Practical Training on Wildlife Surveillance for Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other contagious animal diseases affecting wildlife

Dr Marius Masiulis, Contingency planning officer, EuFMD
The Training

Location: State hunting ground Vitoshko-Studena, Bulgaria

Period: 22-25 February 2016
Trainers

European Commission for the Control of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (EuFMD)

Dr. Marius Masiulis  
Dr. Artem Skrypnyk  
Dr. Anna Zdravkova
Trainers

Bulgarian Food Safety Agency, Bulgaria

Friedrich Loeffler Institute, Germany

Dr. Tsviatko Alexandrov

Dr. Klaas Dietze
Participants

22 contingency planning / wildlife disease surveillance officers from 6 Balkan countries (Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, FYR of Macedonia, Romania and Serbia) and Turkey.
Objectives

Providing theoretical and practical training focusing on:

• contingency planning, wildlife surveillance and measures in case of confirmation of the animal disease in wild animals;
• role of wildlife in FMD disease epidemiology and the wildlife interface with domestic livestock;
• ecology, epidemiology, surveillance and control of wildlife;
Objectives

Providing theoretical and practical training focusing on:

• early recognition of contagious animal disease signs in wild animals;
• alternative methods of wildlife management;
• clinical examination and sampling of wild boar for animal contagious diseases;
• biosafety, biosecurity during the game processing.
Theoretical part

- the role of EuFMD in FMD control and eradication;
- contingency planning for FMD - measures to be implemented in case of confirmation in wild animals;
- wildlife health and management - strategy and capacity to address animal health issues at the wildlife-livestock-human interface in Eastern and Central Europe;
Theoretical part

- Bulgarian experience with the FMD epidemics in 2011 - wild boar surveillance, reinstatement of FMD free status;
- telemetry studies in Bulgaria - home ranges, spatial and social interactions in wild boar population and the role of wild boar in FMD disease epidemiology;
- **ANIMO** principle (Active, Non-Invasive Management of Outbreaks) - alternative sampling methods for the animal disease detection.
Theoretical part
(with involvement of participants to introduce their wildlife surveillance and development of possible strategy for the region)
Practical exercises

• distribution of baits for non-invasive sampling of wild boar at feeding locations following observation of wild animals and collection of baits next day;

• trapping systems for wild boar;
Practical exercise - part I
Practical exercises

• clinical investigation, dissection and sampling of hunted wild boar for contagious animal diseases;

• exercising biosafety and biosecurity in game collection center
Practical exercise—part II
**Participants activity**

- wildlife management systems in place – presentations from participating countries;

- development of the common strategies for wildlife surveillance and animal disease control in the wildlife – group activities.
Conclusions

• wildlife management and surveillance strategy should be further developed / amended / added as a specific part in the Contingency plans;

• common strategies for the control of animal contagious diseases in wildlife should be developed for the Balkan region;

• would be useful to develop manual on Biosafety good practices during the game processing for veterinarians and hunters;
Conclusions

• non-invasive sampling could be used as first indicator method for the early detection of FMD introduction;
• further development of ANIMO principle (Active, Non-Invasive Management of Outbreaks), of sampling procedures and their inclusion in the national animal disease surveillance programmes are needed.
Thank you!

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