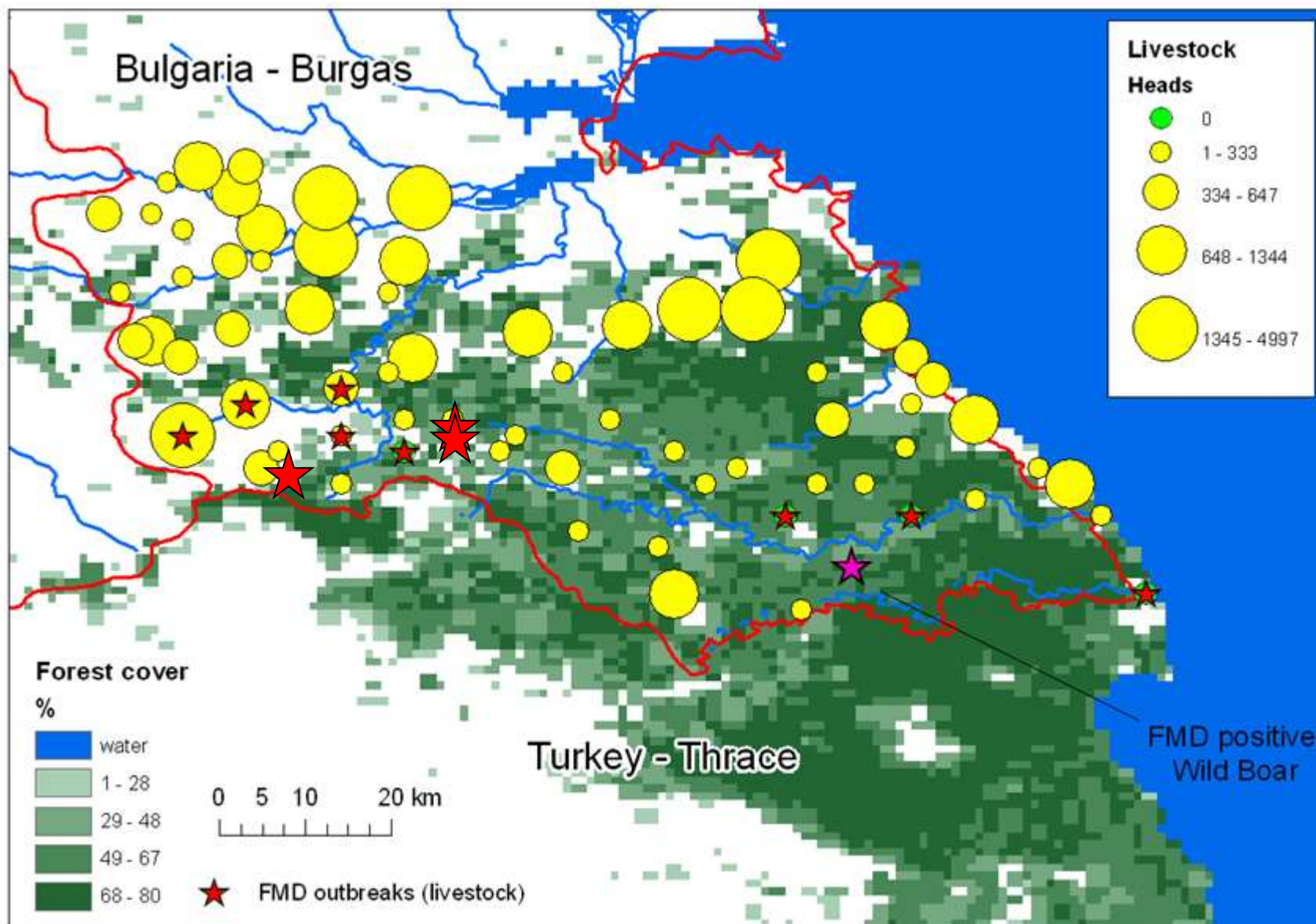
Positive wild boar ( 4<sup>th</sup> Jan 2011 )

FMD outbreak (first wave Jan 2011)

FMD outbreak (second wave March - April 2011)

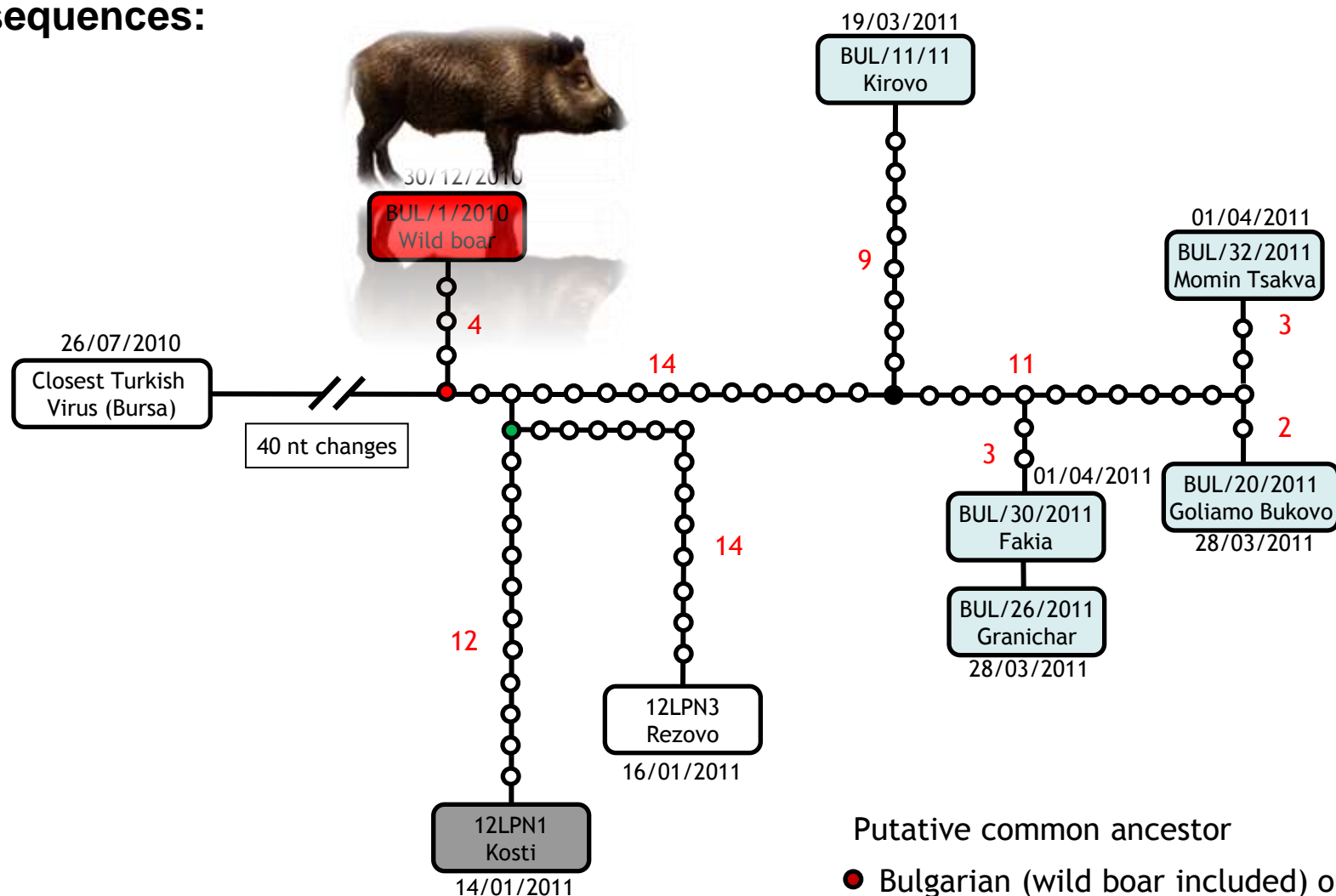
**11 FMD outbreaks in Bulgaria in 2011**







## TCS analysis of complete genome sequences:



Data Generated by IAH-Pirbright and DTU-Lindholm



# Control in the protection and surveillance zones

Last outbreak - 7<sup>th</sup> April

Clinical examinations on daily basis negative for FMD clinical signs

Blood sampling on 18-19 April

Blood sampling on 28 - 29 April

Blood sampling on 18-19 May

*Note: animals sampled within village to allow detection of 5 % sero-prevalence with 95 % confidence*

# Control outside the protection and surveillance zones

## Serological surveillance (18-19 April) outside surveillance and protection zones

6942 blood samples of susceptible animals tested FMD negative (type O EU5A);

Dec 2011/44	Region	Municipalities sampled	Villages sampled	Domestic susceptible animals sampled
Annex I	Burgas	10	33	4509
Annex II	Varna	2	2	307
	Shumen	2	4	524
	Silven	1	4	494
	Yambol	4	9	811
	Haskovo	2	3	297
Total		21	66	6942



*Note: animals sampled within village to allow detection of 5 % sero-prevalence with 95 % confidence.*

## Serological surveillance (18-19 May) outside surveillance and protection zones

1172 blood samples of susceptible animals tested with negative results for FMD;

Dec 2011/44	Region	Municipalities sampled	Villages sampled	Domestic susceptible animals sampled
Annex I	Burgas	3	3	297
Annex II	Varna	2	2	178
	Shumen	2	2	108
	Silven	1	1	100
	Yambol	2	3	262
	Haskovo	2	3	227
Total		12	14	1172

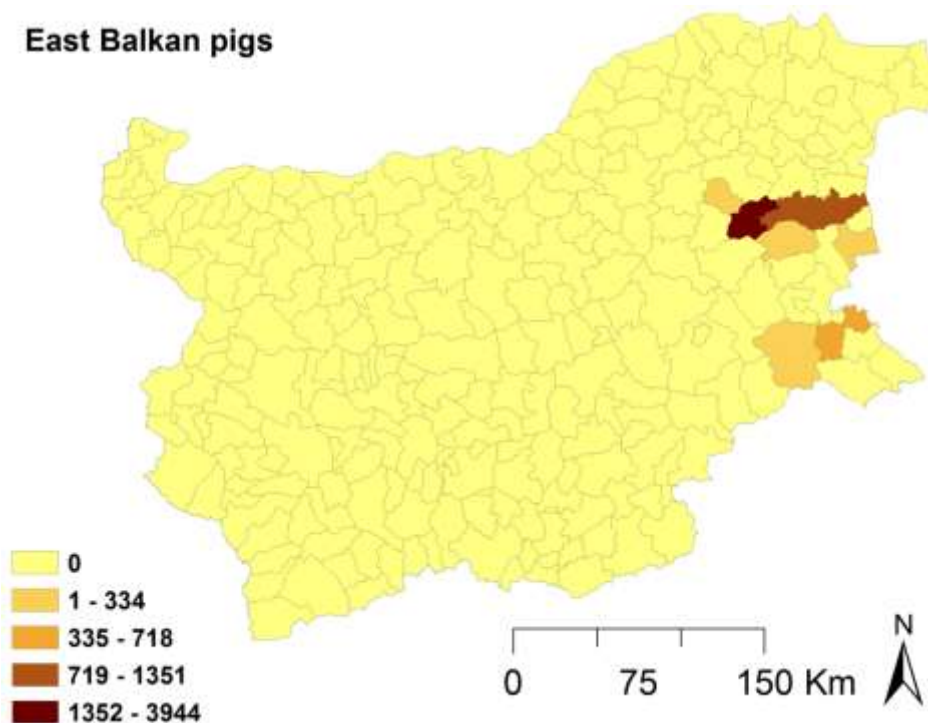


*Note: animals sampled within village (all villages are different from those sampled on 18-19 April) to allow detection of 5 % sero-prevalence with 95 % confidence.*



## Surveillance in East-Balkan pigs, 2011 - 2012

East Balkan pigs



Region	Number of blood samples tested
Burgas	553
Shumen	582
Varna	80
Total	1215



## Plan for the control of FMD in susceptible wildlife in South-East Bulgaria



- ❖ clinical examinations and monitoring of all herds every 21 days;
- ❖ blood sampling for serological surveillance to detect 5 % sero-prevalence with 95 % confidence within epidemiological unit every third month
- ❖ FMD susceptible animals can leave “Cordon sanitaire” only for slaughter under special authorisation by veterinary service
- ❖ Products thereof can leave “Cordon sanitaire” only after special treatment and under special authorisation by veterinary service
- ❖ **Surveillance in wildlife**

Number of villages	Animal holdings at Village	Number of animals per Village					Wild Life at the area of village		Hunting fields
		Cattle	Sheep	Goats	Buffalo	Pigs	Number of wild boar	Number of wild ruminants	
106	3 696	10 837	45 258	17 216	176	3 346	4 507	5 424	141





# Sero-surveillance in susceptible livestock in the “Cordon Sanitaire”, Aug 2011 – Feb 2012

Sampling period	Villages, n	animal holdings, n	Animals, n					blood samples taken to detect 5 % prevalence with 95% confidence within village, n	Lab results Type O ELISA
			cattle	sheep	goats	buffalos	pigs		
16-25Aug 2011	106	3696	10 834	44 156	17 032	176	3 275	5203	negative
21-25 Nov 2011	106	3 701	10 834	44 172	17 059	176	3 277	5 295	negative
20 -25Feb 2012	106	3287	11384	43358	16612	153	2766	5334	negative

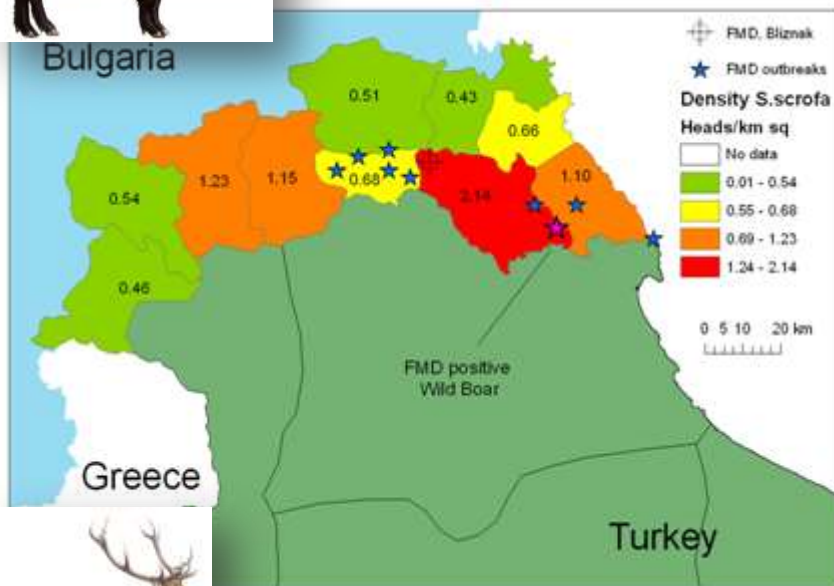


Strandzha mountain  
and the silence of wild boar





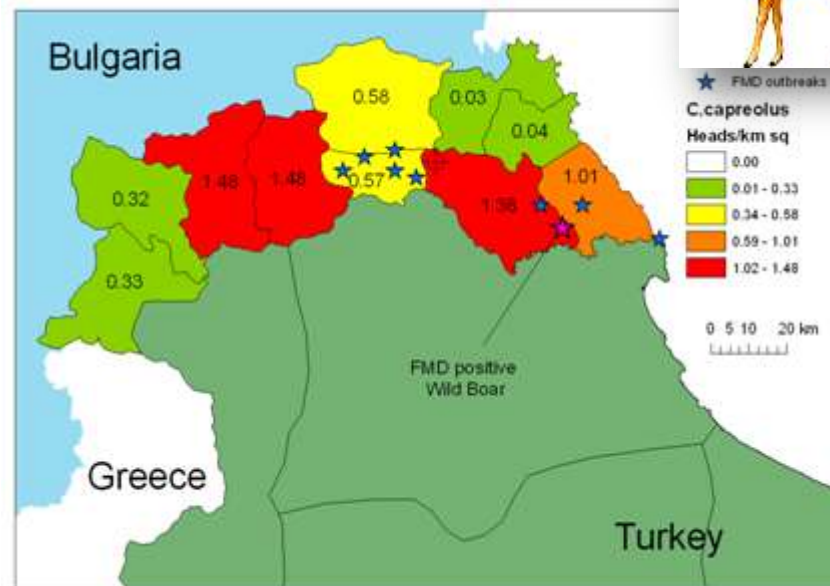
## *S. SCROFA*



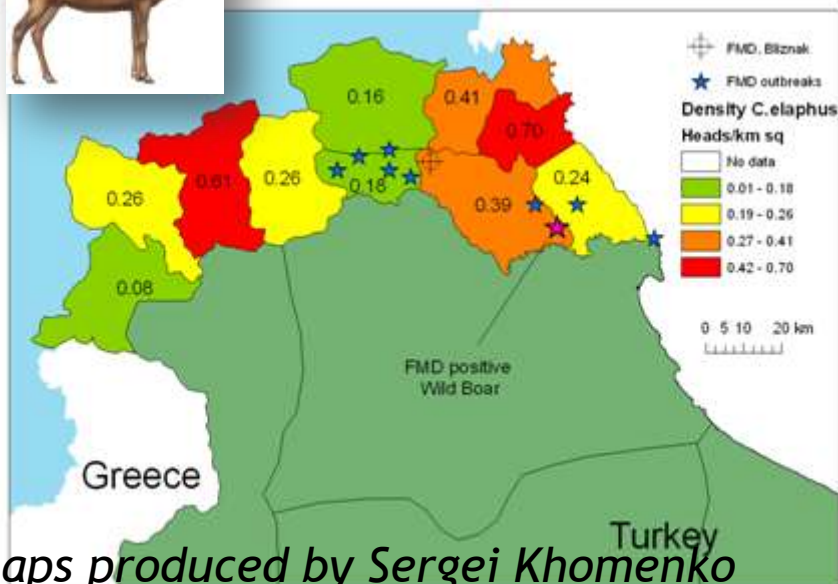
eofmd  
e-Learning



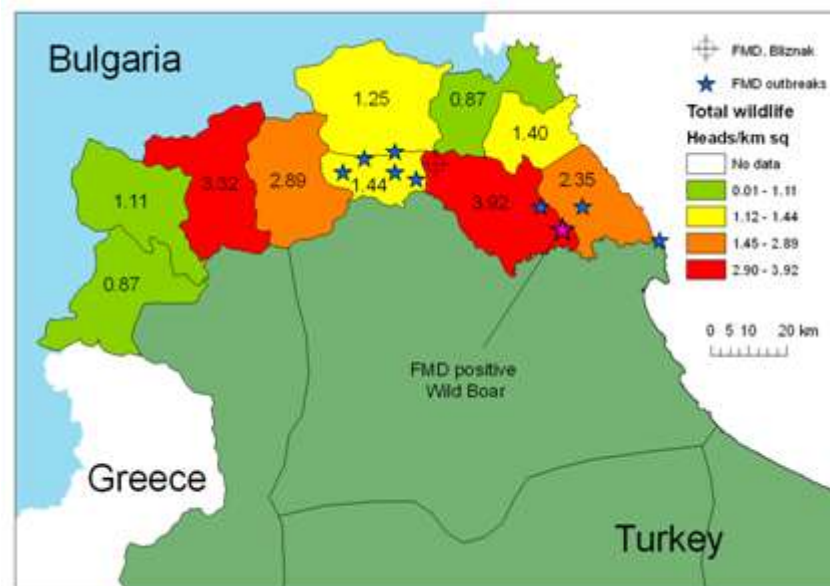
## *C. CAPREOLUS*



## *C. ELAPHUS*



## TOTAL

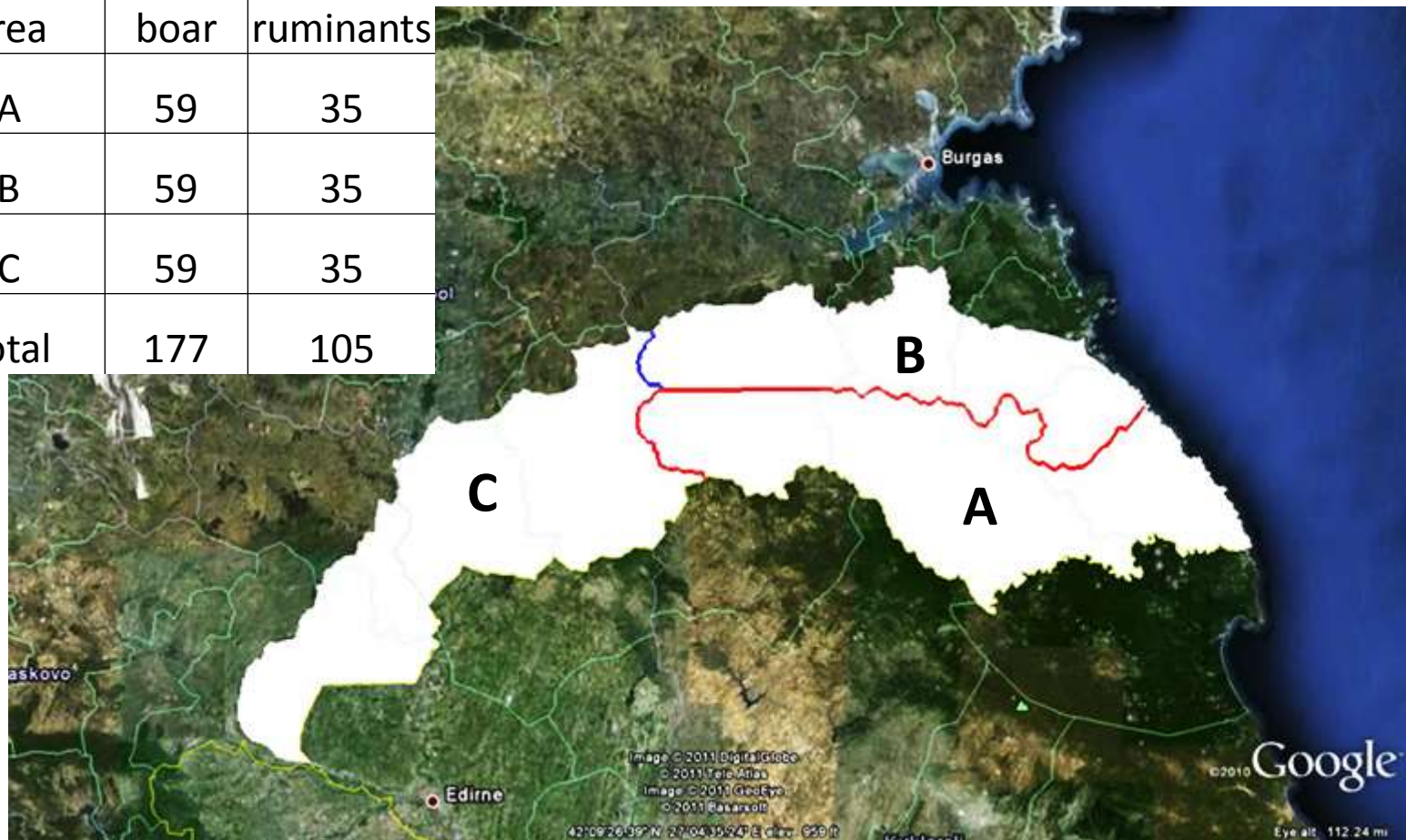


Maps produced by Sergei Khomenko



## Surveillance goals

Sampling area	wild boar	wild ruminants
A	59	35
B	59	35
C	59	35
Total	177	105



Blood samples for serological testing and tissue samples (tonsils) for PCR have to be taken from every animal



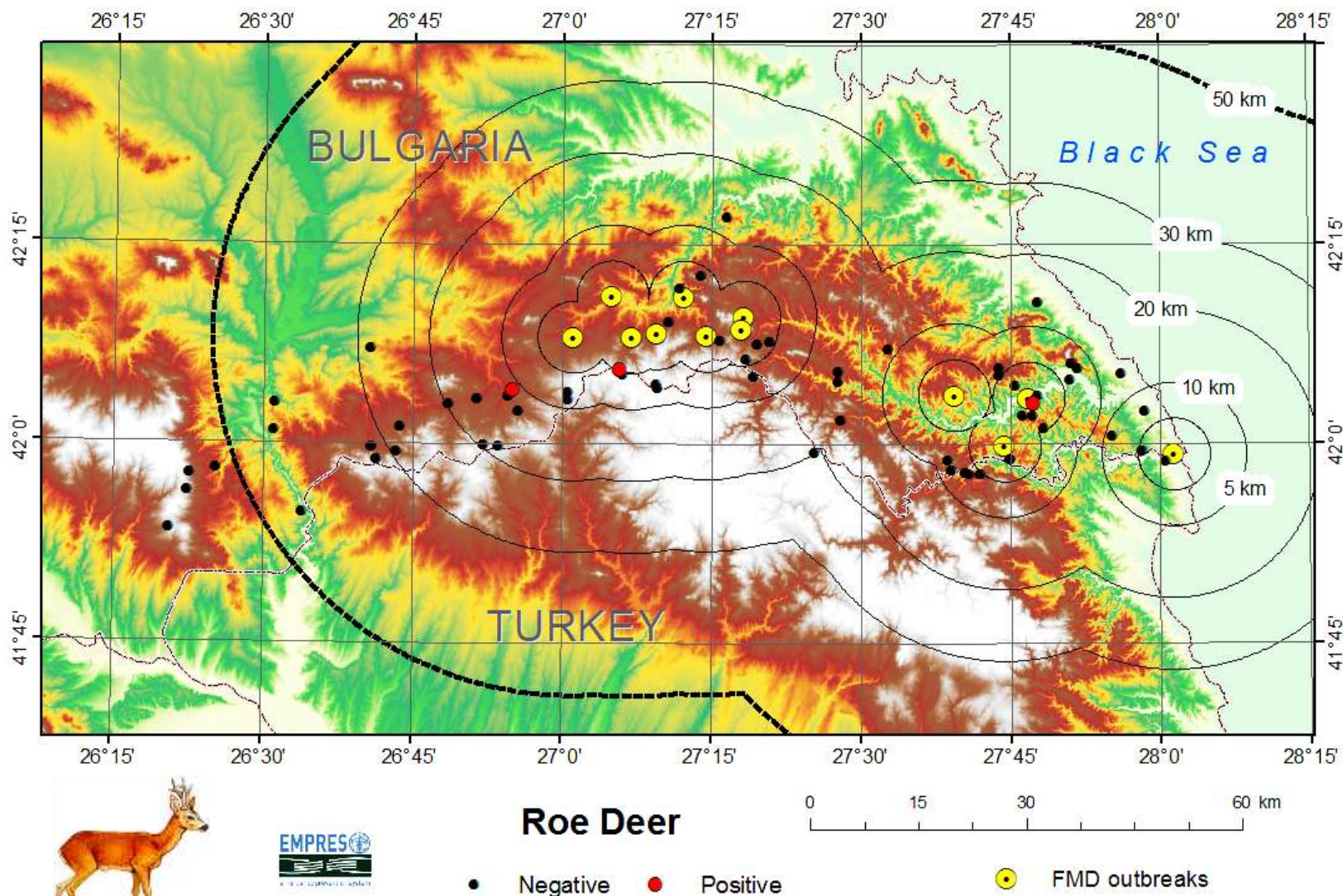


Numbers of wild animals tested monthly in the course of surveillance campaign in Bulgaria during the period from February 2011 to January 2012 by species and age groups.

SPECIES	Age group	Months, 2011:												2011 Total	2012:	Grand Total
		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1			
Wild boar	Adult	5	11			22		7		142	162	160	509	29	538	
	Juveniles		1	2		30		11		63	93	50	250	7	257	
	NA									17			17		17	
	Total	5	12	2	0	52		18		222	255	210	776	36	812	
Roe deer	Adult	1	5			17		13		4	17	9	66		66	
	Juveniles									1	1		2		2	
	Total	1	5		0	17		13		5	18	9	68		68	
Red deer	Adult					2			3	1		1	7		7	
Mouflon	Adult									2			2		2	
All 4 species	Total	6	17	2	0	71		31	3	230	273	220	853	36	889	

No virus detected!





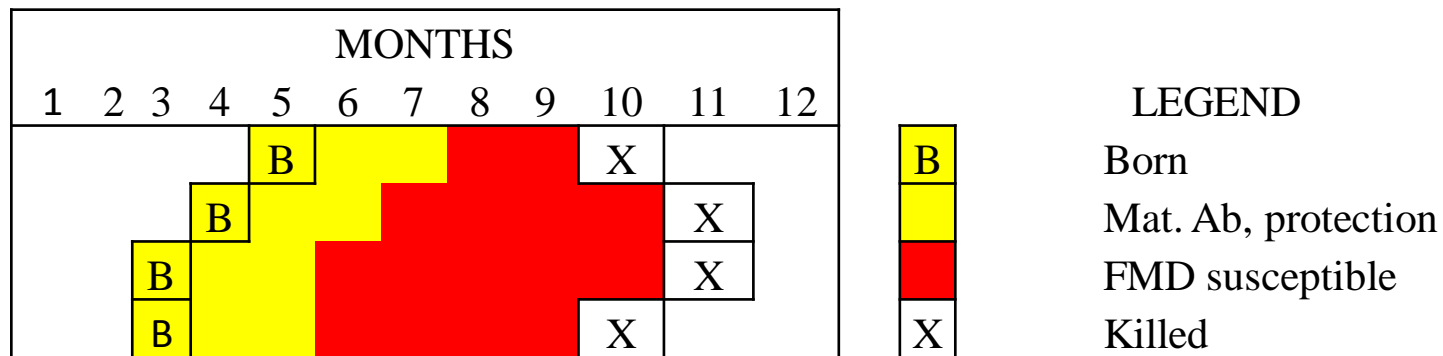
All sero-positive roe deer ( $n = 3$ ) were adults shot in June near the FMD outbreaks in livestock (~ 5-12 km).



# Surveillance in wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), Feb 2011 –Jan 2012

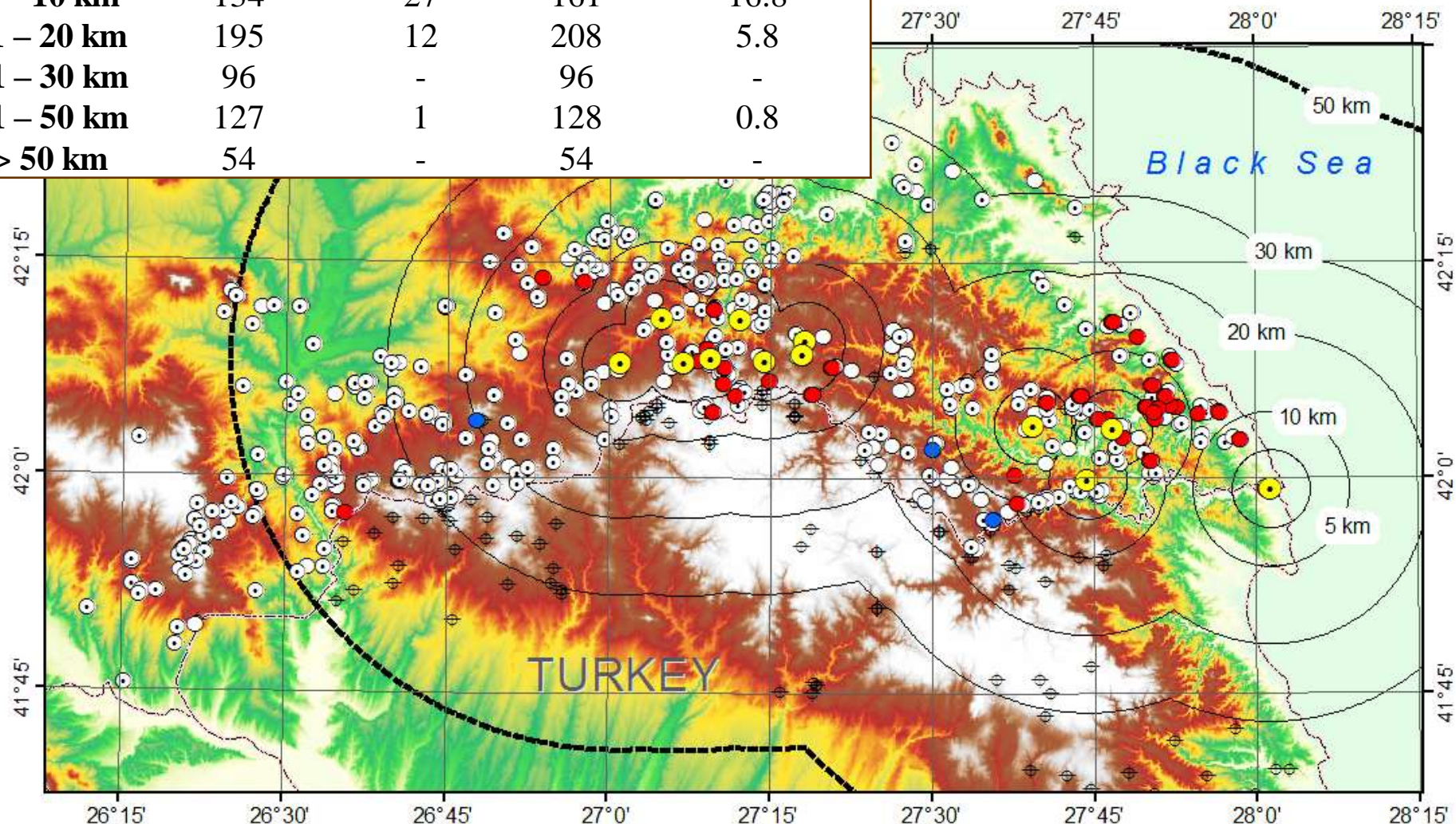
Age groups	Total sampled, n	Ab positive, n	Prevalence (95 % CI), %
Adults	538	51	9.5 (7.1 – 12.3)
Juveniles	257	4	1.6 (0.4 - 3.9)
Age unknown	17	1	5.9 (0.1 – 28.7)
Total	812	56	6.9 (5.2-8.9)

## Results of serological surveillance for FMD in wild boar in by age groups



Estimated life spans of 4 sero-positive piglets.

ZONE	Negative, n	Positive, n	Total, n	Prevalence, %
0 – 5 km	149	16	165	9.7
6 – 10 km	134	27	161	16.8
11 – 20 km	195	12	208	5.8
21 – 30 km	96	-	96	-
31 – 50 km	127	1	128	0.8
> 50 km	54	-	54	-



**Wild boar**

**ELISA by age group**

○ Negative, ADULT

○ Negative, JUVENILE

● Positive, ADULT

● Positive, JUVENILE

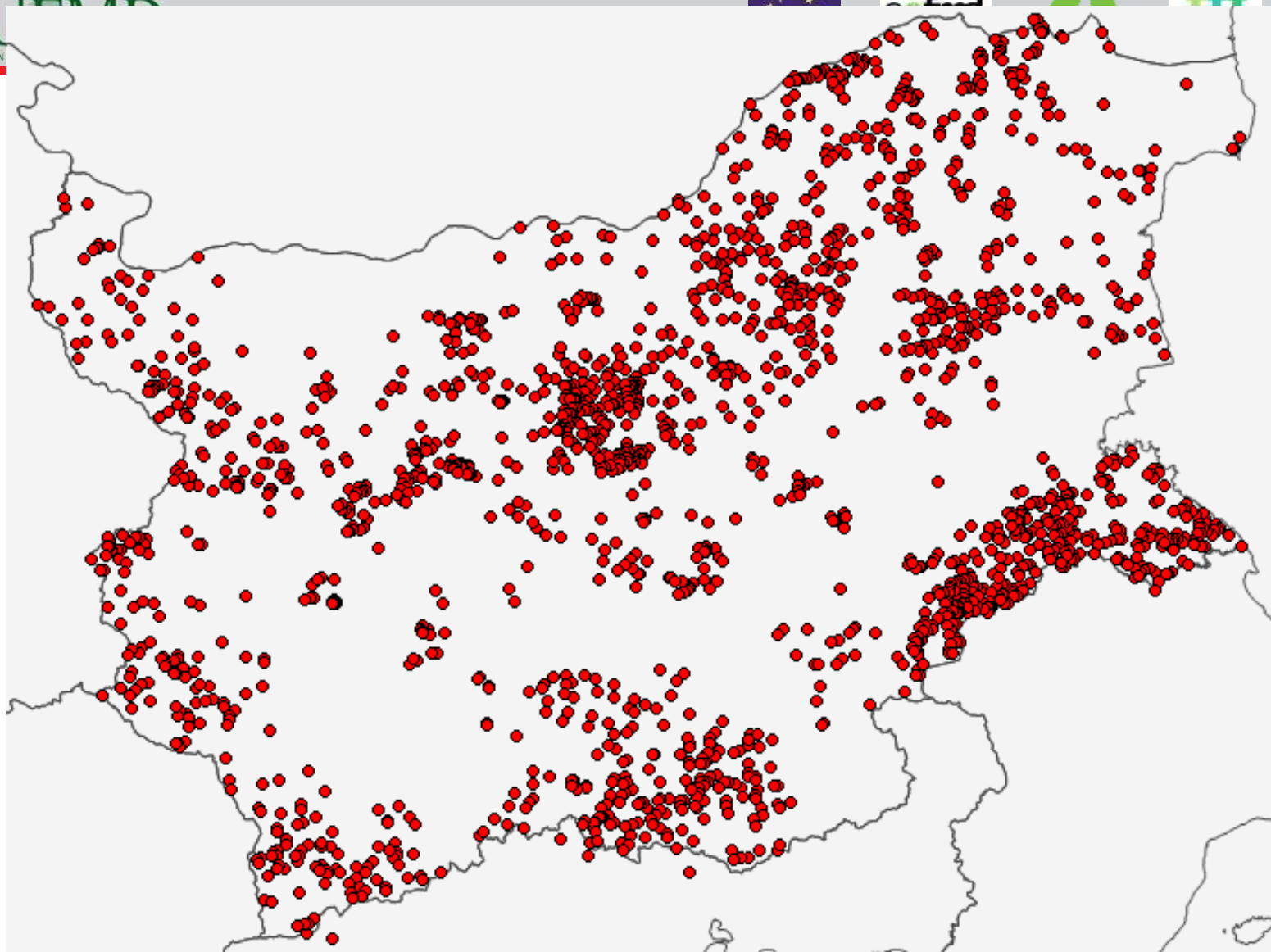
0 15 30 60 km



⊕ Wild boar in Turkey (ND)

● FMD outbreaks





During hunting season 2011 – 2012 (Oct – Jan) 4709 wild boar carcasses from the whole territory of Bulgaria were investigated for lesions and signs suggesting FMD.



# FMD or not FMD?







## ??? Hypothesis outline: ???

- FMD easily spills over to WB from SR (around Kurban?) and develops into epidemics in Nov – March;
- Livestock (summer) and WB (winter) epidemics are in a seasonal in antiphase (“old serotypes” detected);
- Mostly adult animals are involved (rut?);
- Many piglets born thereafter have maternal Ab protection (low prevalence in juveniles);
- This + low population density in early spring + higher temperatures bring  $R_0$  below 1.

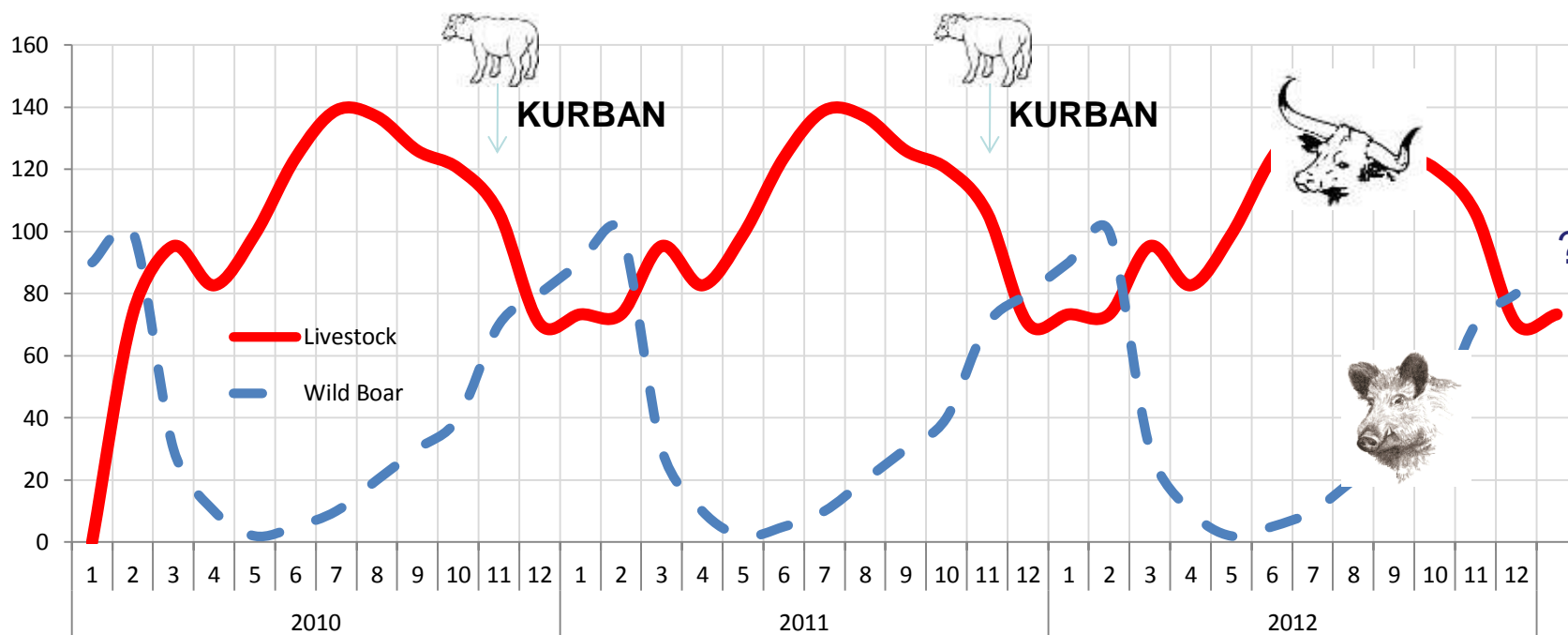


## THRACE: virus O +

Dec 2010

BG:

- O -



Farrowing



Rut



Farrowing



Rut



Farrowing



Rut



## Scientific Opinion on foot-and-mouth disease in Thrace.

*EFSA Journal* 2012;10(4): 2635. 91 pp. doi:10.2903/j.efsa.2012.2635

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/publications/efsajournal.htm>

- Most likely the disease died out in mid-summer 2011, and the areas subject to intensive surveillance both in Bulgaria and Turkey are now free from FMD in wildlife (and domestic animals). This is based on the observations with epidemiological considerations (hot summer in 2011, which was detrimental for environmental survival of FMDV, a relatively low density of wild boar of ~2-3 heads km, absence of clinical signs or virus detections in a considerably large proportion of animals inspected and tested in Bulgaria in October- December 2011 exactly in the former area of the infection, as well as further away in Turkey).
- The epidemiological model indicates that the presence of deer in the populated area does not alter the spatio-temporal dynamics of the infection in the model and that deer alone are not able to facilitate spread of the infection through the whole landscape.
- The epidemiological model indicates that the strong temperature dependence of FMDV survival in the environment explains the seasonal increased chance of virus fade-out.
- The epidemiological model indicates that continued maintenance (e.g. with moderately virulent CSFV in wild boar) cannot be expected from a wild boar + deer host system alone for FMDV. There is need for cross-transmission between wildlife sub-populations due to human movement or cross-transmission to the domestic sector for virus circulation to be maintained.

# **Conclusions on FMD epidemic in Southeast Bulgaria**

- ❖ Spread was spatially and temporary limited;
- ❖ Transmission between livestock and wildlife was both ways (facilitated by humans?);
- ❖ Disease event in wildlife developed in winter and died away end of spring
- ❖ However, serology fails to DATE different stages of this particular disease event ...

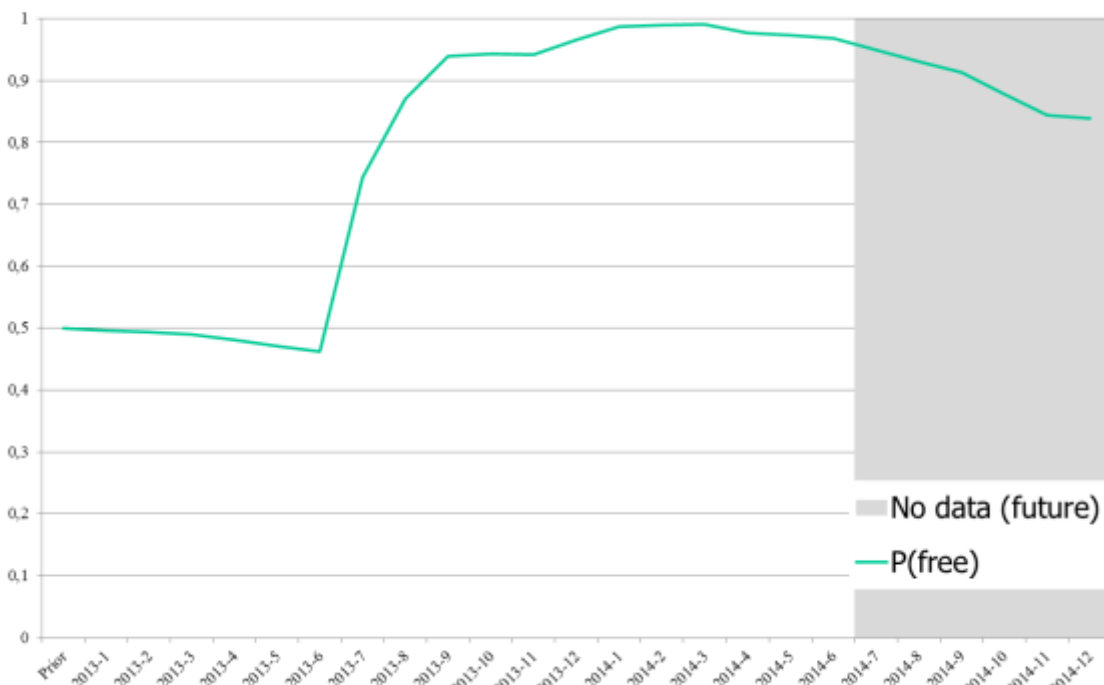


## Reinstatement of the FMD free status

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> application dossier submitted in Nov 2011
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> application dossier submitted end of May 2012
- ❖ Additional information for surveillance on the whole territory of Bulgaria submitted in July 2012
- ❖ **31<sup>st</sup> Aug 2012 - Reinstatement of the free status of Bulgaria – one year and five months after the last outbreak**



- ❖ Jan – Apr 2011 – FMD outbreaks
- ❖ Apr 2011 – Apr 2012 - Plan for the control of FMD in Southeast Bulgaria – 106 villages
- ❖ Apr – Dec 2012 – FMD surveillance programme – 37 villages
- ❖ Since 2013 – RBS THRACE programme – 21 villages - Sero-surveillance for FMD and clinical examinations for FMD, SGP, PPR, BT on monthly basis



Confidence of disease freedom in the area  
(in grey area the prediction if surveillance activities would stop)





# Thanks to all!

BFSA, NRL, EuFMD, EC, EFSA, Turkish  
colleagues, all veterinarians and hunters involved,  
Sergei Khomenko, Dimitar Stefanov



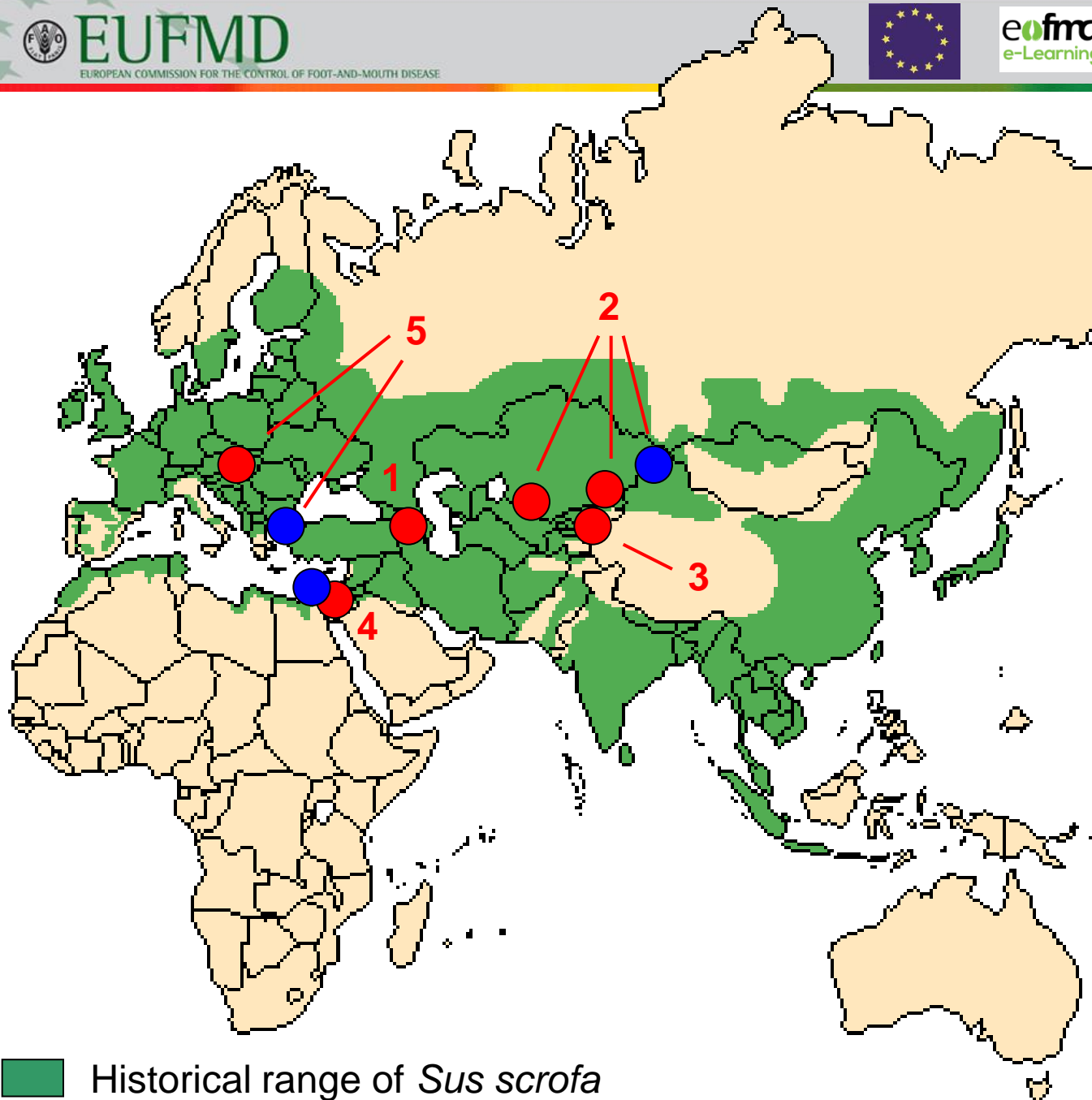
# When FMD goes wild...

The role of wild boar in FMD disease epidemiology at the wildlife interface with domestic livestock: studies under epidemic and endemic conditions



Keith Sumption, Sergei Khomenko, Sinan Actas Naci Bulut & Tsviatko Alexandrov  
Practical Training of Wildlife Surveillance, *Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria, 22-25 Feb 2016*





Marek & Hutýra, 1931; Sludskiy, 1956; Danilkin, 2002

## FMD in wild boar:

<u>1. Caucasus</u>	1902 1908 1911 1917 1919 1925
<u>2. Kazakhstan</u>	1927 1931 1941 2011 ?
<u>3. Kyrgyzstan</u>	1953
<u>4. Israel</u>	1987- 1999 2007 2011 ?
<u>5. Europe</u>	1920s? 2011

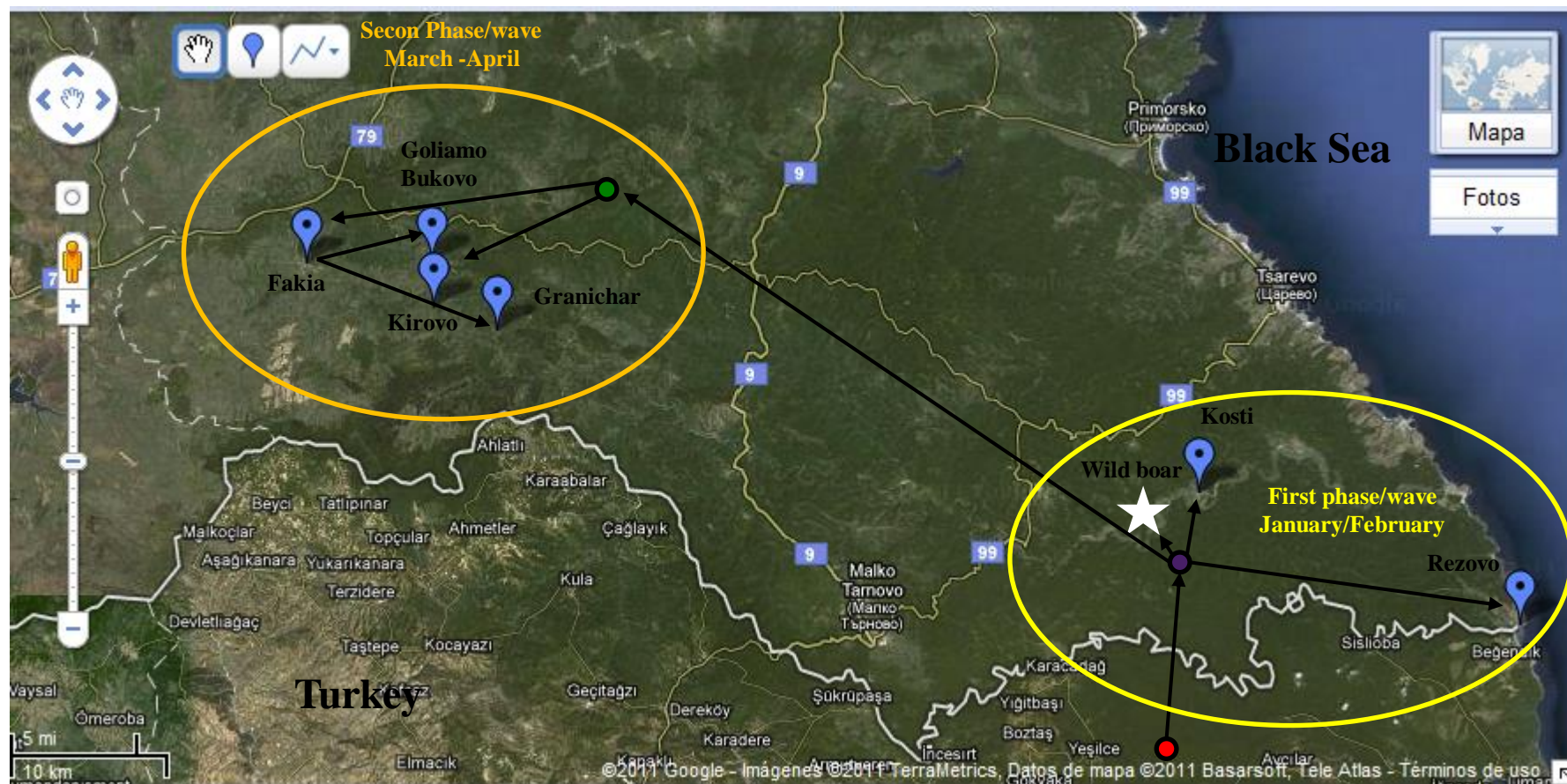


Jan 2011. Southeast Bulgaria – first case of FMDV  
pos. wild boar detected in EU

Many questions raised!  
Wild boar - **victim or guilty?**

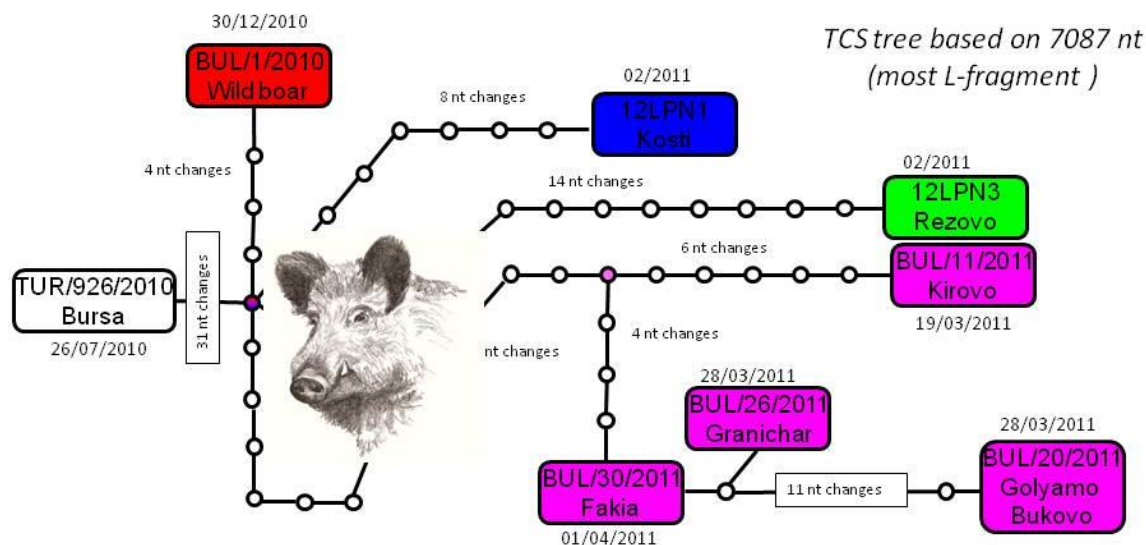


## Bulgarian FMD epidemic: many missing links between the waves of domestic animal cases



## FMD virus genome sequencing: evidence for undetected transmissions – did these occur in wild life?

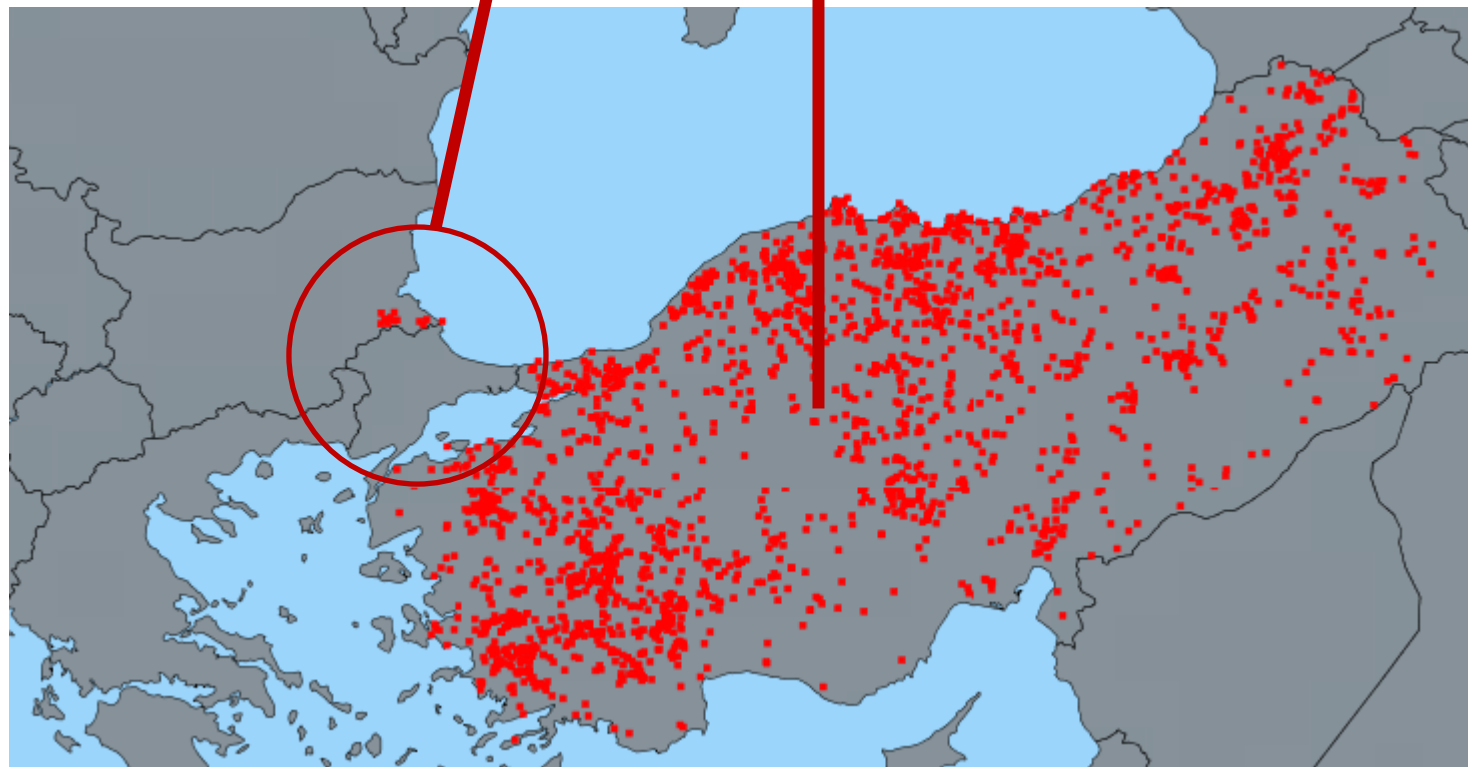
*Credit: Begoña Valdazo-Gonzalez, Nick J. Knowles, Donald P. King*



- Putative common ancestor of Bulgarian wild boar and first phase of the outbreaks
- Putative common ancestor of the second phase of the Bulgarian outbreaks

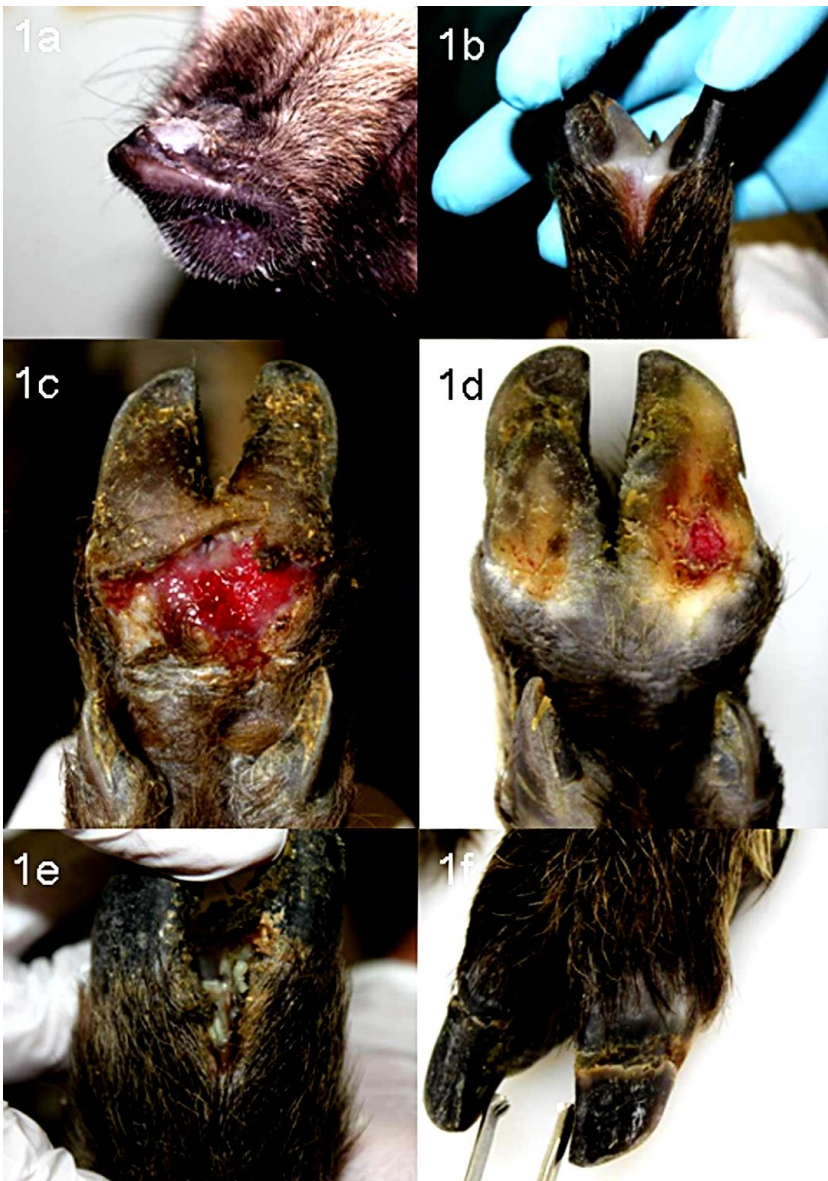


## Thrace vs Anatolia



FMD outbreaks Oct 2010 – Mar 2012, Source ADNS

- How frequent is FMD spill over to wild boar? Studies in Bulgaria and Turkey (Thrace and Anatolia, 2011-12)
- Experimental infection of wild boar and domestic pigs with FMD, study by FLI



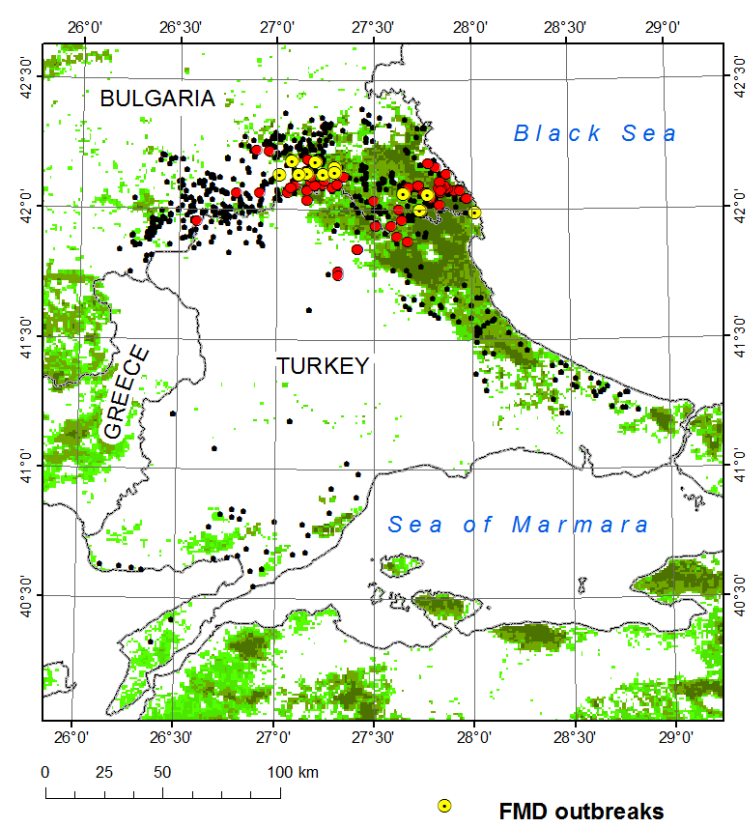
- ❖ Clinical signs on the 4 DPI (domestic 2 DPI) – e.g. incubation 4 days;
- ❖ Most severe and evident lesions – 7 DPI;
- ❖ Viraemia: 1 DPI through at least 9 DPI;
- ❖ NSP antibodies detected 7-8 DPI;
- ❖ RNA in saliva normally found up to 14 DPI and up to DPI 24 DPI intermittently.
- ❖ Wild boar do not play an important role as virus carriers.

**Breithaupt, A., et al.,** Experimental infection of wild boar and domestic pigs with a Foot and mouth disease virus strain detected in the southeast of Bulgaria in December of 2010. *Vet. Microbiol.* (2012), doi:10.1016/j.vetmic.2012.03.021

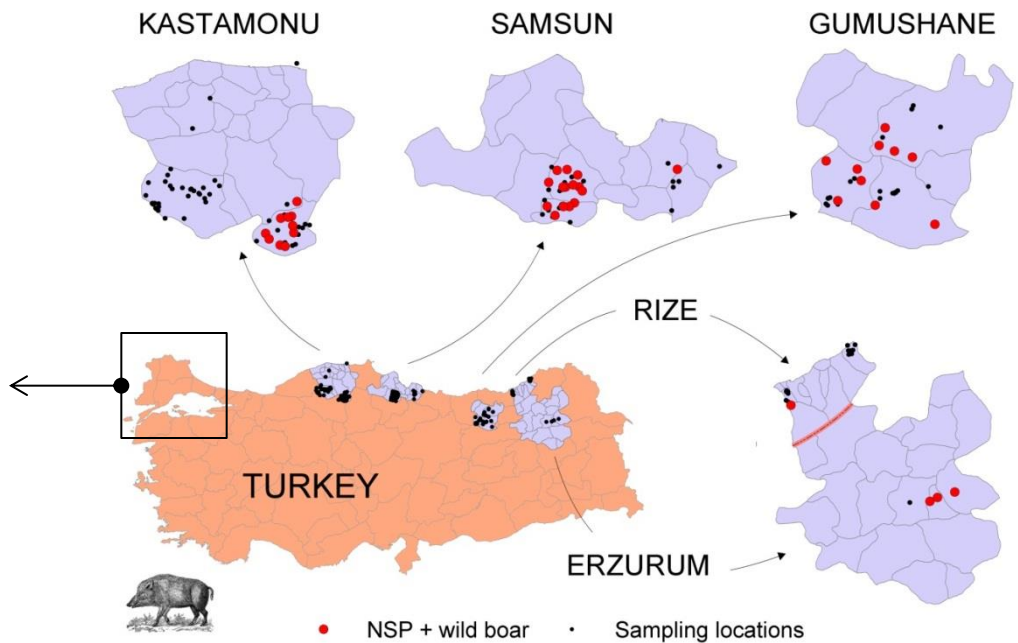
(a–e) Lesions after FMDV type O infection of wild boar. Vesicles on the dorsum of the snout (a) and the interdigital space (b), 4 DPI. Ruptured vesicles on the heel 8 DPI (c) and 28 DPI (d). Serofibrinous infilling in the interdigital space, 8 DPI (e). Claw deformation after coronary band lesions, 28 DPI (f).



# Surveillance in wild boar for FMD 2011-2012



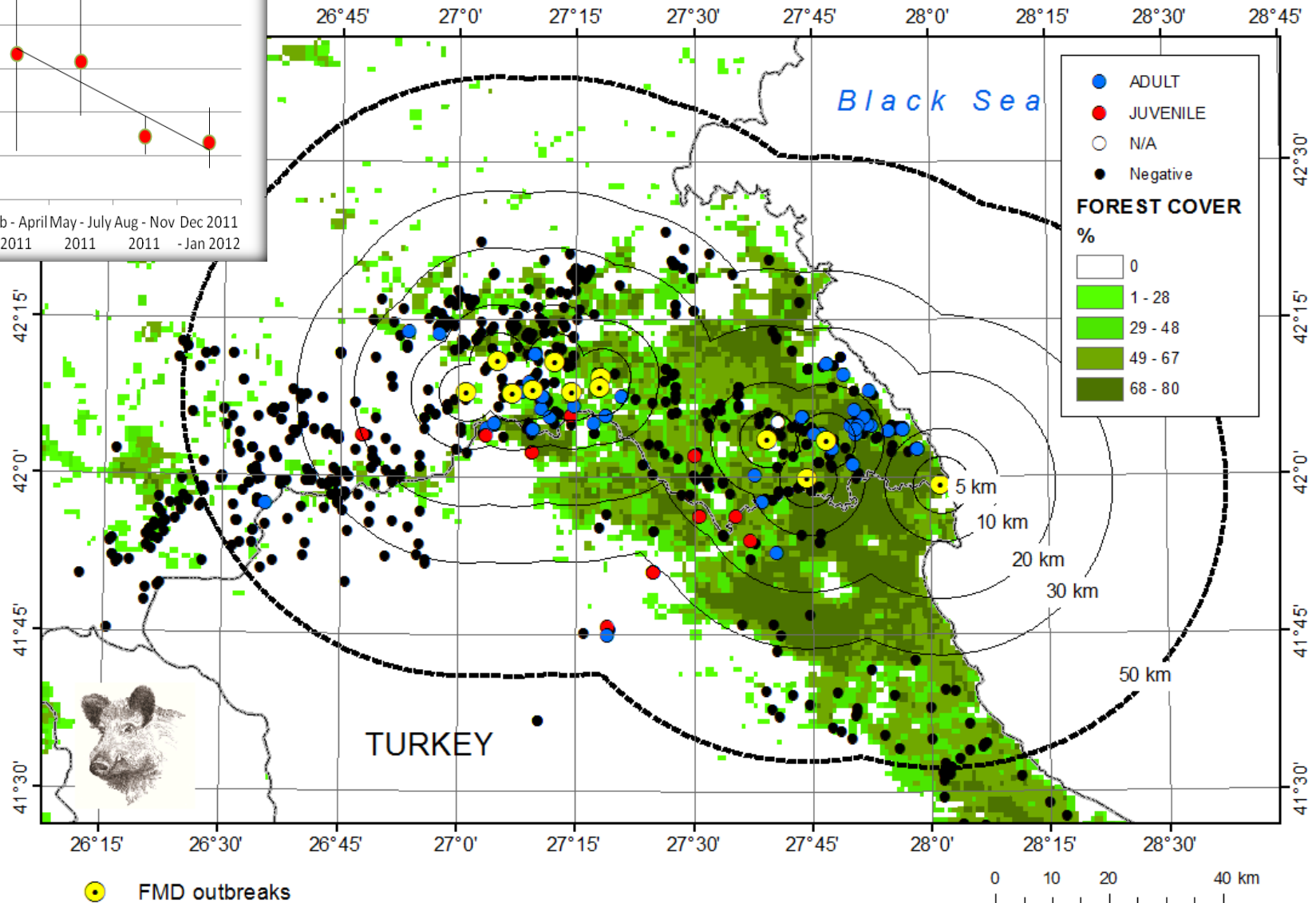
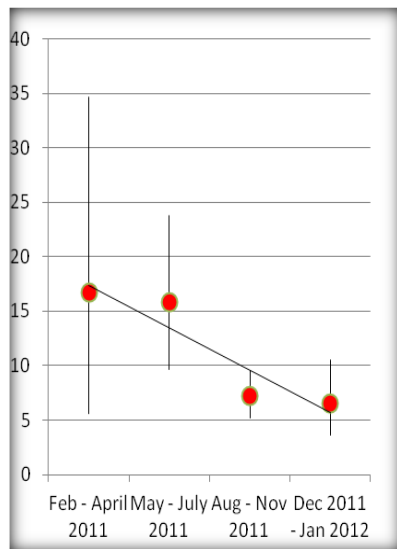
**THRACE (BG+TR)**  
Jan 2011 – Jan 2012  
N=1004



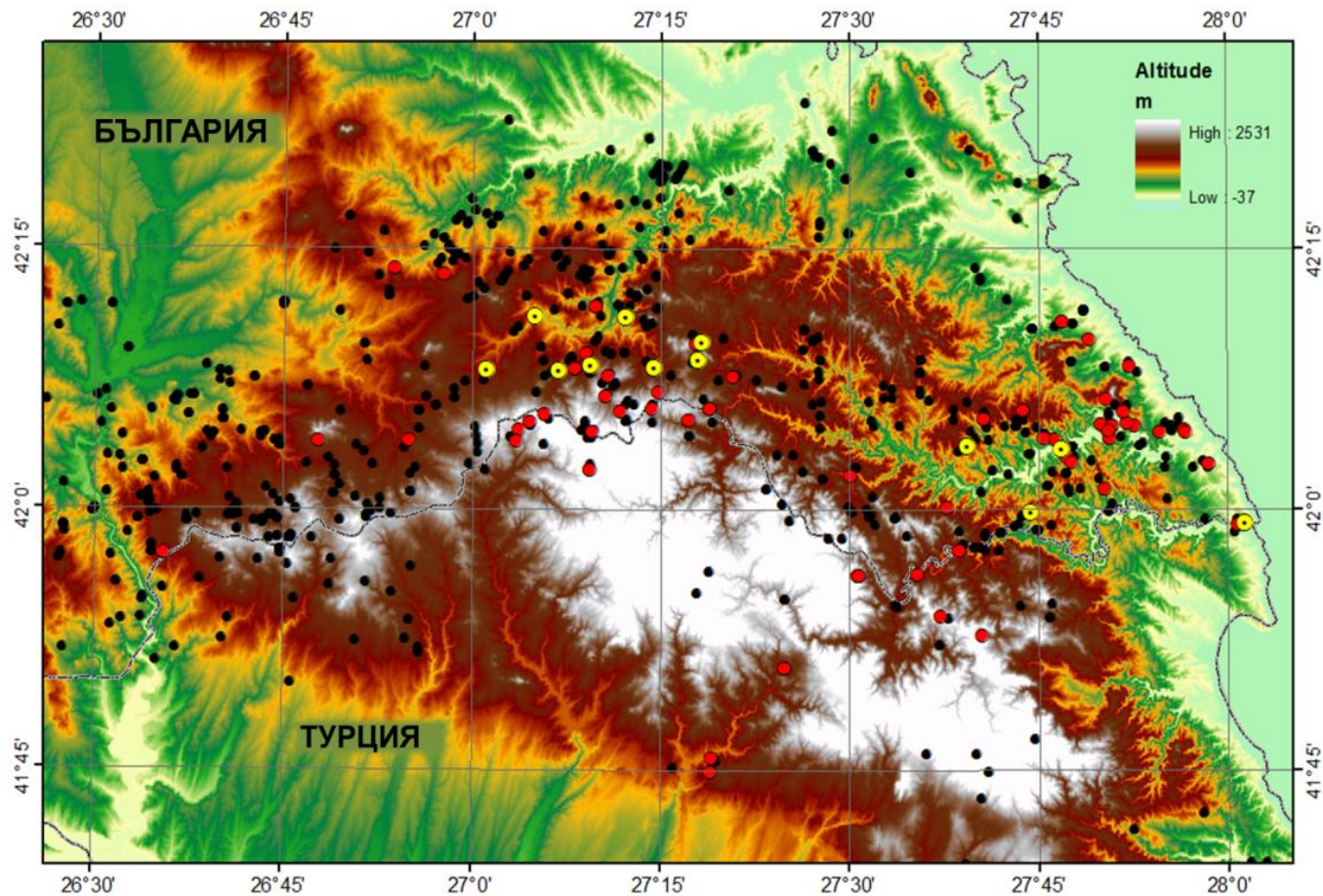
**ANATOLIA (TR)**  
Dec 2011 – Feb 2012, N=252

AGE GROUP	THRACE		ANATOLIA		P
	n	NSP+ (95 % CI), %	n	NSP+ (95 % CI), %	
ADULT	628	9.1 (6.9 – 11.6)	185	24.9 (18.3 - 32.4)	<0.05
JUVENILE	358	5.6 (3.4 – 8.5)	67	7.5 (2.5 - 16.6)	ns
ALL	1004	7.8 (6.2-9.6)	252	20.2 (15.5 - 25.7)	<0.05

# Sero-surveillance in Wild Boar in Thrace

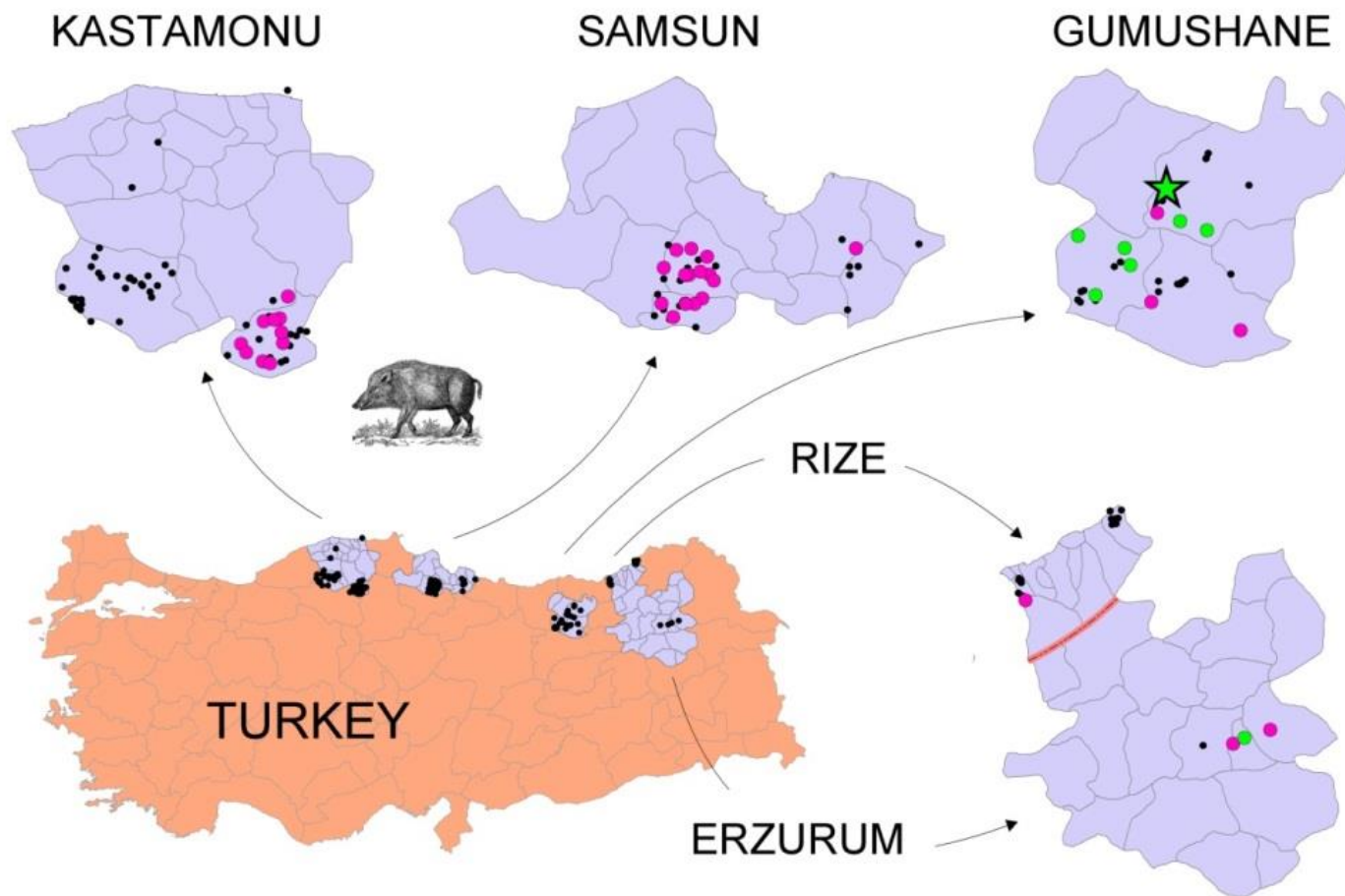






● Огнище на шап ELISA резултати: ● Отрицателно ● Положително

Age group	Bulgaria		Turkish Thrace	
	Tested, n	Ab +/- %	Tested, n	Ab +/- %
adults	538	51/9.5%	46	11/23.9%
juveniles	257	4/1.6%	52	16/30.8%
unknown	17	1/5.9%	-	-
Total	812	56/6.9%	98	27/27.6%



**60,000**  
infected with  
**FMD ?**

★ ASIA-1 virus positive    ● ASIA    ● O    • Sampling locations

Region	n	% NSP+ (95 % CI)	% ASIA +	% O +
ERZURUM	17	<b>52.9</b> (27.8 - 77.0)	11.8	41.2
SAMSUN	73	<b>28.8</b> (18.8 – 40.6)		28.8
GÜMÜŞHANE	58	<b>17.2</b> (8.6 – 29.4)	12.1*	5.2
KASTAMONU	76	<b>13.2</b> (6.5 – 22.9)		13.2
RİZE	21	<b>4.8</b> (0.1 – 23.8)		4.8
TOTAL	252	20.2 (15.5 – 25.7)	3.6	16.7

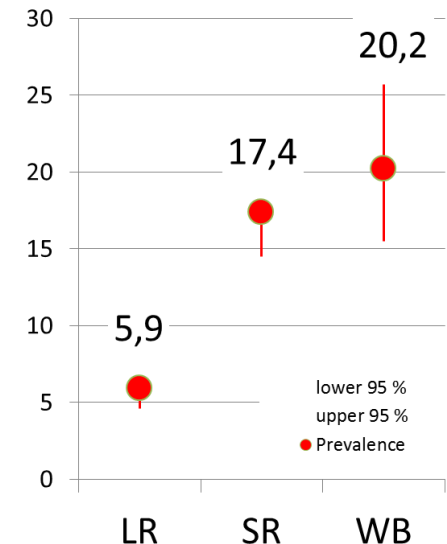
NO SEROTYPE “A” FOUND, but “O” and  
“Asia-1” were found in exactly the same  
proportion as in livestock



Average FMD seroprevalence in wild boar compared to that in small and large ruminants (2010) by the 5 study provinces of Anatolia.

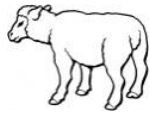
Province	Wild boar NSP+		Small ruminants NSP+		Large ruminants NSP+		Significance of difference, P	
	n	% [95 % CI]	n	% [95 % CI]	n	% [95 % CI]	WB v SR	WB v LR
<b>Erzurum</b>	17	52.9 [28 - 77]	329	49.5 [44 - 55]	496	10.7 [8 - 14]	0.809	< 0.0001
<b>Gumushane</b>	58	17.2 [9 - 29]	224	13.8 [10 - 19]	216	10.6 [7 - 16]	0.5324	0.1771
<b>Kastamonu</b>	76	13.2 [7 - 23]	448	10.3 [8 - 14]	496	3.2 [2 - 5]	0.426	0.0009
<b>Rize</b>	21	4.8 [0.1 - 24]	256	3.5 [2 - 7]	248	2.0 [1 - 5]	0.5516	0.3889
<b>Samsun</b>	73	28.8 [17 - 41]	703	10.0 [8 - 12]	682	3.1 [2 - 5]	0.0001	< 0.0001
<b>Total</b>	<b>252</b>	<b>20.2 [16 - 26]</b>	<b>1960</b>	<b>17.4 [15 - 18]</b>	<b>2138</b>	<b>5.9 [5 - 7]</b>	<b>0.0877</b>	<b>&lt; 0.0001</b>

- Distinctly different from LR ( $P=0.1$ ), but not SR ( $P=0.001$ );
- Except for Samsun prevalence in WB does not differ from SR ( $P=0.6-0.8$ );
- Prevalence in WB correlates best with that in SR ( $r=0.9$ ,  $R^2 = 0.8$ ), but not LR (ns).





THRACE  
Serotype  
O



- Closely related isolates from cattle

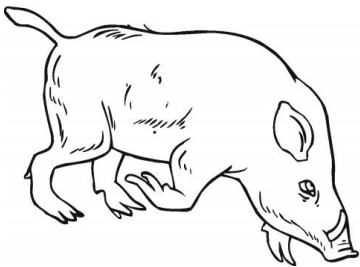
- Isolates from wild boar



ANATOLIA  
Serotype  
Asia-1







# Implications for disease surveillance and control

1. FMD spillover to wild boar is a frequent event
2. Infection in WB correlates with disease occurrence in livestock, particularly in SR.
3. Spillovers may develop into localised epidemics (3-6 months) affecting up to 20 % of the population and virus spread for to 15-20 km
4. Winter is most risky period for horizontal transmission of FMD in wild boar population;
5. Different serotypes may perform differently in wild boar;
6. Even rather localised FMD spread through wild boar population has a potential to introduce the virus to a previously unaffected area and deliver it to immunologically naive domestic animals, either through direct, or indirect wildlife-livestock interactions, or by hunting infected wild animals.



## Recommendations

- The FMD prevention, control and eradication measures have to account for possible wild boar involvement and its likely contribution to FMD transmission cycle and spread.
- Such sylvatic FMD epidemics should be of particular concern on the borders between countries or regions with different FMD status or control strategies (e.g. FMD free, free with vaccination, vaccination applied, FMD endemic).
- In order to anticipate future risks of FMD introductions in such areas regular seasonal surveillance in wild boar populations is recommended.





**EuFMD**

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**eofmd**  
e-Learning



**III**  
3 PILLARS of  
the EuFMD



### **Acknowledgements:**

- the support that was provided rapidly from DG-SANTE through the EuFMD Research Fund to enable field studies.
- The Governments of Turkey and Bulgaria and FLI

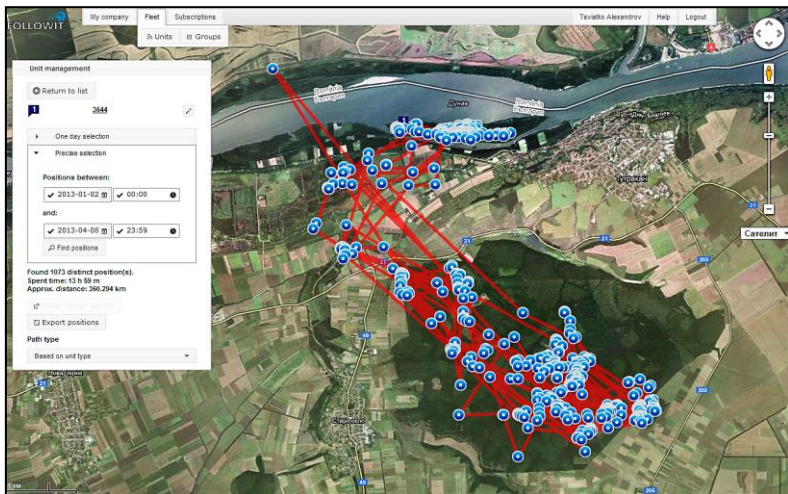




# Wild boar ecology and disease

space use and social interactions  
in a wild boar population

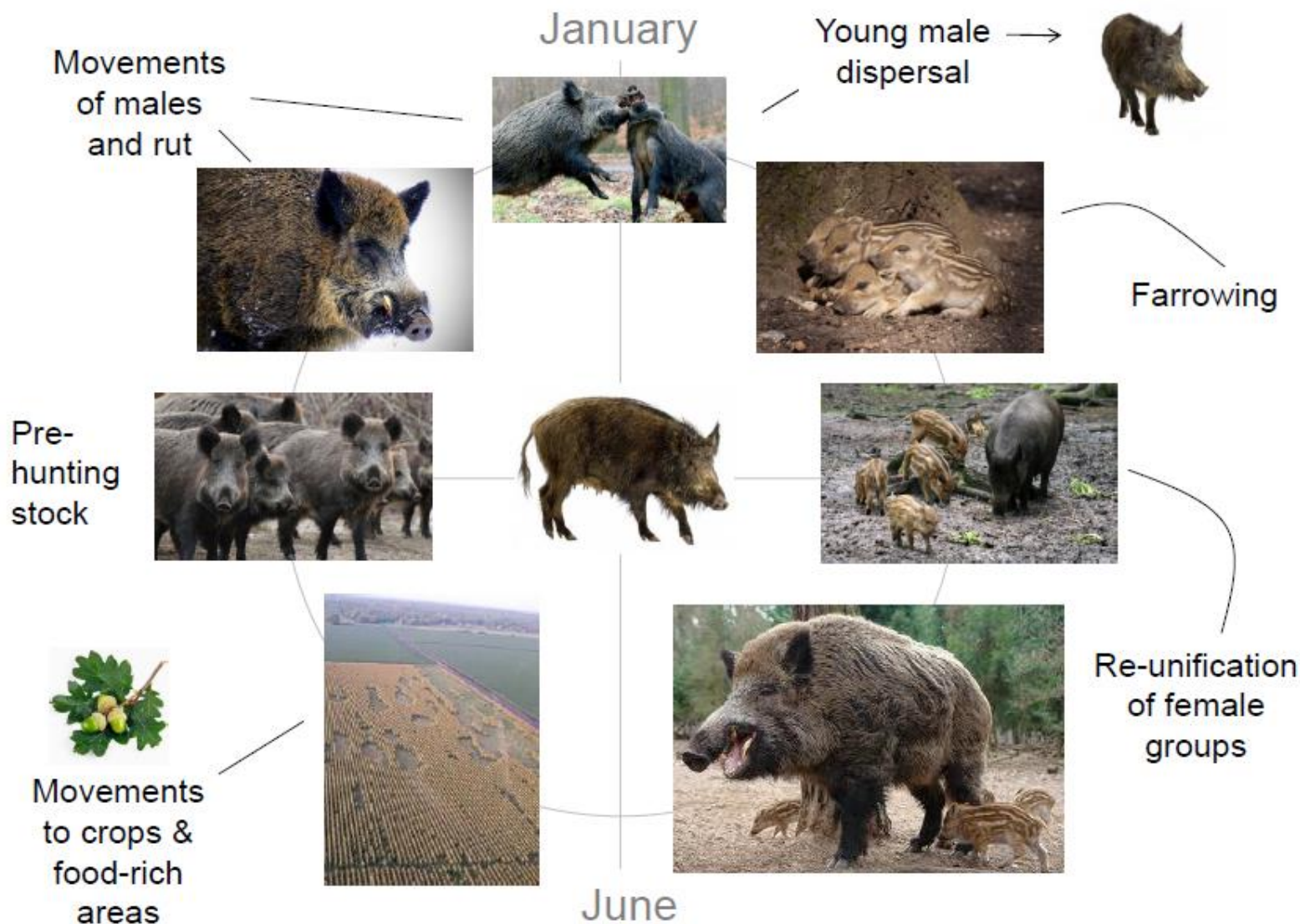
Keith Sumption, Sergei Khomenko,  
Dimitar Stefanov &  
Tsviatko Alexandrov



Practical Training of  
Wildlife Surveillance,  
*Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria,*  
*22-25 Feb 2016*



## Use local expertise on expected local movements





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# Telemetry project



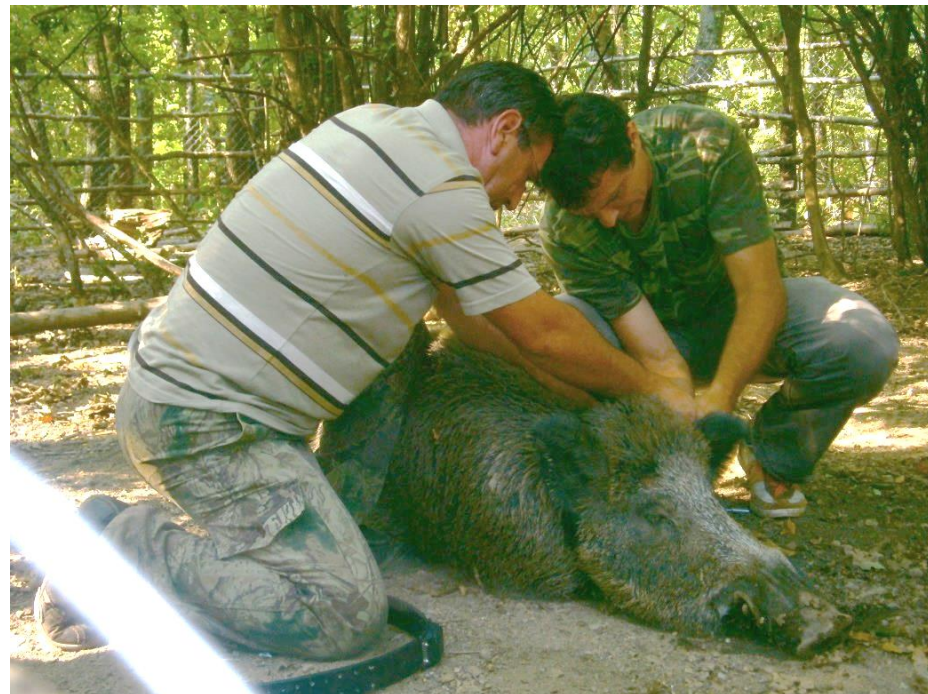
- 20 GPS/GSM Tellus collars (1 year – 24 fixes a day);
- 19 animals collared, 16 collars used (6 reused), 4 were destroyed / failed, 1 lost;
- Sex, age, and seasonal variation in home ranges;
- Individual movements and group interactions in a small population (70 animals) to simulate disease spread.

● Strandzha – 4 (2)

● Tutrakan – 15 (7)

<http://www.followit.se/wildliferesearch.html>













ВІСЬКО  
НАПРЄЖЕННЯ  
ОПАСНО ЗА ЖИВОТА











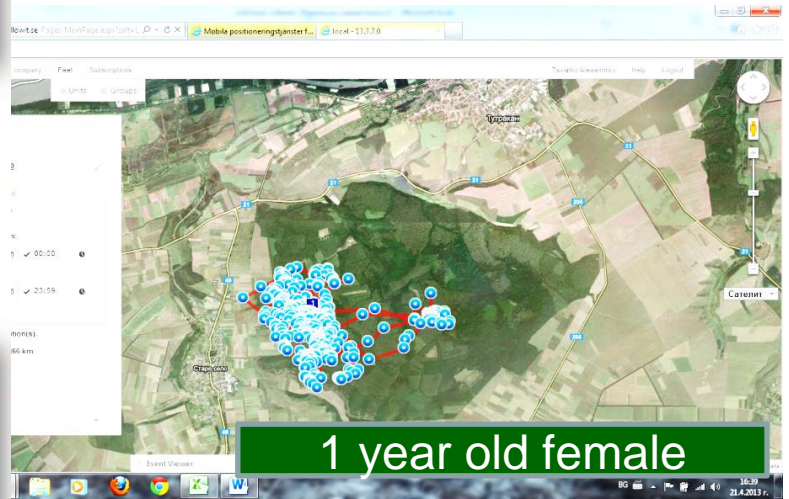
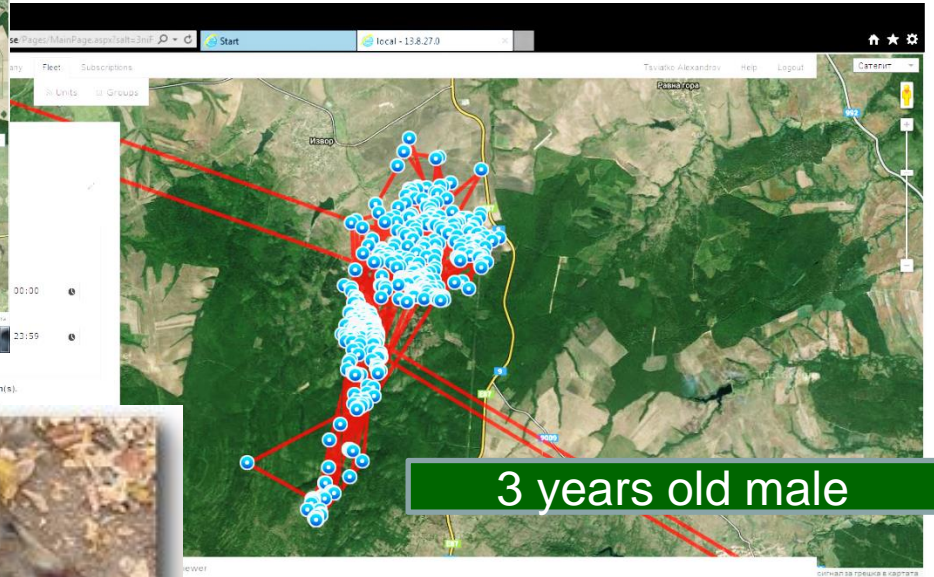
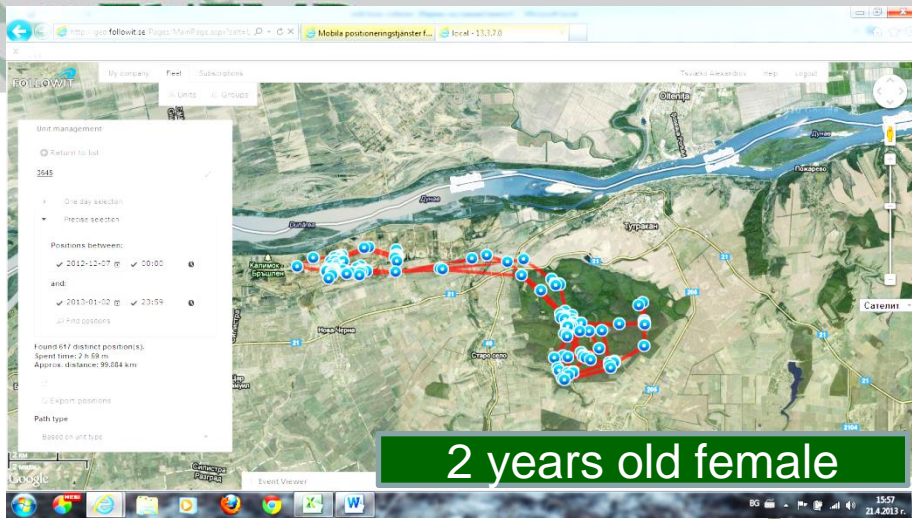




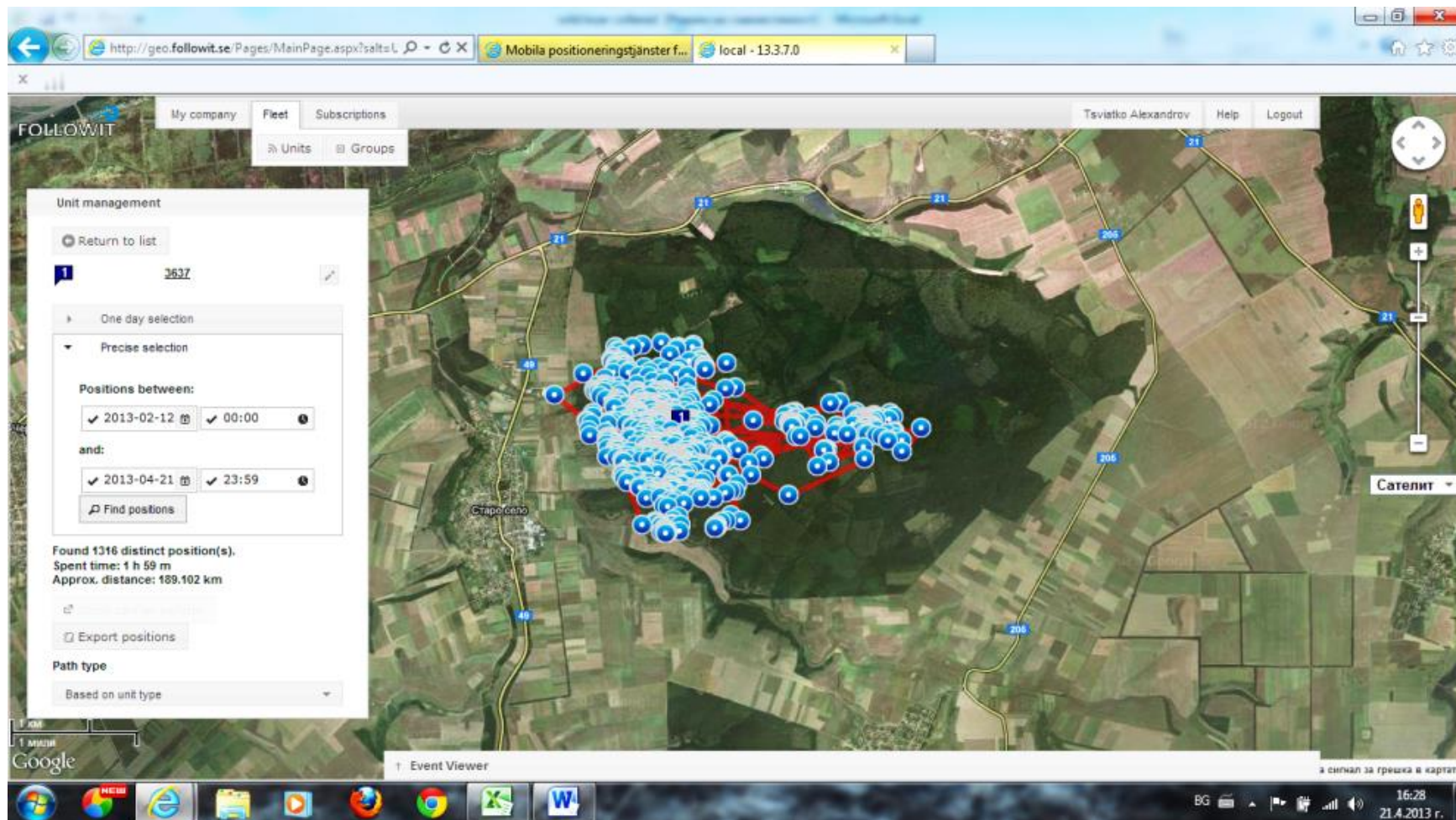


## Wild boar tracked in Bulgaria for the period 31.06.2012 – 31.12.2013

WB	Collar ID	Date of collaring	sex	Age/ years	Region	Positions, n	Home range, km <sup>2</sup>
1	3626	31.06. 2012	f	2	Strandzha	No info	NA
2	3631	27.09.2012	m	2	Strandzha	1188	24
3	3632	7.10.2012	f	2	Tutrakan	70	NA
4	3642	21.10.2012	m	4	Tutrakan	1616	6
5	3628	28.10.2012	f	2	Tutrakan	No info	NA
6	3641	03.11.2012	m	1	Tutrakan	2260	9
7	3643	03.11.2012	m	1	Tutrakan	105	NA
8	3628	04.11.2012	m	1	Tutrakan	921	20
9	3629	07.11.2012	m	2	Strandzha	8400	> 40
10	3645	07.12.2012	m	2	Tutrakan	653	30
11	3643	07.12.2012	m	2	Tutrakan	272	30
12	3633	19.12.2012	f	3	Strandzha	3707	8
13	3644	02.01.2013	m	4	Tutrakan	2299	37
14	3632	02.01.2013	f	1	Tutrakan	3673	9
15	3637	12.02.2013	f	4	Tutrakan	2149	7
16	3636	13.02.2013	f	5	Tutrakan	1668	22
17	3638	14.03.2013	f	5	Tutrakan	495	5
18	3630	14.03.2013	m	1	Tutrakan	941	7
19	3640	14.03.2013	f	7	Tutrakan	No info	NA







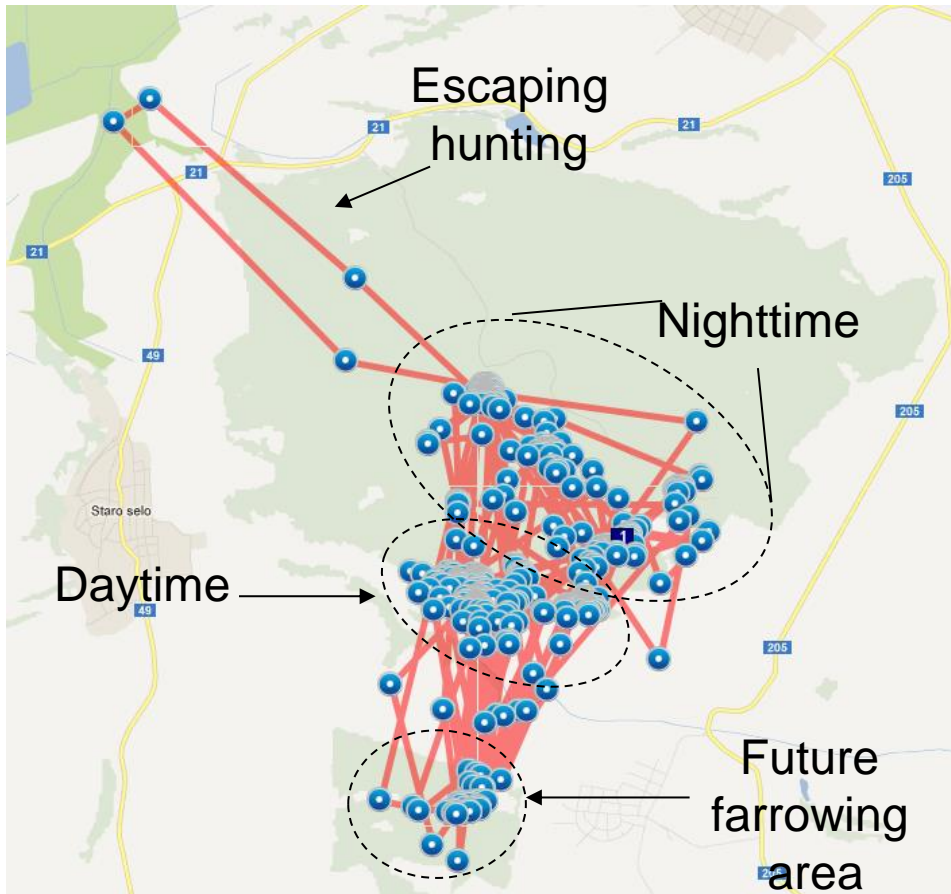
4 years old female

Tracked for 87 дdays: 12.02.2013 – 10.05.2013 г.

Positons received: 2149

Home range: 7 km<sup>2</sup>

natural territoriality and anticipated local movements.  
Avoid dispersion peace time or crisis.



- WB normally very small home ranges (4 - 20 km<sup>2</sup>);
- Very boring schedules 😊
- Disrupted by only food availability or disturbance

1 hour resolution movements of a tracked wild boar saw in Bulgaria



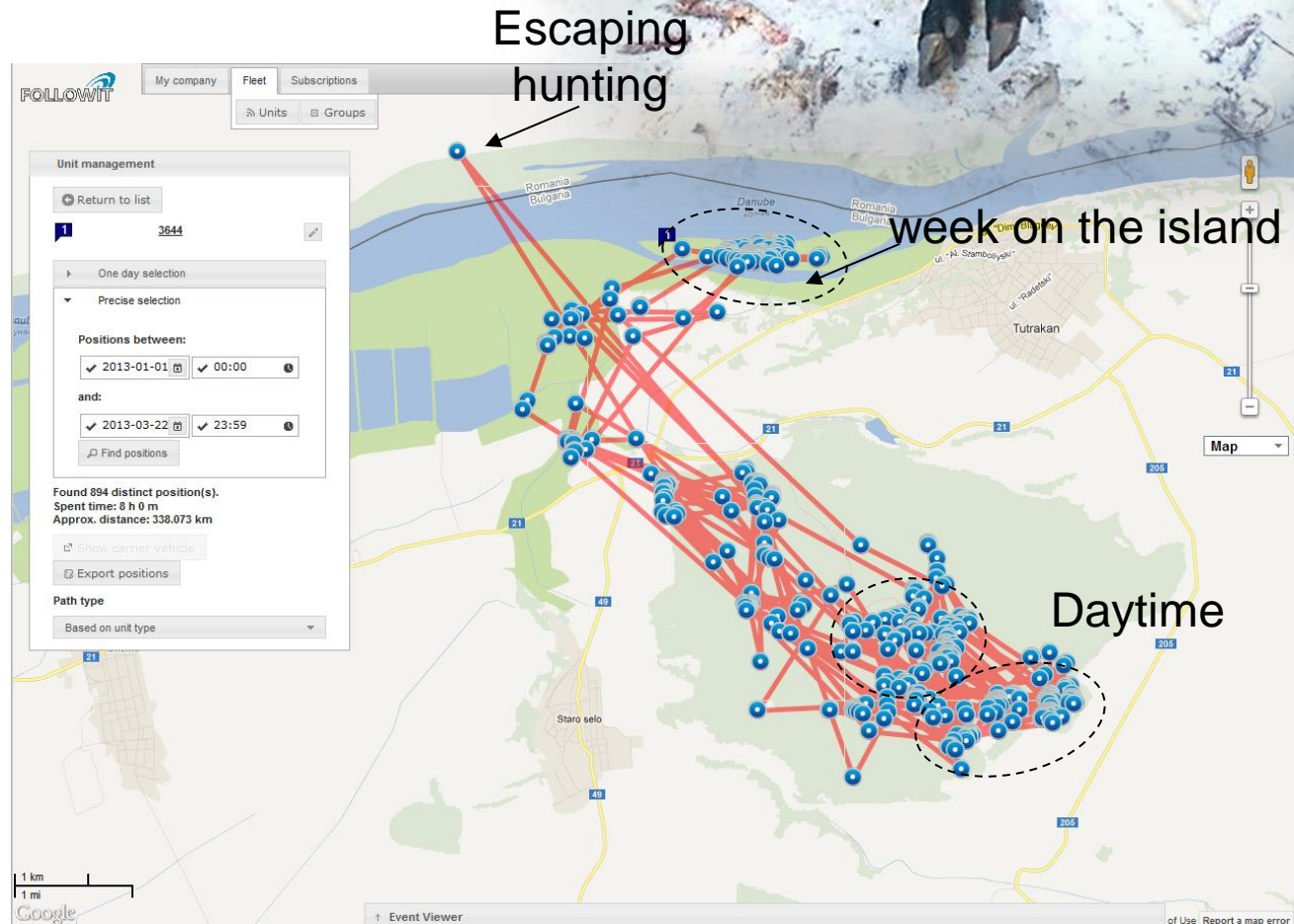


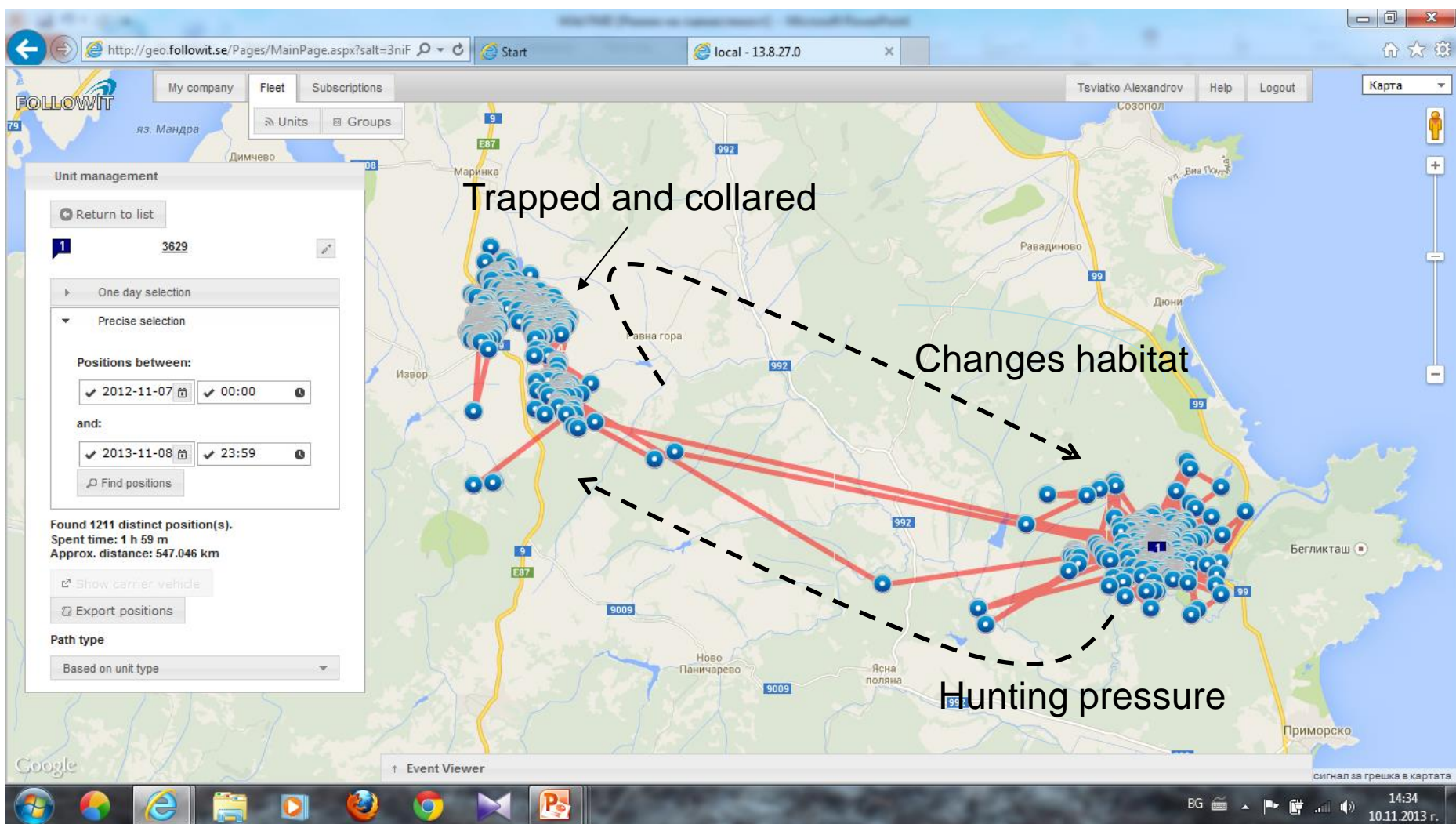
## Tracking: year round study

*Valuable insights on potential spillovers –  
but very hard to use in a crisis*

4-year male, 1  
Jan - 22  
March – 894  
positions – a  
total of 338 km

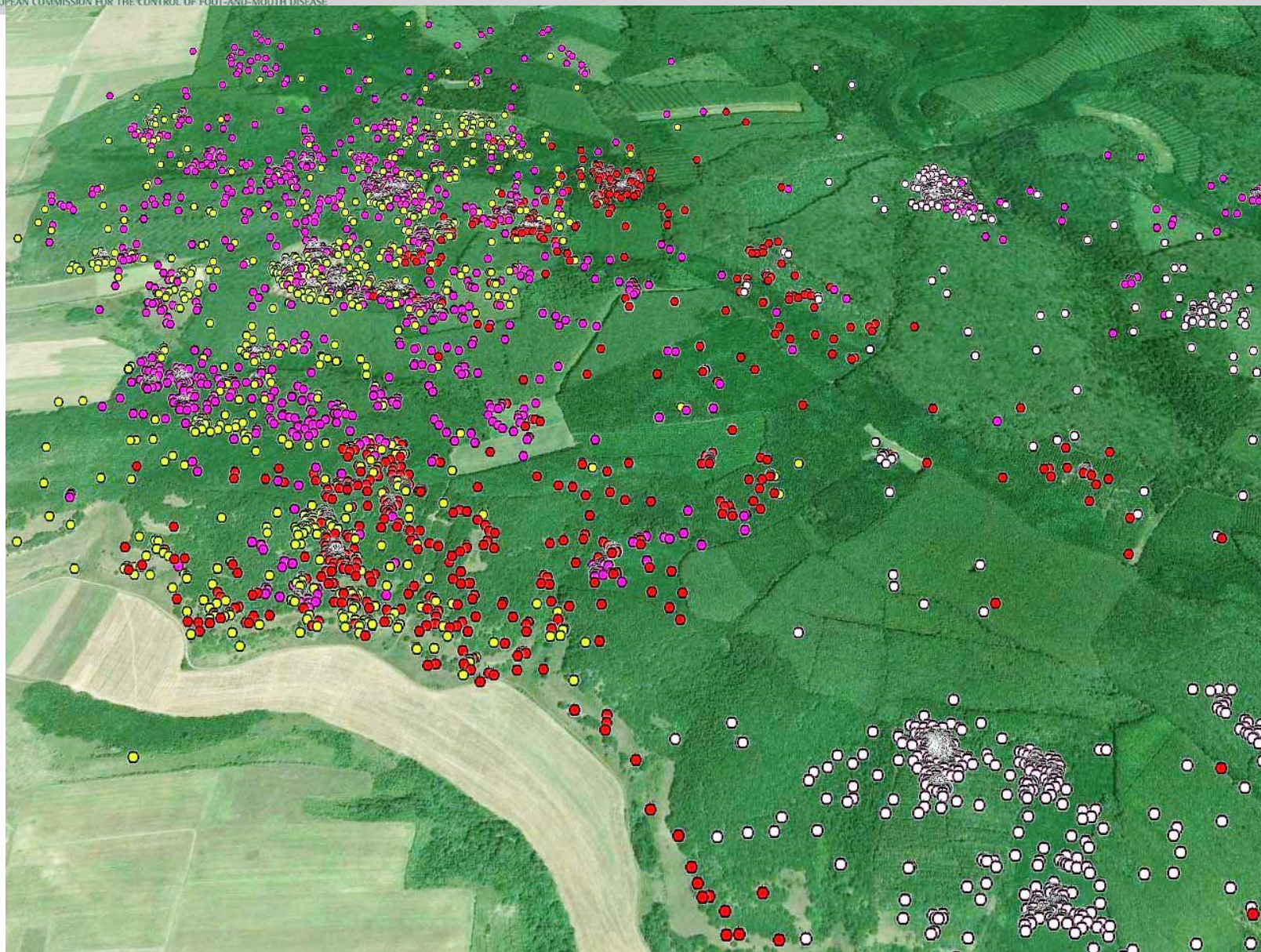
Crossed  
Danube into  
Romania one  
occasion





Two years old male in Strandzha – 7 Nov 2012 – 8 Nov 2013





4 different groups of wild boar overlapping.....



# Telemetry study in wild boar and East-Balkan pigs in Bulgaria

## Collars on 6 wild boar and 9 East-Balkan pigs

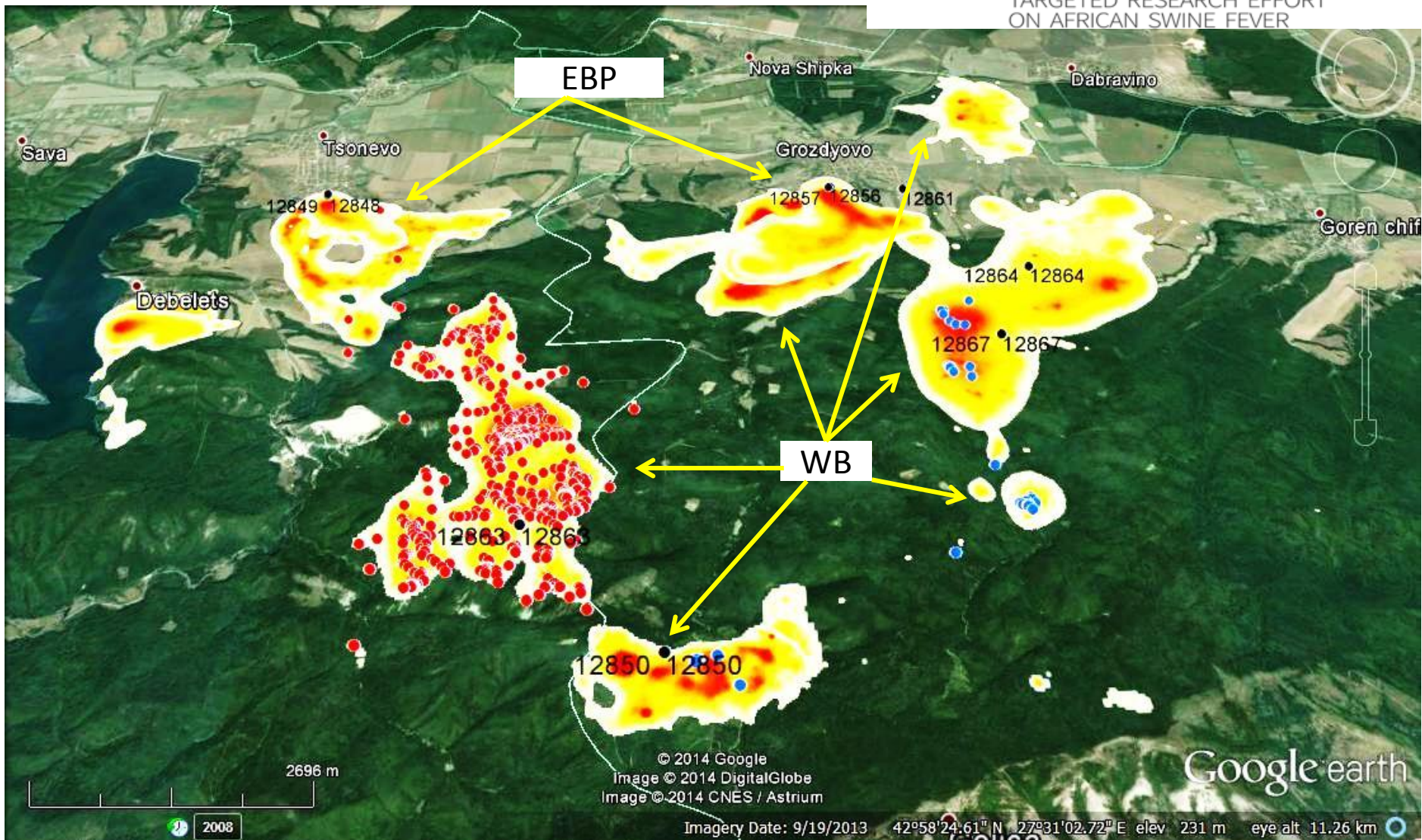


Location	ID	Species	Date_capture	IDCOL	Trap_num	Sex	Estim_Age_Months
Bulgaria	1	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:05	12848	Tsonevo	female	36
Bulgaria	2	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:00	12849	Tsonevo	female	48
Bulgaria	3	Wild boar	15.5.14 12:00	12850	2	female	48
Bulgaria	4	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:30	12851	Tsonevo	female	48
Bulgaria	5	East-Balkan pig	7.3.14 12:00	12853	Tsonevo	female	36
Bulgaria	6	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:10	12854	Tsonevo	female	48
Bulgaria	7	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 9:00	12856	Grozdjovo	female	48
Bulgaria	8	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 9:05	12857	Grozdyovo	female	36
Bulgaria	9	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:20	12858	Tsonevo	female	48
Bulgaria	12	Wild_boar	23.4.14 18:00	12861	5	female	48
Bulgaria	14	Wild_boar	4.10.13 17:00	12863	6	male	40
Bulgaria	15	Wild_boar	18.2.14 15:00	12864	2	male	48
Bulgaria	16	Wild_boar	5.3.14 17:10	12865	2	male	36
Bulgaria	17	East-Balkan pig	6.3.14 10:50	12866	Tsonevo	female	36
Bulgaria	18	wild boar	7.3.14 13:00	12867	3	female	48

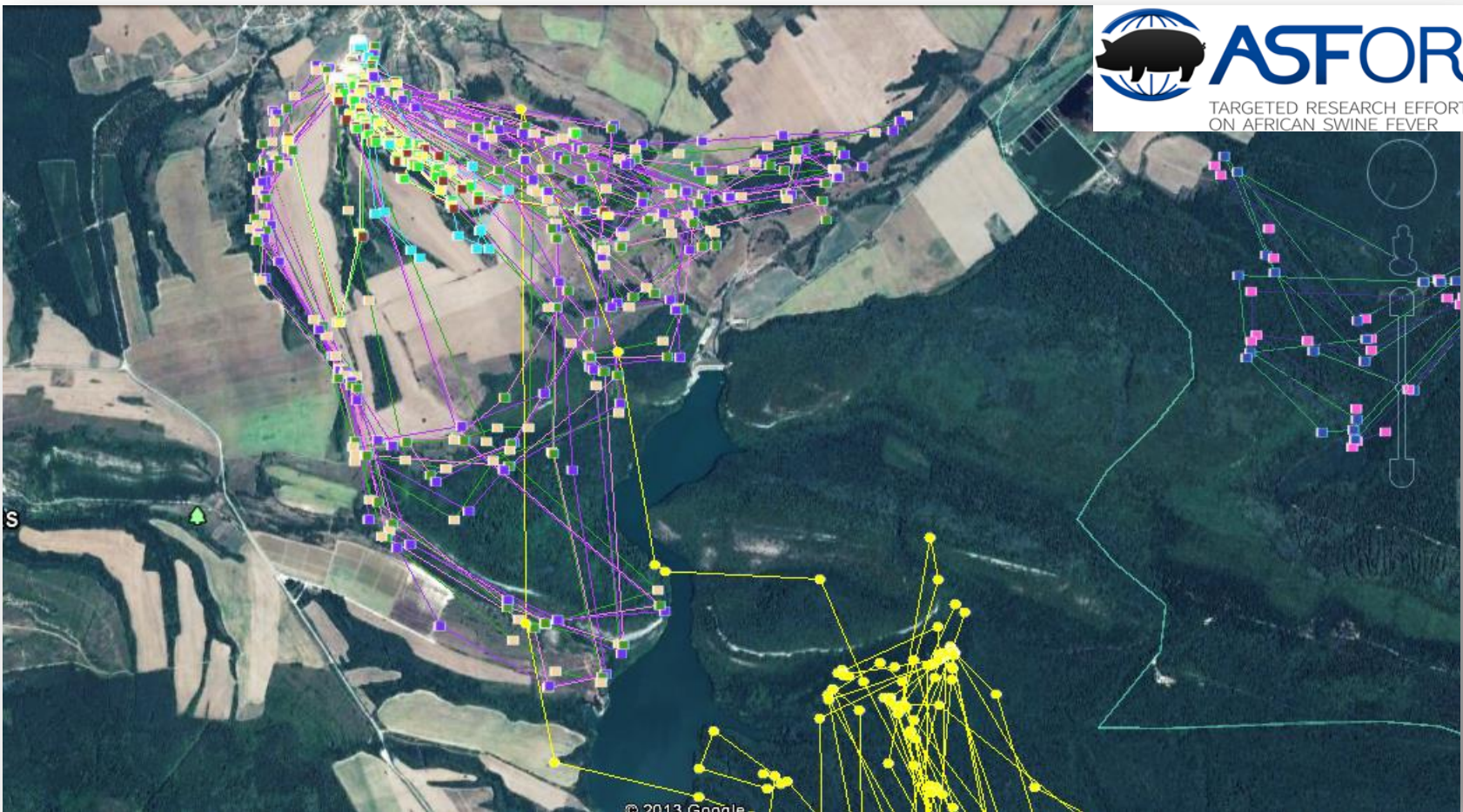










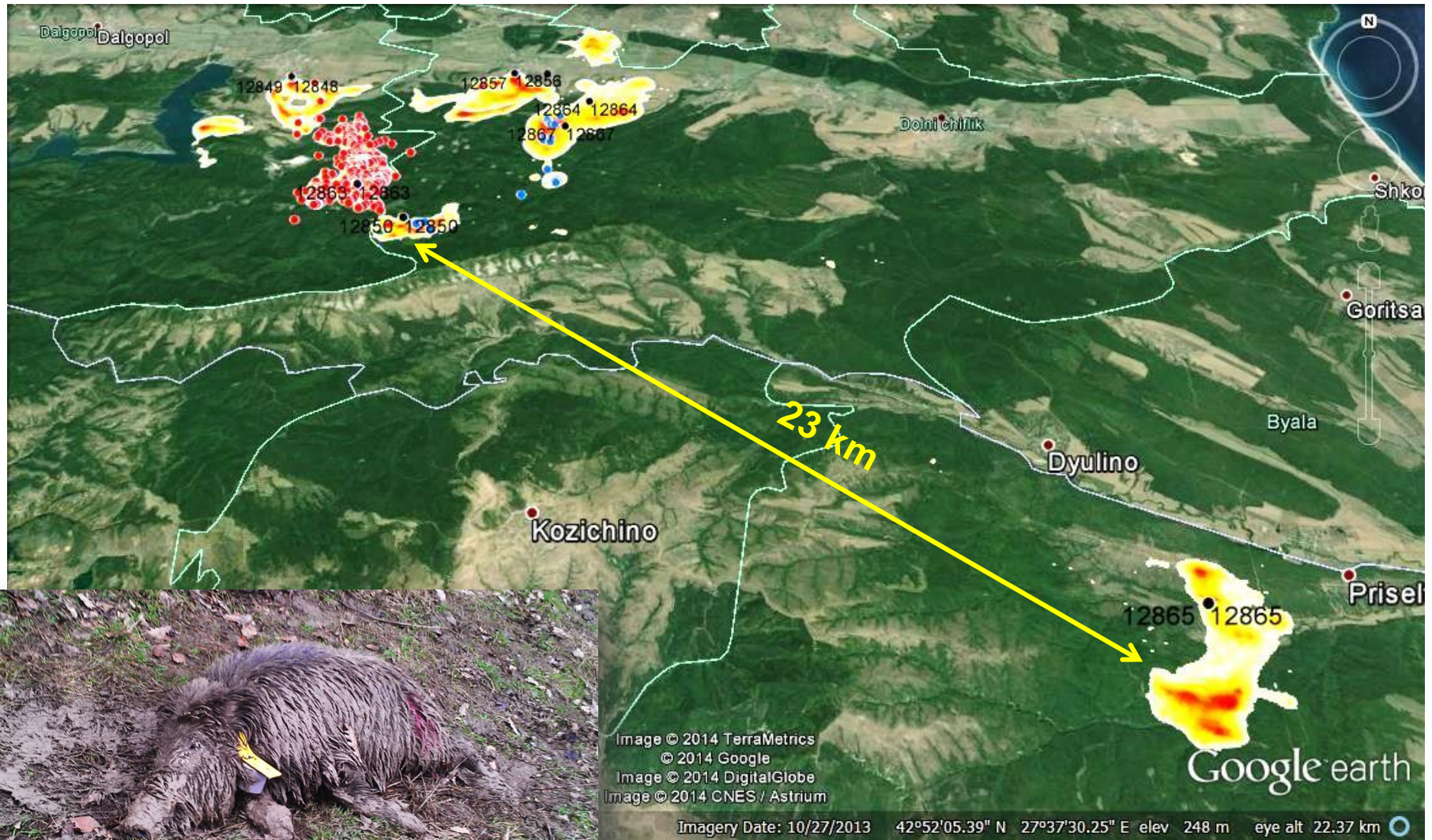


Domestic pigs – wild boar  
interactions

Hybrid



# How far can wild boar go?







Thanks to all!





## Options for non-invasive collection of saliva from wild ungulates for disease surveillance

Keith Sumption, Sergei Khomenko,  
Vesna Milicevic & Tsviatko Alexandrov

Practical Training of  
Wildlife Surveillance,  
*Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria,*  
*22-25 Feb 2016*





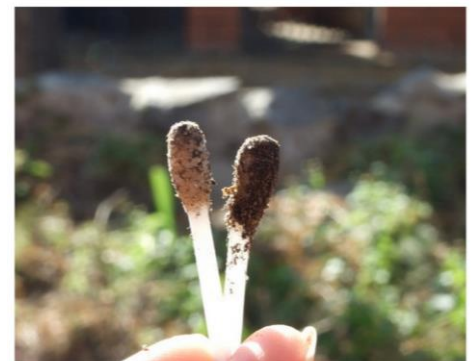
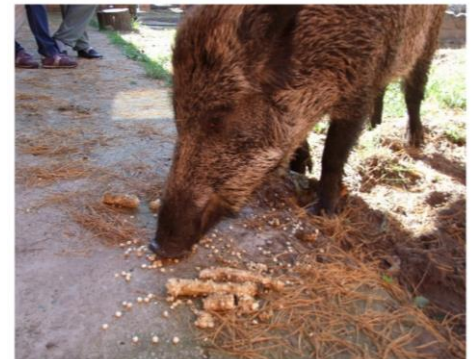


- Due to advances in diagnostic methods pathogens can be detected in oral fluids;
- Tested on farmed pigs (ropes) and wild boar (Chichikin et al, 2012);
- Saliva can be collected without catching or killing of animals (primate studies etc.).



Chichikin et al, 2012

1. Early pathogen detection rather than prevalence study;
2. Repeated frequent sampling possible;
3. Applicable where/when hunting is not possible/eligible;
4. Easy to incorporate into existing wildlife management practices;
5. Multi-species coverage (ruminants);
6. Cost effective and logistically simple.



# Experimental infection

Clinical signs: contact and donor 5 DPI and 4 DPE



Wild boar: contact



Wild boar: contact

- Clinical signs on the 4 DPI (domestic 2 DPI) – e.g. incubation 4 days;
- Most severe and evident lesions – 7 DPI;
- Viraemia: 1 DPI through at least 9 DPI;
- NSP antibodies detected 7-8 DPI;
- RNA in saliva normally found up to 14 DPI and up to DPI 24 DPI intermittently.

**CREDITS:** A. Breithaupt, K. Depner, B. Haas, M. Beer (FLI – Federal Research Institute for Animal Health Institute of Diagnostic Virology)





10 individuals



A salt lick >

< < Wild boar  
feeding sites

A red deer  
feeding site



26 individuals



17 individuals







## Site attendance, species and population coverage

- Wild boar + red deer - 65 % attendance rate (7 feeding & 3 salt lick sites);
- Roe deer – 30 % attendance (3 salt licks);
- At attended sites most baits were taken;
- 15 % of wild boar and 15 % of red deer population (70 and 220 respectively) were sampled in 4 days (some even repeatedly).



## Bait designs tested



1



2



3



4



5



6

1. Maize cobs with 6 swabs (5)

2. CSF vaccine bait with swabs inside (3)

3. CSF vaccine bait inside plastic tubes wrapped in cotton rope (1)

4. CSF vaccine bait wrapped in cotton material (2)

5-6. Swabs drilled into a block of salt





# Bait performance

Saliva contaminated swabs



Bait types	Exposed, bait/nights	Bait uptake		Bait uptake by target species		Baits recovered with swabs	
		n	%	n	%	n	%
1. Maize cobs	125	62	<b>49.6</b>	56	<b>44.8</b>	47	<b>37.6</b>
2. Vaccine bait	77	52	<b>67.5</b>	25	<b>32.5</b>	16	<b>20.8</b>
3. Salt licks	8	1	<b>12.5</b>	1	<b>12.5</b>	1	<b>12.5</b>
Total	210	115	<b>55</b>	82	<b>39</b>	64	<b>31</b>





- More of the DNA positives are for wild boar (57.6%),
- 35.7% of the DNA tests for red deer are positive, 100% DNA recovery from salt licks,
- Salt licks work well for wild ruminants while vaccine baits and maize cobs for wild boar.

## PCR tests of swabs in maize cobs, consumed by domestic pigs (Experiment performed in Nepal by Vesna Milicevic)

1	PAN 1	7 DAYS SICK, 5 PIGS, ALL ILL, AgELISA pos	POS
2		SALIVA FROM PIGLET WITH LESIONS, AgELISA pos	POS
3	PAN 2	5 DAYS OLD LESIONS, 1 SOW, 40°C	NEG
4	PAN 3	20 DAYS OLD LESIONS, NSP POSITIVE, 1 SOW	POS
5	PAN 4	5 DAYS OLD LESIONS, 7 PIGS	POS
6			POS
7	PAN 5	2 DAYS OLD LESIONS, 1 PIG, SWABS ROLLING ON THE FLOOR, AgELISA pos	POS
8	PAN 6	YOUNG SOW, NO SYMPTOMS	NEG
9	PAN 7	HEALTHY PIGS	NEG
10			NEG
11	SWAB BABY PIGLET	CSF CONFIRMED	POS







Attendance at feeding sites and salt  
licks documented for half a year  
(Mar – Aug)





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04/07/2013 20:12:02  
10 Sec





04/01/2013 08:11:23  
10 Sec







# EUFMD

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE

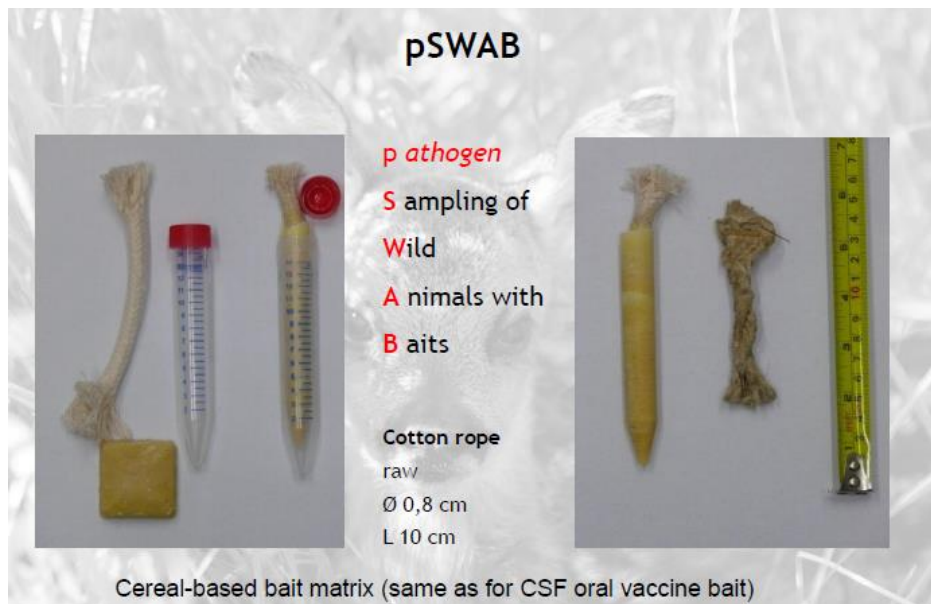




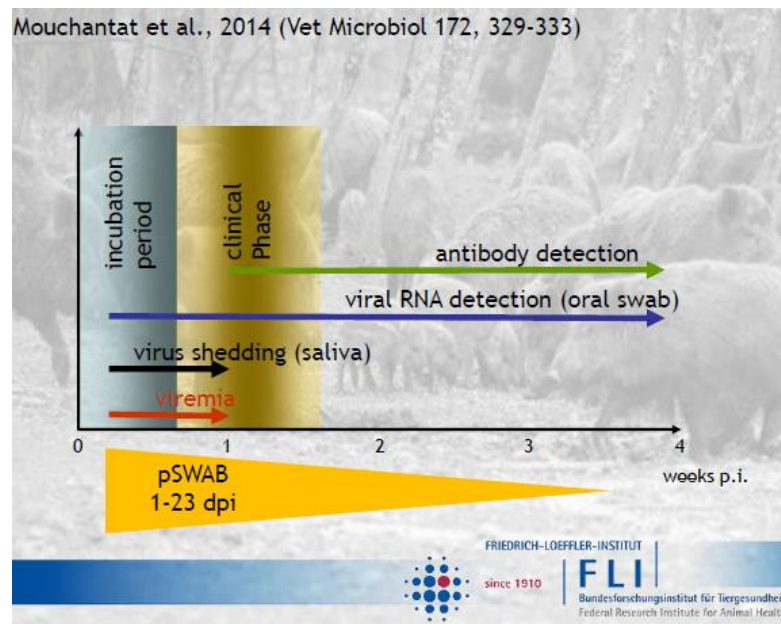


## NI sampling: implications for disease management

- Provides a good solution for wildlife disease surveillance (no killing, inexpensive, easy to use, other diseases e.g. ASF, CSF);
- Early-warning or emergency surveillance in at risk areas in European wild ungulates can be improved and made more flexible;
- There is a potential for commercialization of specifically designed for surveillance baits or salt licks;
- Could be applicable to domestic animals too (extensive farming systems, small ruminants).



Mouchantat et al., 2014 (Vet Microbiol 172, 329-333)



## Non-invasive sampling for FMD – method optimisation

- ✓ Optimised tests for virus (PCR)
- ✓ Comparison of bait (pSWAB) and Q-Tips in maize cobs
- ✓ Comparable sensitivities
- ✓ Detection of FMDV days 1 to 9 (experimental infection pigs)
- ✓ Promising stability (for field use)

***Studies commissioned by EuFMD at FLI, Insel Riems, 2014:***



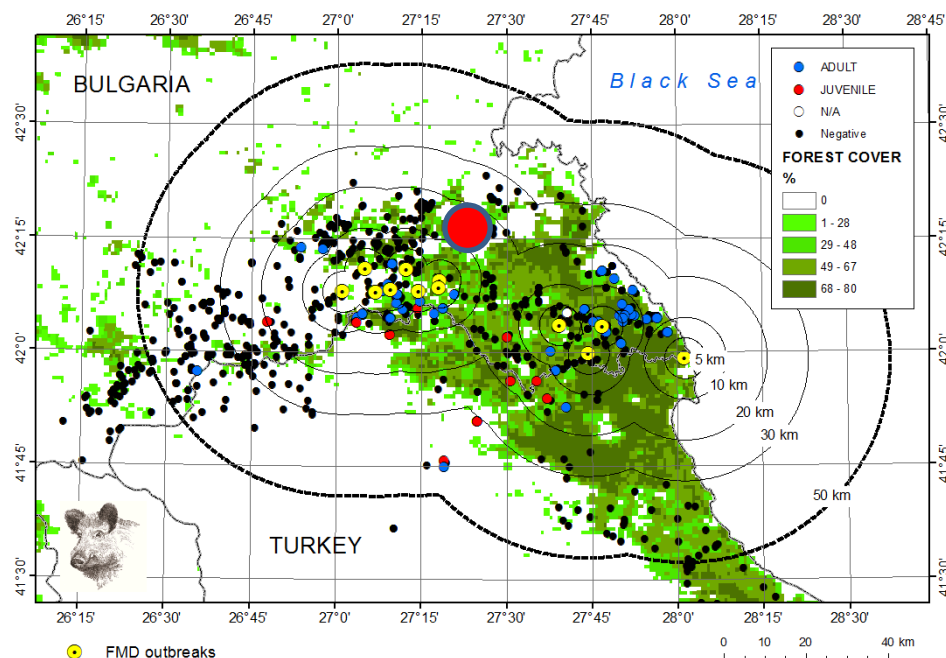


# Putting it together: new options for surveillance and control of FMD epidemics in wildlife

Use risk based, non- invasive methods for DETECTING spread into wildlife

Risk based, where spill over or incursion expected

May require feeding wild boar – prelude to NI sampling in risk locations





Put this into Contingency Plans - use of feeding sites and non-invasive measures if infection detected

## Consider:

- Integrated approach
- Use of feeding programmes to encourage bait use and avoid dispersion
- Use of feeding sites to accelerate natural process of infection and recovery (natural immunity, shorter duration epidemic)
- Risks
- Advantages- active use of options for non-invasive surveillance to monitor impact of controls





Stealth Cam

02-24-2013 20:53:22



And some other species to be sampled?



# When CSF goes wild...

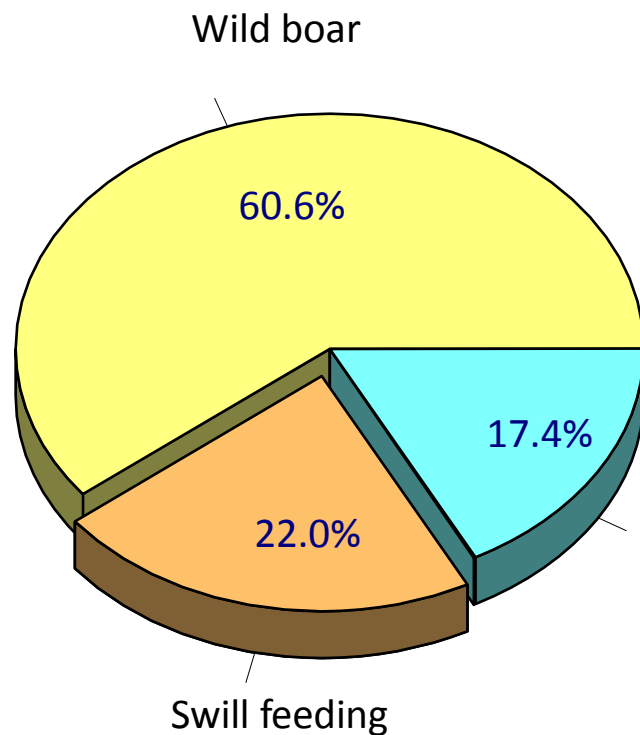
Surveillance/monitoring, control and eradication of  
CSF in wild boar – the EU approach







# CSF in Wild Boar



- Contagious disease of domestic pigs and wild boar
- Causes severe economical losses in domestic pigs
- Source of primary outbreaks (in Germany: 1993-2002, n = 109)



# Epi role of wild boar

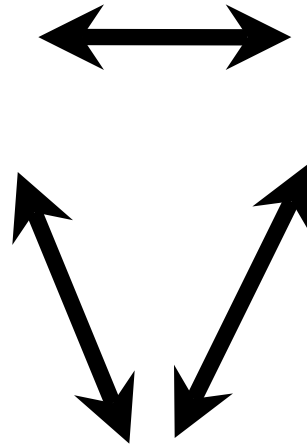
- 🐾 Reservoir of CSFV
- 🐾 Source of infection for domestic pigs
- 🐾 Epidemiological links between domestic pigs and wild boar regularly reported.
- 🐾 For the period 1993 - 1997 80% of 92 primary CSF outbreaks in domestic pigs in Germany were localized in areas enzootic for CSF in wild boar. In 60% of these cases direct and/or indirect contacts with wild boar and/or products thereof were reported (Teuffert et al., 1997; Fritzemeier et al., 2000; Laddomada, 1998).
- 🐾 WB has a strong potential for transboundary spread of CSF





### wildlife biology

- host density
- age structure  
(0-1y; 1-2y; >2y)
- movement activities
- reproductive rate  
(turn over)



### disease biology

- pathogenicity
- incubation period
- morbidity
- mortality
- immunity (*active & maternal*)
- persistent infections

### human activities

- *vaccination*
- *hunting*
- *feeding*

Factors influencing a CSF epidemic in wild boar



## Main aims of controlling CSF in wild boar

- to reduce the risk of virus transmission to domestic pigs
- to prevent the “endemic phase evolution” or
- 
- to reduce the endemic phase duration





## Prevent the disease to enter the domestic pig population

increased biosecurity, standstill, movement ban and surveillance in the domestic pig sector

## Prevent the disease to spread to other territories and wild boar populations

Control on wild boar density, hunting and harvesting



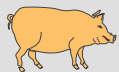
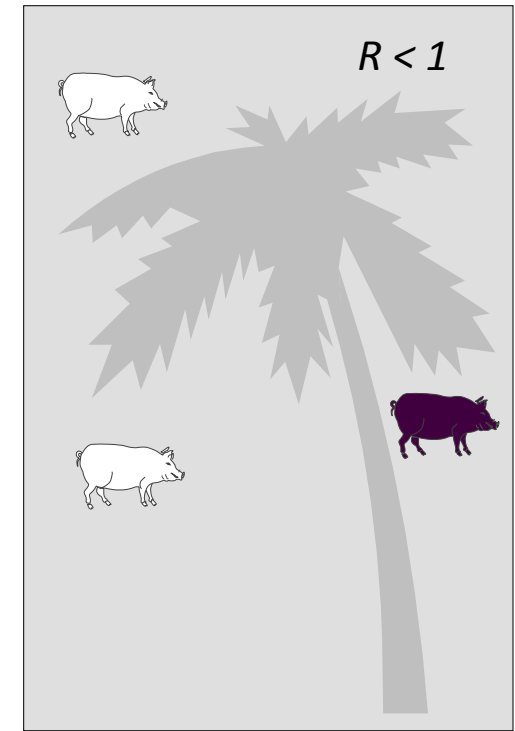
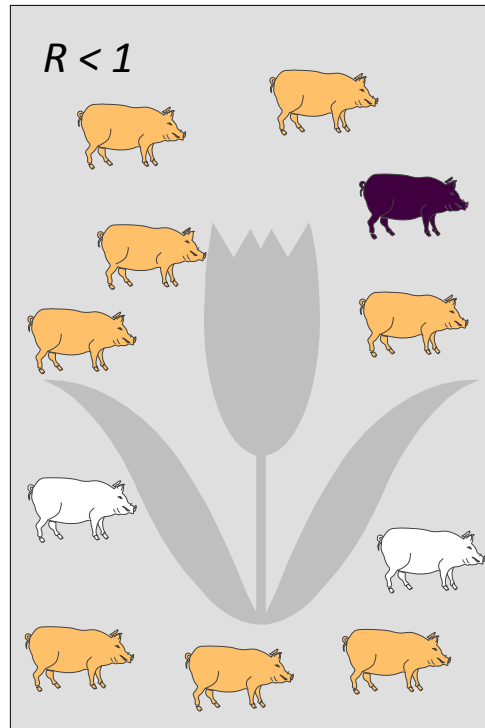
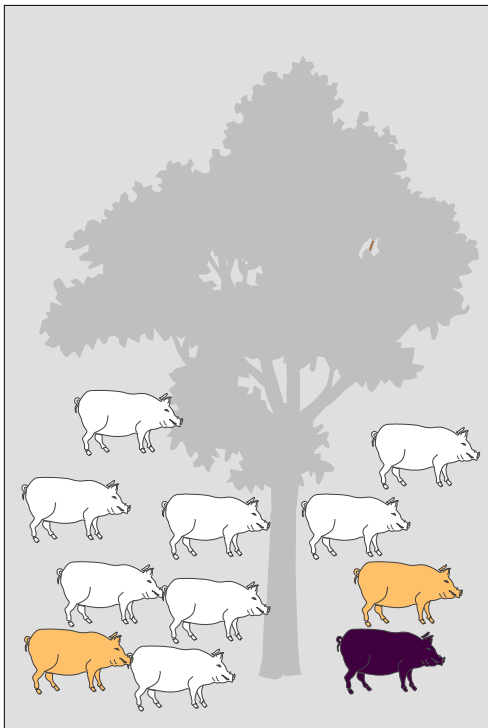
**Infectious rate (R):**

$R > 1$  = CSF is spreading

$R < 1$  = CSF dies out

$R > 1$ , if one animal infects more than one animal

$R > 1$  Aim: Reaching a population density where  $R < 1$



immune

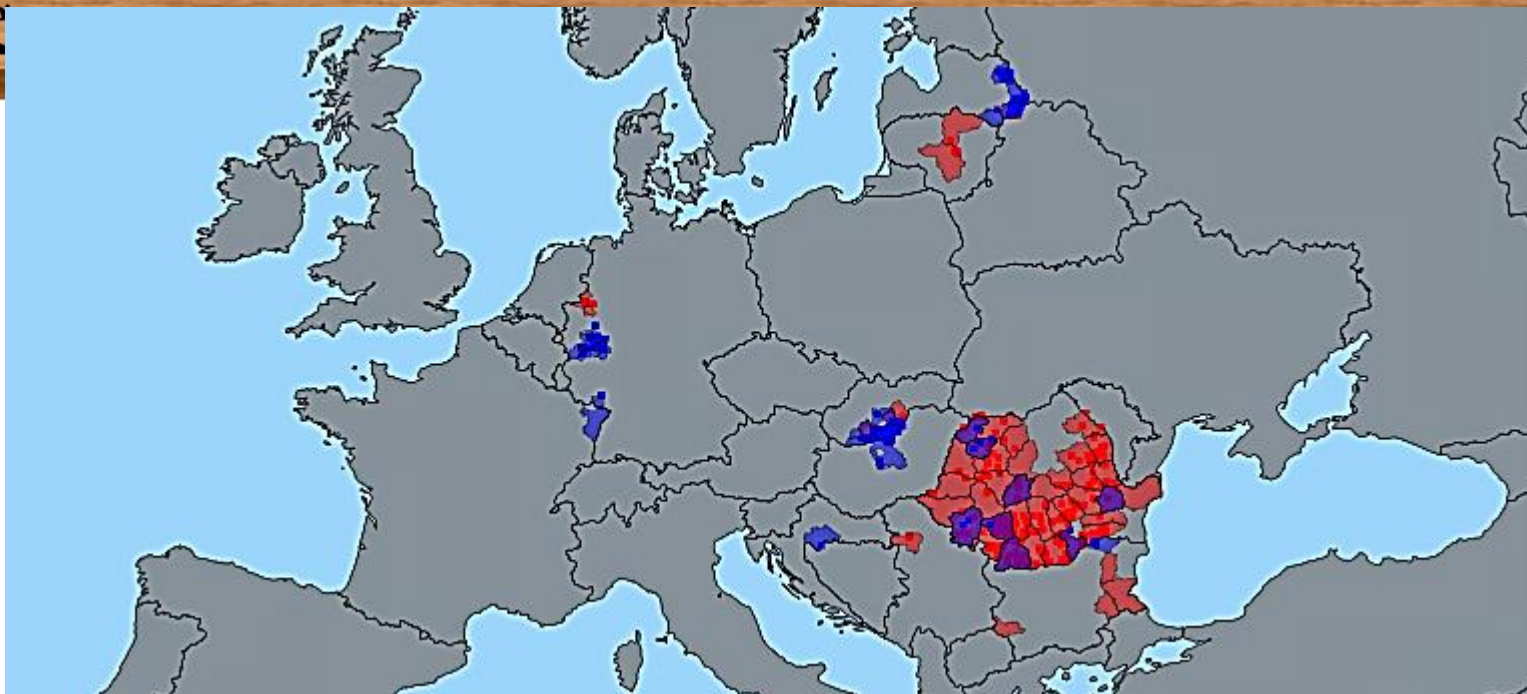


not immune



viraemic animal





ADNS map, CSF in **domestic pigs** and **wild boar**, 2005 - 2014

	CSF present in WB	Vaccination of WB against CSF
2005	Germany, France, Bulgaria, Romania	Germany, France, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia
2006	Germany, France, Romania, Macedonia	Germany, France, Bulgaria,
2007	Romania, Germany, France, Croatia, Macedonia, Hungary	Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovakia, France, Germany
2008	Hungary, Slovakia, Croatia, Russia	Slovakia, Bulgaria
2009	Germany, Russia, Croatia, Hungary, Bulgaria	Germany, Bulgaria
2010	Russia, Hungary	Bulgaria
2012	Latvia	Bulgaria



# Instructions available

- 🕒 EU legislation, Council Directive 2001/89/EC
- 🕒 the EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on the control and eradication of Classic Swine Fever in wild boar. The EFSA Journal (2009) 932 1-18.
- 🕒 Guidelines on surveillance/monitoring, control and eradication of classical swine fever in wild boar European Commission, 2010 Document SANCO/7032/2010
- 🕒 EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on African swine fever. The EFSA Journal 2010: 8(3): 1556.
- 🕒 Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings. SANCO/7138/2013 (Rev 4)





## Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on the control and eradication of Classic Swine Fever in wild boar.

### The EFSA Journal (2009) 932 1-18.

- ❶ The aim of control measures in wild boar is to reduce the risk of transmission of CSFV to domestic pig, to prevent the “endemic phase evolution” or to reduce the endemic phase duration
- ❷ The main purpose of vaccination of wild boars is to limit the risk to transmit CSF virus to domestic pigs.
- ❸ The source of infection of CSF in wild boar is difficult to be determined. Therefore, the investigation and prevention of these outbreaks is very difficult to achieve
- ❹ The disease will fade out in small populations (between 1000 and 1500)
- ❺ The persistence of CSF depends on epidemiological and ecological factors such as the proportion of individuals that recover from infection, the occurrence of chronic infections, the social structure and dimension of the population. In particular CSF may persist several years among areas comprising more than 2000 shot wild boars.
- ❻ Wild boar cannot be managed as domestic pigs, i.e. using an exhaustive culling or vaccination strategy, because individual handling is impossible and because wild boar populations are highly dynamic (i.e. producing new susceptible animals). Alternatively hunting and vaccination can be used in order to stop transmission by reducing the number of susceptibles.



# General provisions in cases of CSF suspicion or confirmation in wild boar

- 🕒 Hunting, YES or NO;
- 🕒 Ban for movements of pigs and products thereof;
- 🕒 Ban on pig markets;
- 🕒 Standstill;
- 🕒 Raised awareness and bio-security;
- 🕒 Expert group including veterinarians, hunters, wildlife experts and epidemiologists to assist the competent authority in studying the epidemiological situation, defining the infected area and to implement eradication plan;
- 🕒 Hunting management and veterinary control have to be prepared to cooperate closely for mutual benefit;
- 🕒 Oral vaccination of wild boar.





# Hunting

Normal hunting (reaching 45% of the population) does not produce significant changes in virus persistence or spread;

A small increase in hunting rates (<60 %) can promote virus persistence and spread;

Very high, impractical hunting rates > 70-80 % would reduce virus spread significantly, but leads to local extinction of wild boar.

---

EFSA Scientific Opinion: *Control and eradication of CSF in wild boar*  
*The EFSA Journal* (2009) 932, 1-18



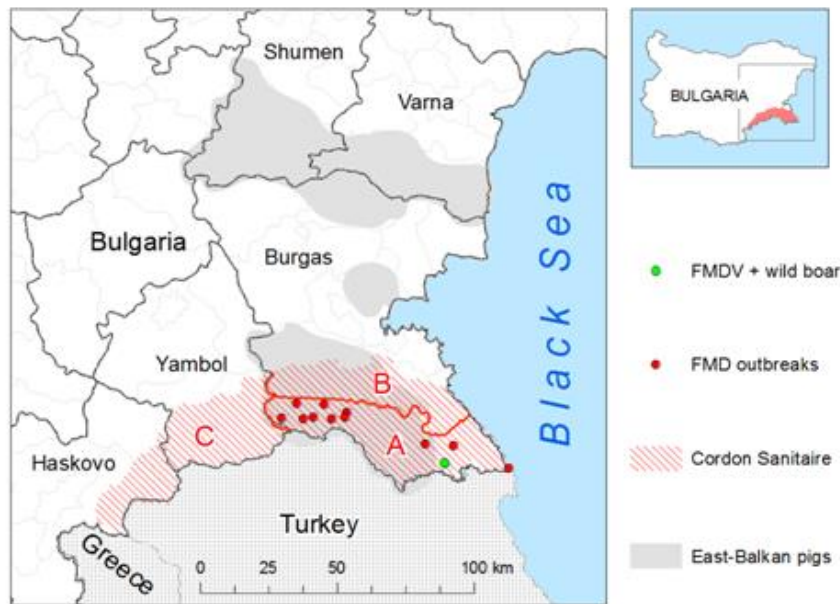
# General provisions in cases of CSF confirmation in wild boar

- 🕒 **A written plan** submitted to the Commission within **90 days of the confirmation of the primary case** of the measures taken to eradicate the disease in the area defined as infected, which should also include the surveillance and prevention measures to be applied in that area and in the holdings of the same area.
- 🕒 The plan should include the disease monitoring programme to be enforced after a period of at least 12 months has elapsed since the date of the last confirmed case.





# How to plan the CSF surveillance and control program in wild boar?



Map. Example from the FMD incursion in Bulgaria in 2011 and the plan for the control of the disease in wildlife; A – infected area; B&C – risk areas;

- 🦡 Identify the infected and potential risk areas
- 🦡 Estimate the wild boar population in the infected and risk areas
- 🦡 Identify all hunting grounds
- 🦡 Identify all domestic pig holdings , pigs, animal markets etc.



# Surveillance and control in wild boar

- 🦘 Passive surveillance – mortality in wild boar, testing carcasses for CSFV
- 🦘 Active surveillance: serological and virological monitoring
  - Target 59 heads per area with estimated wild boar population between 200 and 2000 heads to detect 5% prevalence with 95% confidence.
  - The sampling of the wild boar population in each of the zones is planned according to the guidelines in Chapter IV, of Annex to Commission Decision 2002/106/EC i.e. 50% of the tested wild boar should be up to 1 year of age, 35% between 1 and 2 years old and 15% over 2 years.





# What do we need to know?

- 🦔 Location/Geographical coordinates of the wild boar shot/found dead
- 🦔 Age of the wild boar;
  - juveniles < 1 year
  - 1-2 years old
  - > 2 years old
- 🦔 Sex;
- 🦔 Any change in health status before death and lesions found during necropsy;
- 🦔 All hunters involved;
- 🦔 Traceability of meat and all products;
- 🦔 Vaccination: Yes, No



Does age matter?



## Welcome to the Classical Swine Fever in Wild Boar surveillance database



2014-10-22

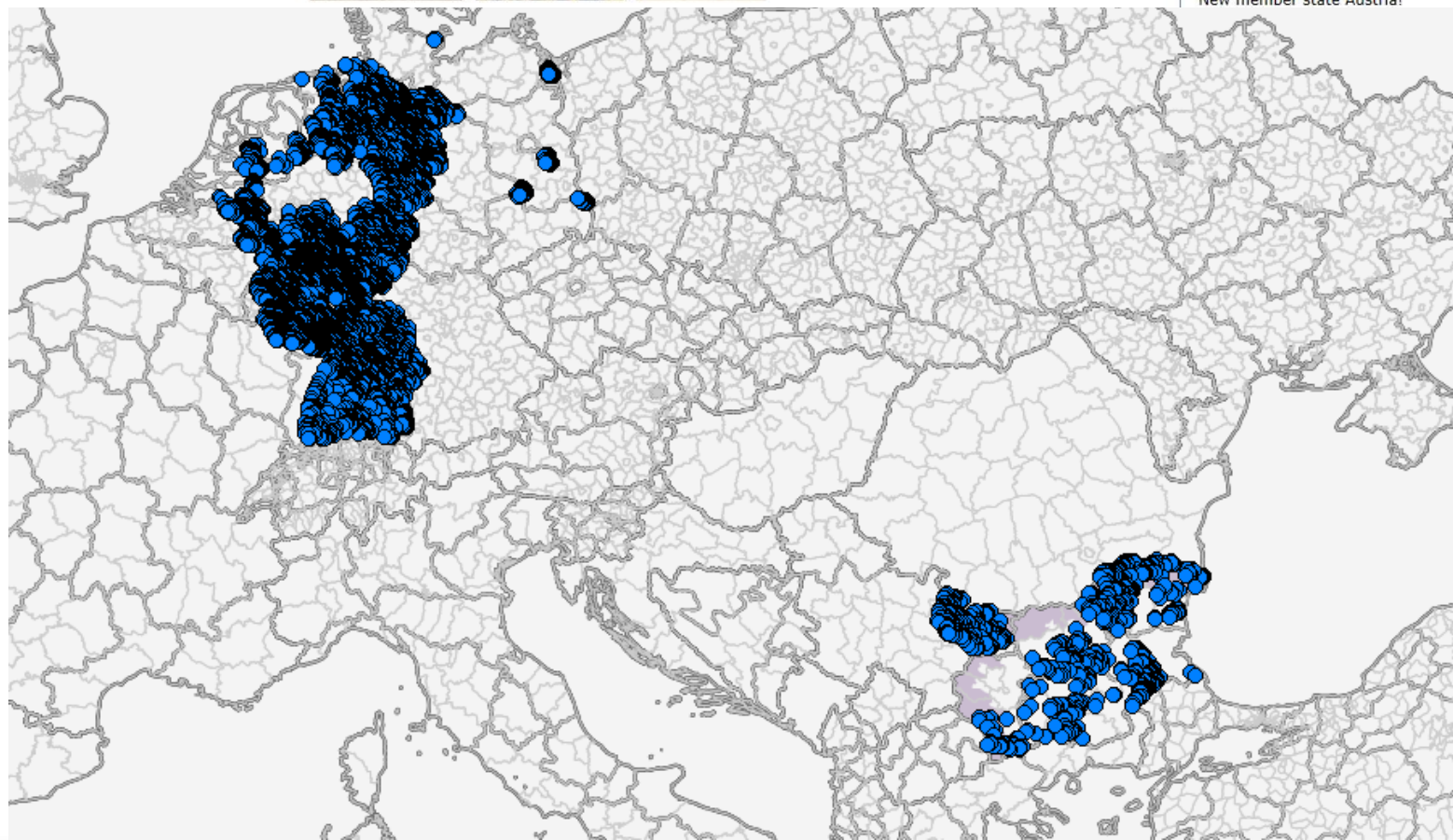
**CSF-wildboar.eu Release  
2.1.0 online**

2014-08-20

NEWSLETTER | development - new  
name - official records - new  
member

2014-08-15

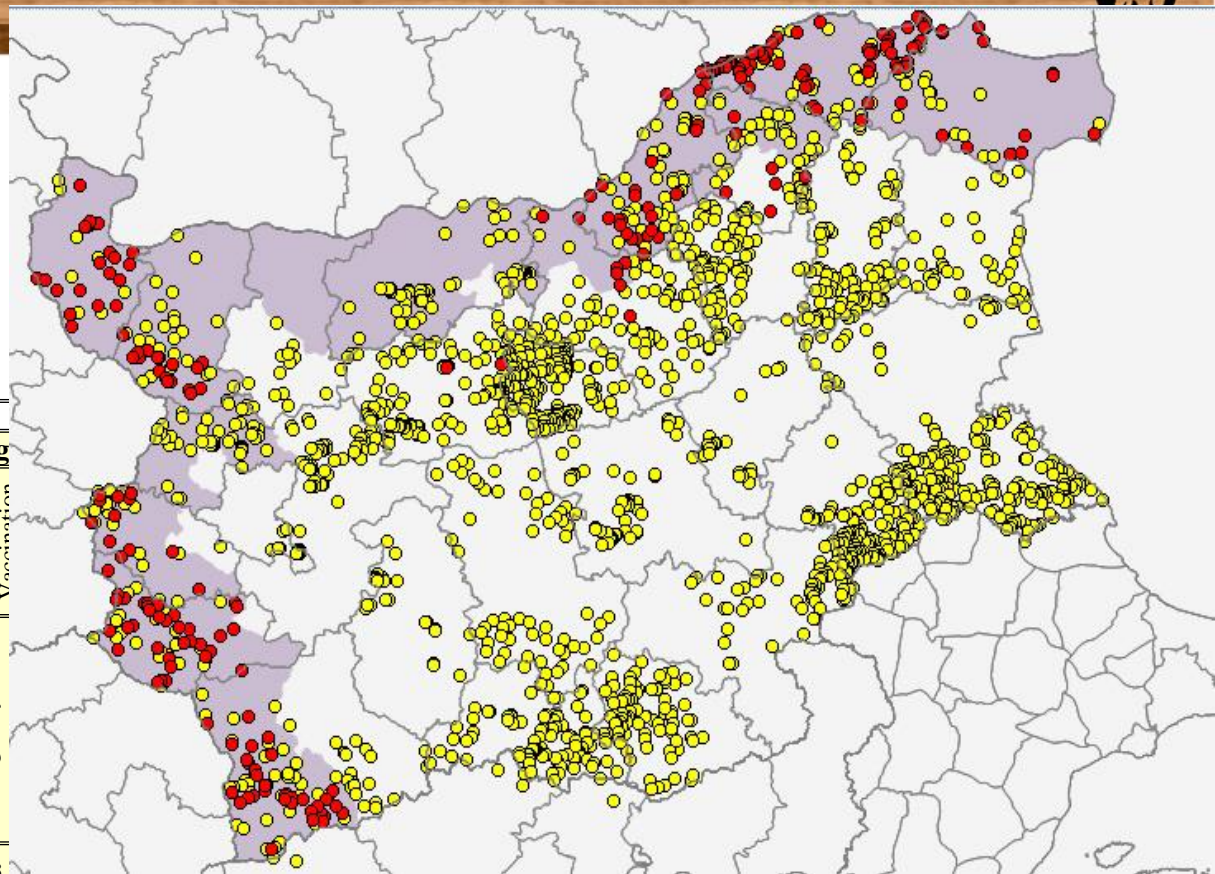
New member state Austria!







# The CSF EU database

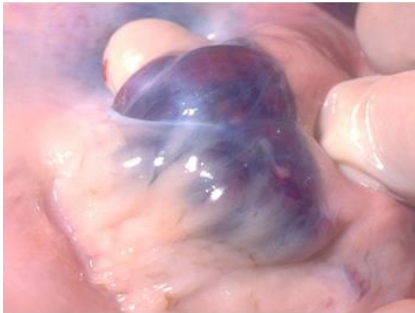


year	2010				2011															
Serolog																				
Age of wild boar in months	Vaccination area		Non-vaccination area		Vaccination area		Non-vaccination area		Vaccination											
	Serologically tested	% seropositive*	Serologically tested	% seropositive*	Serologically tested	% seropositive*	Serologically tested	% seropositive*		Serologically tested										
0 - 12	527	19.9	1567	0.2	331	16	1186	0.08	603	400	12.5	8	0.0	1200	0.0	611	1.0	0		
12 - 24	437	34.6	1182	0.2	401	41	867	0.1	568	37.3	1081	1.1	364	41.8	922	0	578	50,74		
> 24	346	23.4	1144	0.3	418	43	1507	0.53	611	54.3	1805	0.6	402	53.5	1537	0	627	63,31		
Total № of WB tested	1310		3893		1156		3560		1782		4140		1295		3727		1816			
	5203		4716		5922		5022		3829											
Virological surveillance **																				
Total № of WB tested	5020				5759				6315				5243				6506			

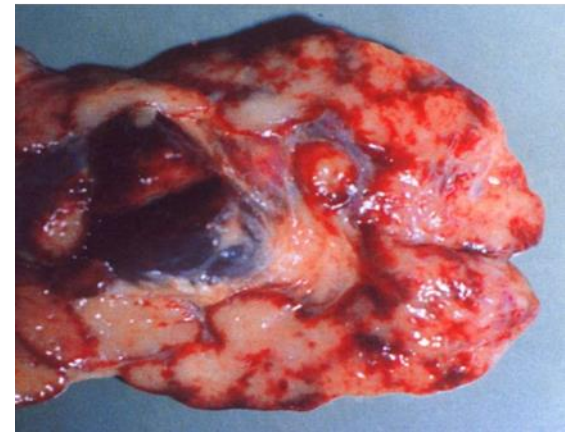


# Can we distinguish CSF from ASF in WB?

ASF



CSF



**NB! Always laboratory diagnosis is needed!**





## What samples to take from wild boar?

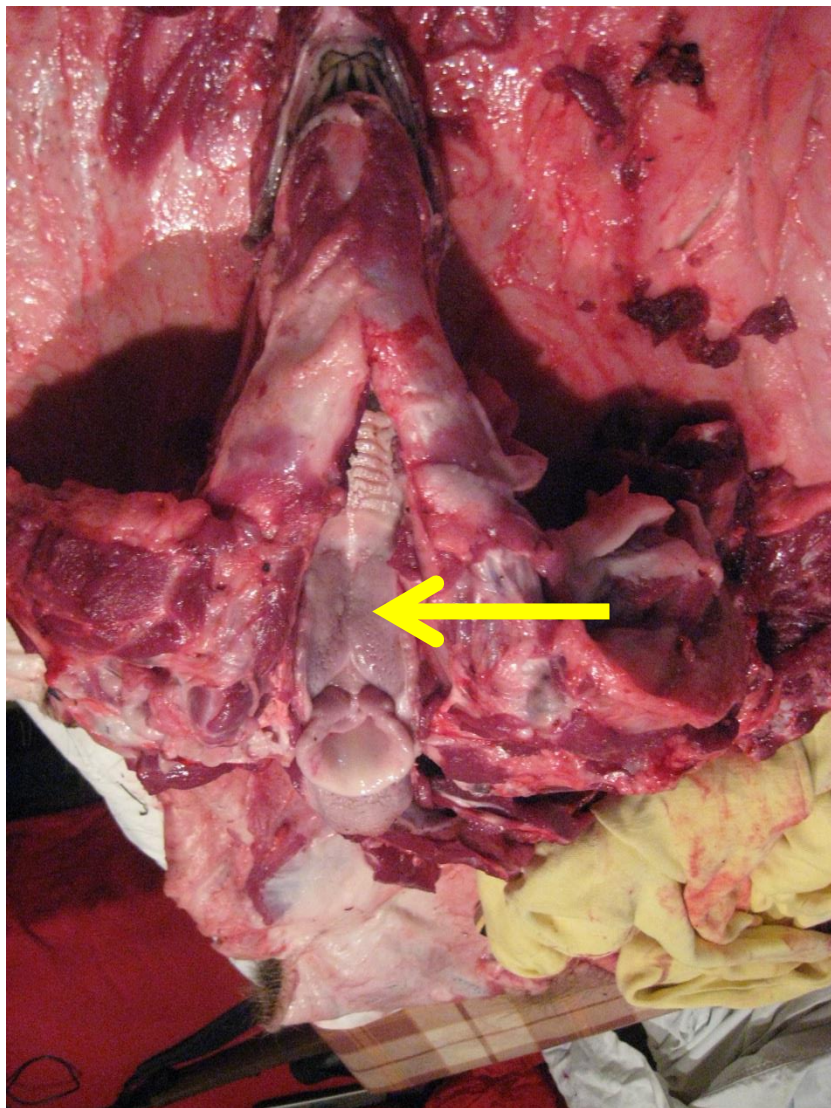
- 🐾 Blood
- 🐾 Tonsils
- 🐾 Kidney
- 🐾 Spleen
- 🐾 Lymph nodes (mesenterial)

Sampling by veterinarian or trained for the purpose hunter/operator





## Sampling and biosecurity?







## Hunters and biosecurity?







# Game collection centers



- Keeping of wild boar carcasses in collection centers till laboratory results available
- Sampling in the game collection center
- Disposal of all ABP



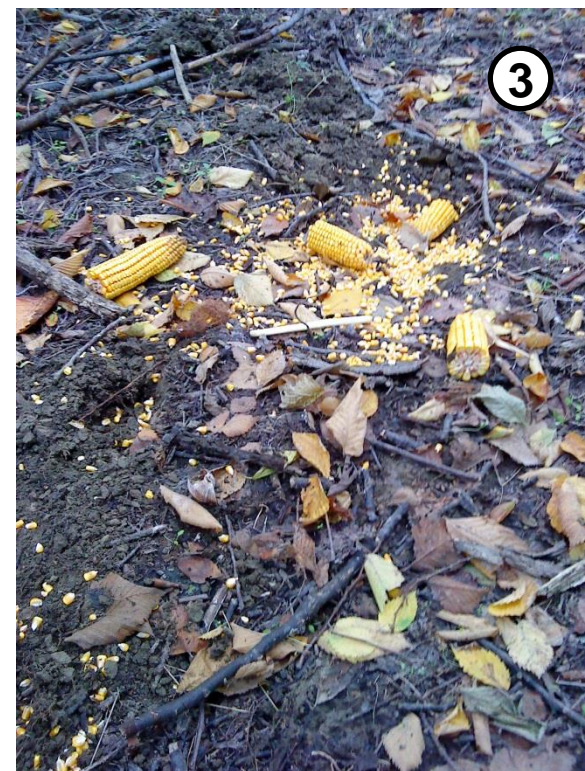


# Population control issues

- 🦔 Wild boar extermination is impossible to achieve in principle;
- 🦔 Population control has proved to be inefficient in managing diseases (e.g. CSF; see EFSA, 2009);
- 🦔 Preventive (not emergency !) population control can work out ...
- 🦔 ...if is based on wise management practices;
- 🦔 Where present CSF can reduce population better than hunters....



# Oral vaccination of wild boar







# Thoughts and conclusions

- ☾ There is a lot more going on in the wild boar population than what is observed.....
- ☾ Attempts to decimate WB boar from an area should not be carried out in a way the survivors spread the disease.
- ☾ In infected areas, vaccination, trapping and procedures to remove WB carcasses are appropriate.
- ☾ CSF evolution and maintenance depends on wild boar density



Thank you



Dr Tsviatko Alexandrov - Animal/Wildlife health officer, Bulgarian Food Safety Agency,  
tel.: 00359 882 469 345; e-mail: [t\\_alexandrov@bfsa.bg](mailto:t_alexandrov@bfsa.bg) & [tsv.alexandrov@yahoo.com](mailto:tsv.alexandrov@yahoo.com)







# Trapping as an alternative method to eradicate FMD/CSF/ASF in wild boar

Dimitar Stefanov &  
Tsviatko Alexandrov

Practical Training of  
Wildlife Surveillance,  
*Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria,*  
*22-25 Feb 2016*

CSF in wild boar in Bulgaria  
Case report

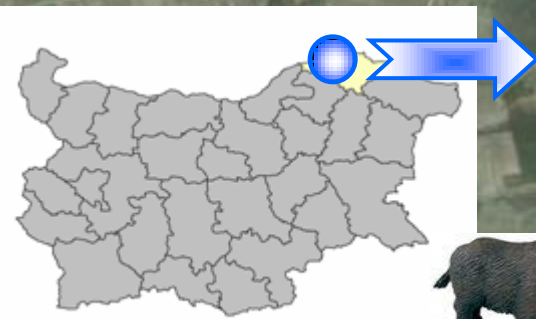


**2009**



# 2009

## 8 positive CSF cases in wild boar



- 1 08.09/ found dead/ 3-4 months/ PCR +/- Ab neg.
- 2 26.09/ shot/ 5 months/ PCR +/- Ab neg.
- 3 26.09/ shot/ 5 months/ PCR +/- Ab +
- 4 28.09/ shot/ 5 months/ PCR +
- 5 14.10/ trapped/ 6 months/ PCR +/- Ab +
- 6 02.11/ trapped/ 4 months/ PCR +/- Ab +
- 7 27.11/trapped/ 4 months/ PCR +/- Ab +
- 8 27.11/trapped/ 4 months/ PCR +/- Ab +

**All positive animals  
younger than 6 months!!**

el  
Image  
las  
oft

2008 Google

Eye alt 40114 ft



## Origin of CSF virus ?

- **CSF virus was there undetected over years?**
  - During hunting season 2008/2009 – 84 wild boars were tested in the infected area: all negative;
  - No outbreaks or suspicion of CSF in domestic pigs in that area;
- **Introduced by migrating and infected wild boar from outside the area?**
  - No evidence of CSF in other parts of Bulgaria and Romania
- **Introduced by humans (*catering waste, others*)?**
  - Illegal landfill nearby the infected area;
  - No outbreaks or suspicion of CSF in domestic pigs in that area;

*Genotype of the virus: 2.3 (CRL in Hannover)*

*Similar to older isolates from: BG, DE, SK, HU, RO...but NOT identical with the CSF virus found in Romania in January 2009*





## Control strategy

- **Increasing surveillance in domestic pigs and wild boar;**
  - clinical examination of all pig holdings
  - serological investigations of domestic pigs in back yard holdings!!!
  - sampling of every trapped, shot or found dead wild boar
- **Decreasing the wild boar population**
  - **By trapping (not hunting) in the hot spot area**
- **Vaccination**
  - Vaccination on islands in the Danube
  - Vaccination in the surrounding of the hot spot area
  - Vaccination in the hot spot area after intensive trapping



## Trapping in the infected area (period 28.08.2009 – 31.01.2010)

Estimated WB in the infected area: 156  
(~ 6 animals/km<sup>2</sup>)

Trapped wild boar			
0-6 m	6-12 m	12-24 m	> 24 m
24 (20%)	70 (59%)	17 (14%)	8 (7%)

- 119 wild boar trapped (~76%)
- Wild boar population decreased below 2 animals/km<sup>2</sup>
- About 37 wild boar left, no offspring

Last CSF case: 27.11.2009;  
No CSF case since then;











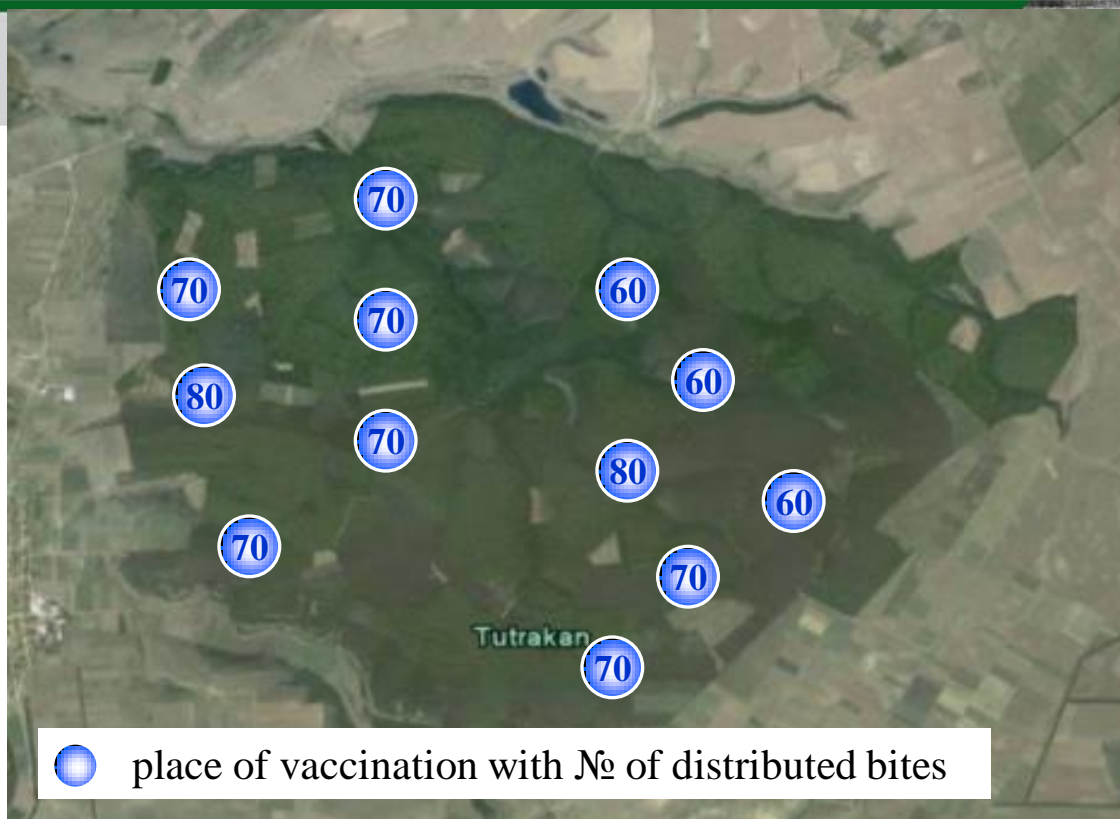
29.10.2009







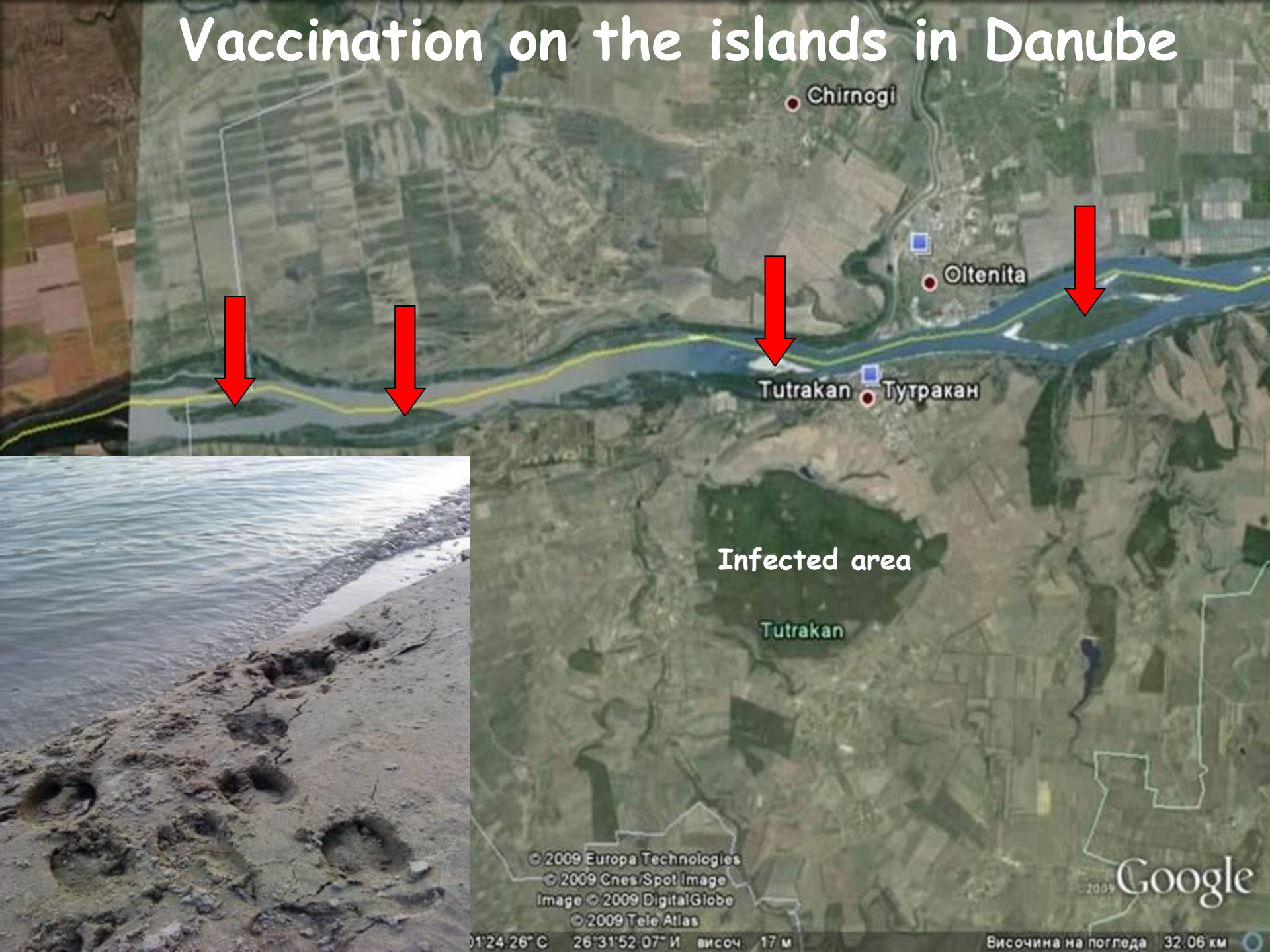
## Vaccination in the hot spot



Vaccination campaigns 2009	№ of places	№ of distributed bites	
I (Feb- March)	8	350	
II (June)	8	340	
III (30Nov-15Dec)	12	830	
Total		1520	



# Vaccination on the islands in Danube











# EUFMD

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE







# EUFMD

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR THE CONTROL OF FOOT-AND-MOUTH DISEASE























Thanks to all!

# Non-invasive sampling systems for the detection of FMDV in wild boar

Susan Mouchantat\*, B. Haas, A. Globig, W. Böhle, K. Depner

\*Junior Research Group Wildlife Diseases  
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Greifswald - Insel Riems  
Germany



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# Background

## Transboundary animal diseases - role of wild boar

- FMD incursion to Bulgaria (2011)
- CSF outbreaks in Latvia and Lithuania and other European countries (2011-2013)
- ASF epidemic in the Caucasus, Russian Federation, Lithuania, Latvia and Poland (2007-2014) - still ongoing
- remarkable increase of wild boar populations in Europe

## Current sampling approaches

- Wildlife surveillance mostly linked to hunting or trapping
- Sampling rather irregular
- Hunting seasonally limited
- Rarely adequate number of samples collected
- Mostly serological tests performed - only retrospective analysis



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# pSWAB

*p* *athogen*

*S* ampling of

*W*ild

*A* nimals with

*B* aits

Cotton rope

raw

Ø 0,8 cm

L 10 cm



Cereal-based bait matrix (same as for CSF oral vaccine bait)



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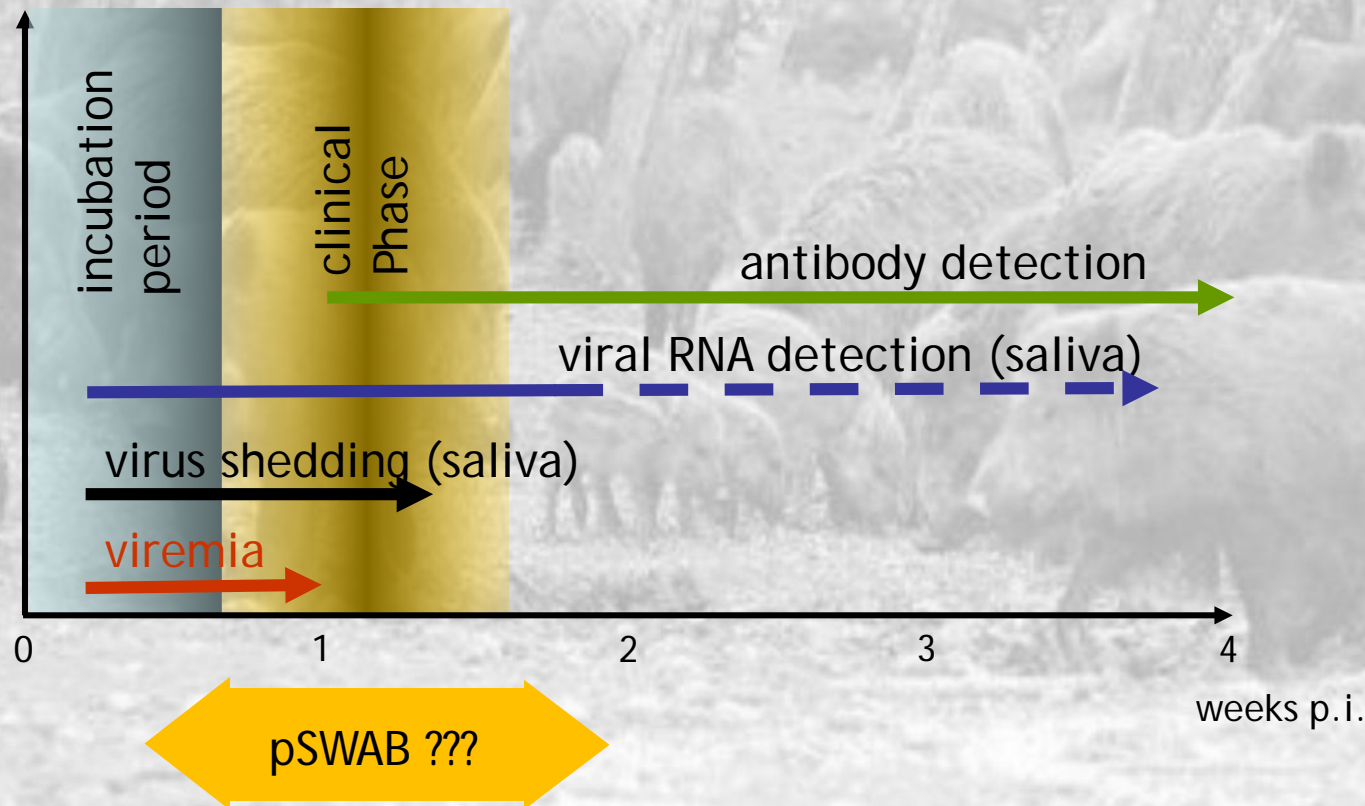
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# Animal Trials in Wild Boar

Mohamed et al., 2011; Breithaupt et al., 2012



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# FLI Animal Trial - FMD Wild Boar

Mouchantat et al., 2014 (Vet Microbiol 172, 329-333)

Animals 5 wild boar (10 months, 65-75 kg)

Inoculation s.c. (bulb of the heel) of 2 donor pigs

$10^{6,8}$  TCID<sub>50</sub> FMDV O/BUL/1/2010

Sedation Tiletamin/Zolazepam (Zoletil® 100) 2,2 mg/kg

Euthanized 29 d.p.i.

pSWABs distribution every day  
(n=5) collection same or next day

Blood samples/oral swabs  
2(1)x per week under sedation

Nucleic acid RTqPCR (3D (OIE-Protocol) + IRES)

Serology PrioCHECK FMDV Type O



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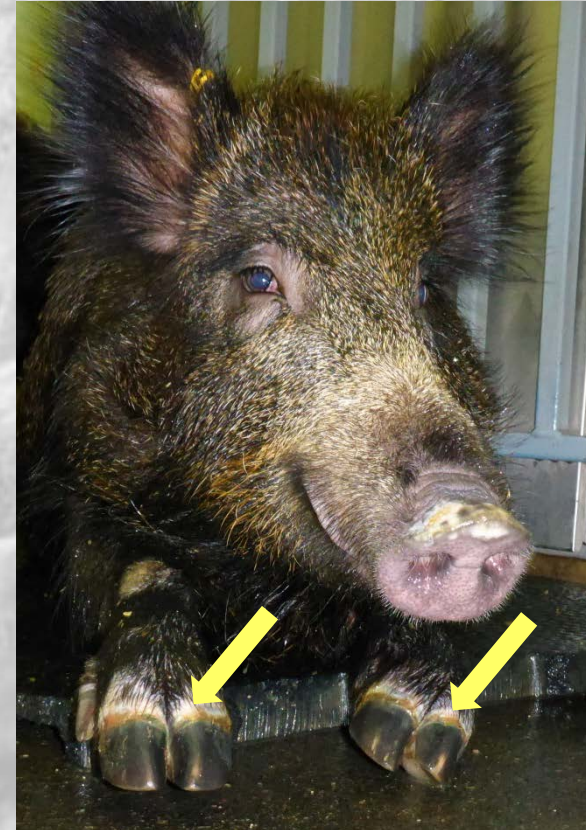
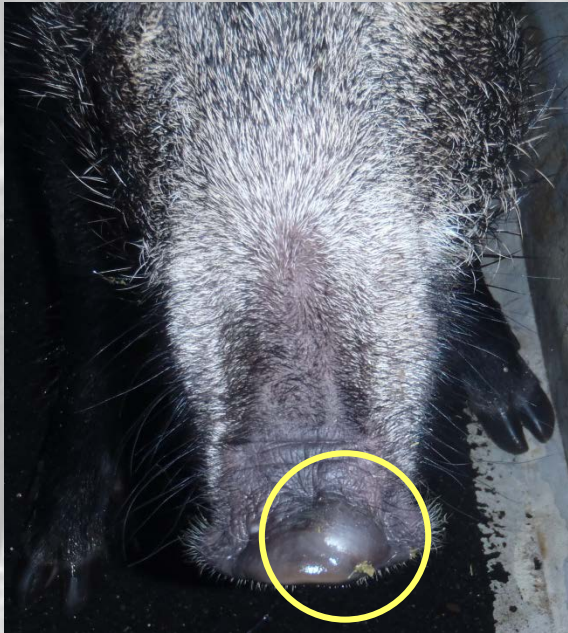
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# Animal trial - FMD I

2/4 dpi



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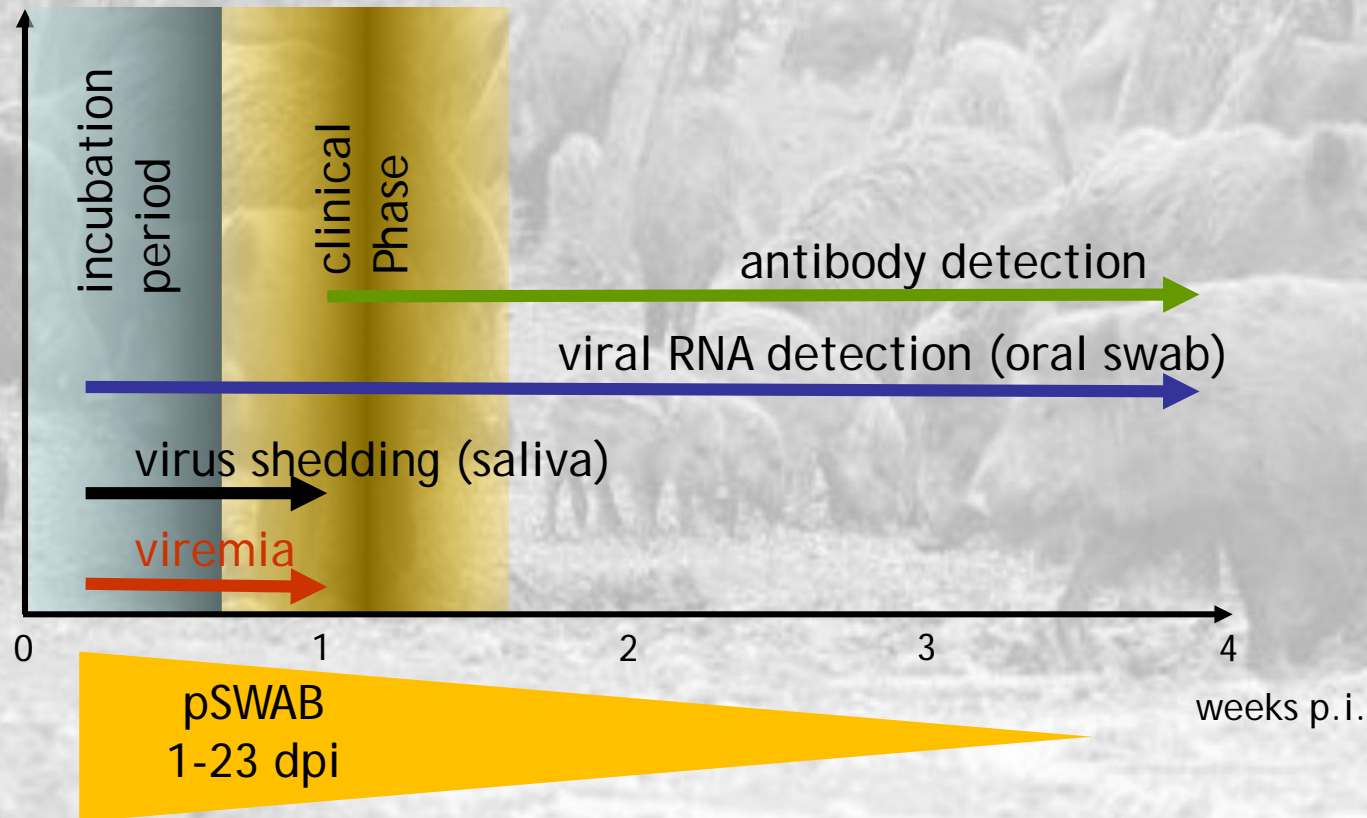
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# Animal trial - FMD I

Mouchantat et al., 2014 (Vet Microbiol 172, 329-333)



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# Animal trial - FMD I

## Conclusion

FMD: all animals infected (contact animals 2 d later)  
incubation period 2 d  
severe and evident lesions 5-7 dpi  
all animals recovered

pSWAB: feasibility for the detection of FMDV infection in wild boar  
comparable sensitivity (conventional saliva swabs)



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3 holes on each side of the maize ear, in total 6,  
for 3 Q-tips cut in half





# FLI Animal Trial - FMD Domestic Pig

Animals 5 pigs (2 months,  $\approx$  20 kg)

Inoculation s.c. (bulb of the heel) of 2 donor pigs  
 $10^{6,5}$  TCID<sub>50</sub> FMDV O/BUL/1/2010

Euthanized 2x 2 d.p.i.; 2 x 7 d.p.i; 1x 10 d.p.i

pSWABs +

Maize ears distribution every day, collection on same day

Oral swabs (Salivetten) taken 7 times

Nucleic acid RTqPCR (3D, OIE-Protocol)

Serology no antibody found



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# FLI Animal Trial - FMD Domestic Pig

d.p.i.	Q-Tip Pools					d.p.i.	pSWABs				
1	32,96	35,59	31,75	31,66	33,19	1	27,76	28,43	28,00	30,67	28,63
2	21,09	21,76	19,72	19,33	19,77	2	21,80	22,38	24,73	22,59	25,09
3	31,71	28,99	30,42	29,74	30,12	3	30,12	30,60	29,41	30,38	26,49
4	27,75	29,37	25,79			4	31,56	26,95	26,96		
5	20,20	23,65	31,91			5	27,56	26,13	26,95		
6	27,21	25,29	27,00	no ct		6	33,03	27,16	26,16		
7	26,82					7	26,84	26,51	26,86		
8	33,64					8	33,26				
9	34,70	30,20	no ct			9	35,28				
10	no ct					10	38,48				

Ct values

< 20

30 - 42

> 20-30

no ct



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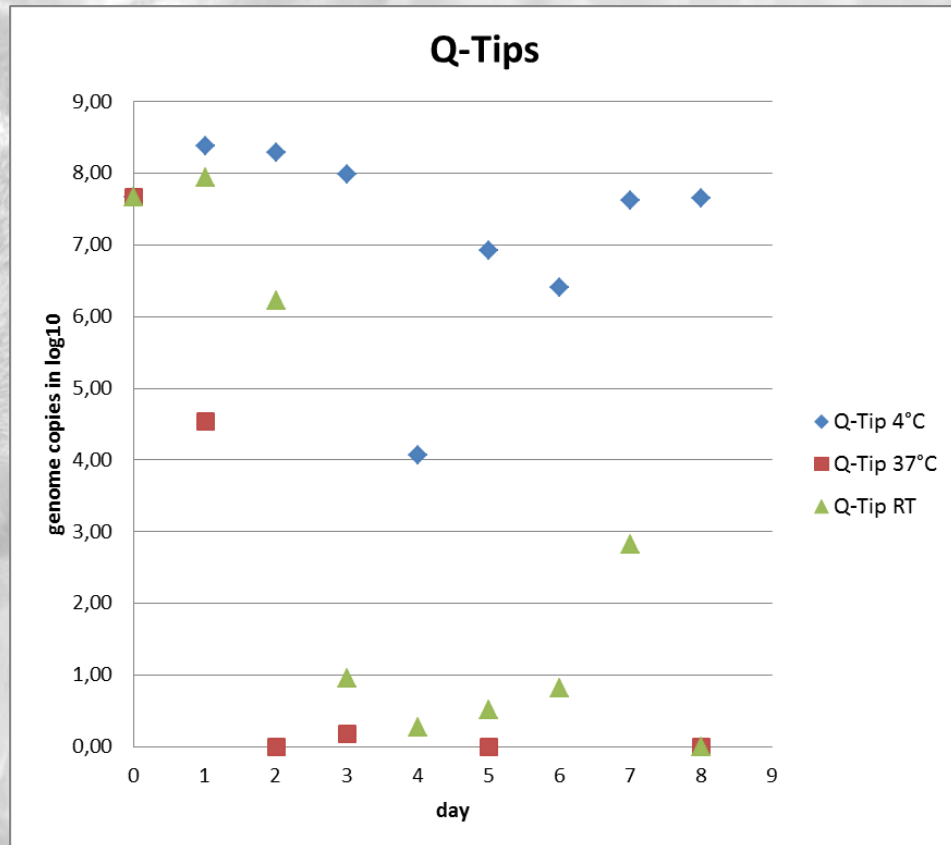
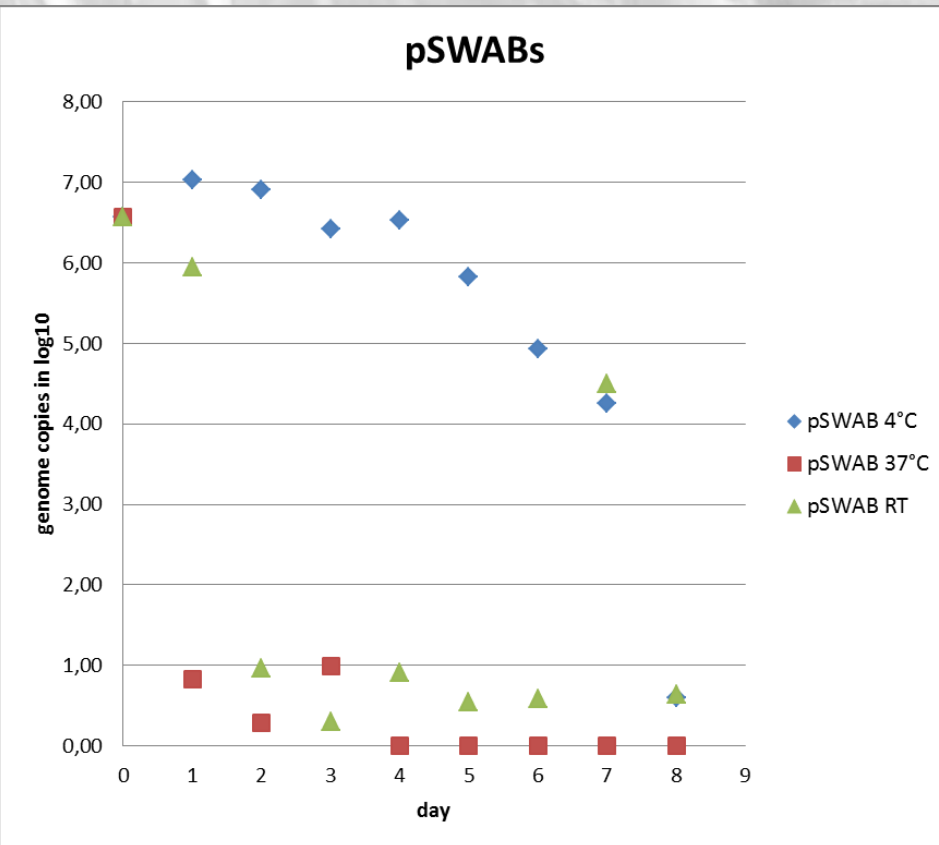
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# FLI Animal Trial - FMD Domestic Pig

Stability trials: 8 day, 3 temperatures



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# Non-invasive sampling

## Advantages : pSWAB

- Collective sample
- Early pathogen detection
- Repeated frequent sampling possible
- Applicable where/when hunting is not possible
- Easy to incorporate into existing wildlife management practices
- Cost effective and logistically simple



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# Field trial

Distribution at different feeding points in Germany  
*in progress*

- ⇒ Acceptance?
- ⇒ Quantity?
- ⇒ Collection?
- ⇒ Quality?
- ⇒ Influence on testing?
- ⇒ Diversion of pSWABs?



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# Open Issues

- Evaluation of the practical use in the field
- Distribution and collection of the sampling baits
- Field studies in FMD/CSF endemic regions
- Use of pSWABs for other investigations (serology, genetics...)
- Evaluation of multiplex PCR for viral genome detection and quantification of chewing



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# Acknowledgement

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*Department of Experimental Animal Facilities and Biorisk Management*

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Federal Research Institute for Animal Health

# Thank you for your attention



*"Saliva is not one of the popular bodily fluids. It lacks the drama of blood, the sincerity of sweat and the emotional appeal of tears."* Irwin D. Mandel (1990)



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# Marzipan for pigs





# When FMD goes wild...

Developing strategy and building capacity to holistically address animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface in Eastern and Central Europe

Bernd, Lindsey, Alessia, Tsviatko

Special Committee on  
Research & Programme Development  
*Frascati, Italy*  
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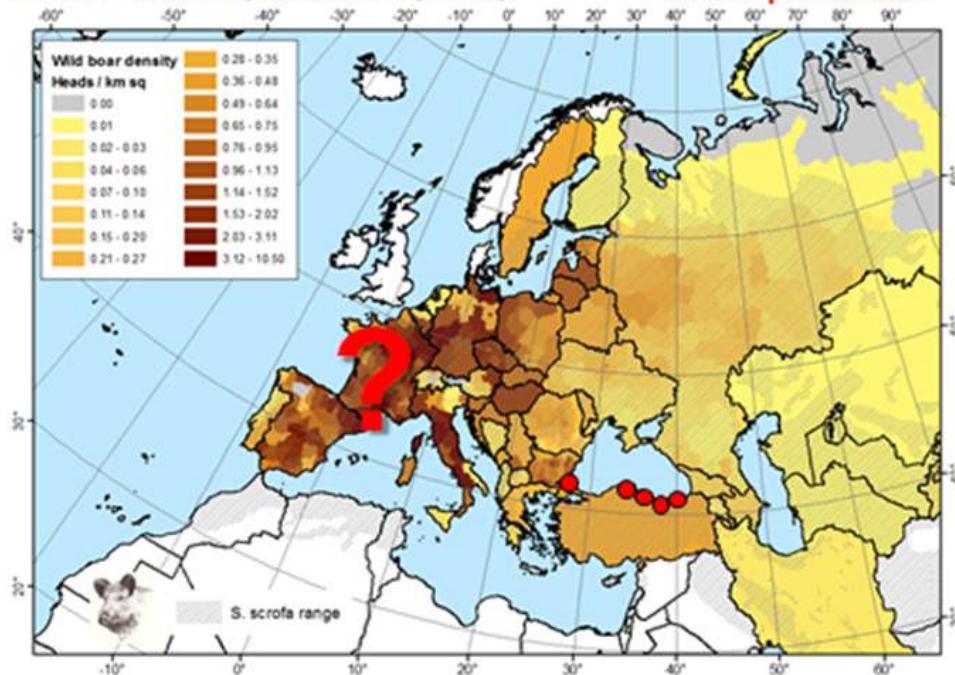
## Background

- remarkable increase in Europe of wild boar, as well as other wild ungulate populations
- significantly increased epidemiological role (particularly that of wild boar), as actual (e.g. CSF, *trichinellosis*) or potential (e.g. ASF, FMD) host species for a range of important livestock and human pathogens

- Wild Boar – 4,500,000 (Putman, 2011; EMPRES data);
- Roe Deer – 9,500,000 (Burbaitė & Csanyi, 2009);
- Red Deer – 1,700,000 (Burbaitė & Csanyi, 2010).

20 – 22 million FMD  
susceptible wild ungulates  
after reproduction

- threat for re-emergence, spread and maintenance of some endemic and exotic diseases





## Recent examples

- FMD incursion to Bulgaria (2011),
- ASF epidemic in the Caucasus and Russian Federation (2007-2013),
- CSF outbreaks in Latvia and Lithuania and other European countries (2011-2013).





# Radical solutions to these problems?

- Local extermination of wild boar as a species (Russia, Belarus), or
- building fences to create ecological barriers to discontinue wildlife populations, thus preventing spread of disease (Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland), seriously considered by the governments.
- unacceptable from ecological and economical standpoint these “simple” solutions do not solve the problem, but **rather create new ones.**



## Instructions available

- EU legislation ???
- Scientific Opinion /Statement /Guidance of the Panel on AHAW on a request from Commission on “Control and eradication of Classical Swine Fever in wild boar”. The EFSA Journal (2009) 932, 1-18
- Guidelines on surveillance/monitoring, control and eradication of classical swine fever in wild boar European Commission, 2010 Document SANCO/7032/2010 (EC Homepageaddress: [http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/csf\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/csf_en.htm))





# Aims and objectives

- a comprehensive, holistic approach to address the “wild boar/wildlife problem”.
- Scientifically sound population management and wildlife health status control strategies, based on the best available knowledge, standardized and officially accepted on the pan-European scale (both in EU and non-EU countries);
- practical solutions to the disease surveillance, prevention and control efforts, including use of innovative techniques, methods and management options that are to be disseminated and incorporated into the routine work of wildlife/hunting communities



## Experience so far....

- Plan for FMD control in wildlife/ BG
- Surveillance for FMD in wild boar in Thrace and Anatolia /BG,TUR
- Laboratory trials for FMD surveillance in wild boar/FLI
- Wild boar telemetry study /BG
- Trials on NI sampling /BG, SER, FLI, Nepal
- Game collection centers in case of epidemics in wildlife/GER, BG
- Trapping as alternative method to eradicate disease /BG
- Data on wildlife attendance at feeding sites and salt licks/BG





## Issues addressed

- Early detection
- Standardized baits for NI sampling
- How often samples have to be recovered?  
(Daily/weekly/monthly)
- Evaluate the virus resistance in baits by different climates  
(cold vs hot temperature)
- What type of data do we need to create a database?
- Role of the WB population density
- Studying in detail the movements of each single tracked WB and its home range analysis



- interactions between different WB social groups
- interaction between wildlife population and livestock
- monitoring FMD antibody titers in wildlife
- training courses on wildlife management for farmers, hunters, veterinarians
- training courses for detection of FMD clinical signs for farmers, hunters, veterinarians
- more investigations to define the nature of FMD-like lesions in wildlife





## Do we need an EuFMD adhoc group for Wildlife diseases?

### Possible activities:

- NI surveillance - compile and compare
- Design and review studies on NI surveillance and wild boar/wildlife ecology/interactions
- Perform statistical analyses on the data already collected on wild boar tracking and ecology
- Publish all results



# Wildlife Manual

Collate available knowledge based on the experience with disease control in wildlife in Europe into a **comprehensive manual**, including:

- host species distribution and ecology relevant to selected diseases;
- population monitoring techniques;
- surveillance protocols and recommendations;
- options for control/management/prevention of specific diseases;
- wise wildlife population management options and solutions;
- food safety, socio-economical, legal, cultural, animal welfare aspects etc.





## Training activities

trainings to build up capacity and expertise among veterinary specialists, wildlife professionals, forestry/hunting authorities and on how to detect and deal with wildlife health issues

- *theoretical and practical issues in disease and disease ecology,*
- *outbreak management*
- *wildlife management,*
- *non-invasive surveillance*
- *bio-security etc.*