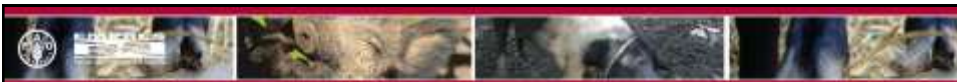




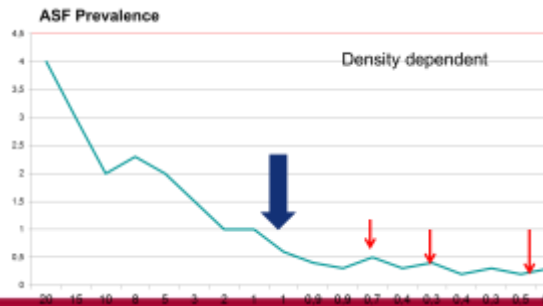
Strategy of the European Union on wild boar

Dr Marius Masiulis
 FAO Consultant, International expert on wild boar management



The wild boar challenge

- ASF is not a truly density dependent infection: the last tail of the infection is determined by persistence of infected carcasses
- Therefore problem then is not purely addressed by reducing the wild boar density but reducing viral load of the environment
- Reducing wild boar density is ancillary





Available EU resources

European Commissions dedicated webpage on ASF:

https://ec.europa.eu/food/animals/animal-diseases/control-measures/asf_en

- Current situation;
- Control measures;
- BTSF training materials on African Swine Fever (ASF);
- EFSA scientific advice;
- Blueprint and Roadmap (BRMP);
- ASF Diagnostic Manual.

African swine fever

What is African swine fever?

African swine fever (ASF) is a devastating infectious disease of pigs, usually deadly. No vaccine exists to combat this virus. It does not affect humans nor does it affect other animal species other than pigs and wild boars. It can be transmitted either via direct animal contact or via dissemination of contaminated food (e.g. sausages or uncooked meat). See the Description of the disease box below for more information.



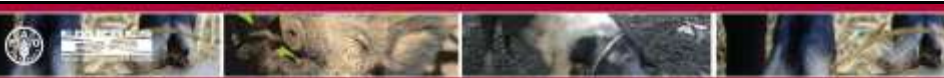
The EU ASF Strategy in a nutshell

Wild boar management: long term

- Passive surveillance for early detection
- Sophisticated hunting: selective, adult females
- Feeding ban: in risk areas
- Carcass removal and safe disposal: fast

Human factor: short term

- Awareness for passive surveillance
- Enforcement swill feeding ban
- Biosecurity strengthened
- Hunter vs farming: behaviour risks



Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU



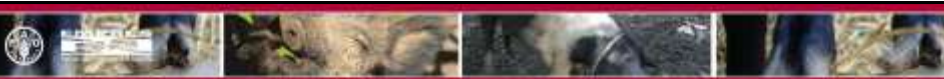
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY
Directorate G - Crisis management in food, animals and plants
Unit G3 – Official controls and eradication of diseases in animals

Brussels
SANCO G3/FB (23.11.2018)

SANTE/7113/2015 - Rev 10

WORKING DOCUMENT

Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU



Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU

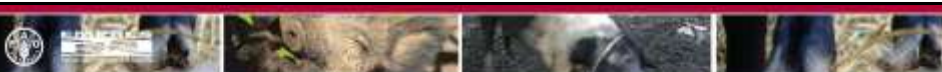
- 1) Introduction
- 2) ASF measures to be applied for domestic pigs at least in the areas covered by Decision 2014/709/EU
- 3) ASF measures to be applied for wild boar**
- 4) Annex I. - Key messages for awareness raising campaigns in Member states
- 5) Annex II. – Main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States free from ASF**



Main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States **free from ASF**

The main measures in countries free from ASF should be aiming for **best prevention practice**, **early detection** and to **preparedness** for the possible occurrence of ASF!

Particular attention should be given to the management of wild boar populations...



Main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States **free from ASF**

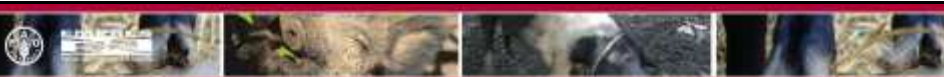
- Should be effectively minimized through preventive long-term actions aimed at reducing wild boar population density in ASF-free areas;
- This long-term management requires coordination with other stakeholders such as forestry management bodies and hunters and is essential for both prevention and early detection of ASF;
- Cooperation on the management of wild boar from both the agricultural and environmental sides is essential.



Main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States **free from ASF**

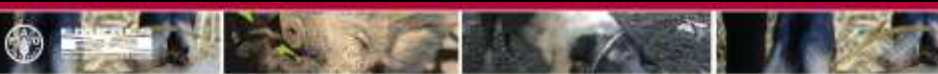
Hunters should be aware of the risks related to ASF and should be trained to:

- actively contribute to passive surveillance,
- active dissemination of information,
- adapt their practices to the possible disease situation,
- enforce wild boar management practices and biosecurity measures aimed at minimising the risk of the disease entering into new areas.



Main measures for ASF prevention and early detection in Member States **free from ASF**

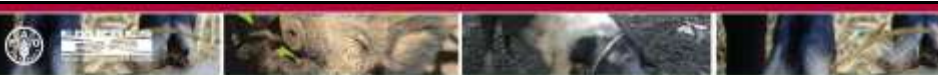
- Reduce wild boar population by ban of feeding and intensive targeted hunting of adult and sub-adult females
- Due to spread through infected materials:
 - a) fencing of parking places in forestry areas;
 - b) limited access of animals to food waste bins;
 - c) increased frequency of food waste collection from parking places in forestry areas rendering of such food waste.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

1) Newly infected area:

- Total ban of wild boar hunting;
- Restricted access to the infected area;
- Specific training for hunters to reduce further spread;
- Active search for wild boar carcasses (trained staff);
- Containers to store wild boar carcasses;
- Biosecurity measures in hunting grounds applied by all persons searching for and handling wild boar carcasses;
- Testing of all wild boar carcasses;
- Checking biosecurity measures in all pig holdings.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

2) Infected area 2-3 months without cases:

- No driven hunts;
- Culling of wild boar by trained hunters (no opening of carcass);
- Biosecurity in place for hunting ground;
- All culled animals are disposed of, best to be rendered;
- Active search for wild boar carcasses (trained staff);
- Total ban on feeding (no baiting);
- Testing of all found carcasses and shot wild boar.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

3) Infected area 4-5 months without cases (including a full summer period):

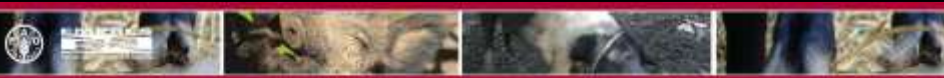
- No driven hunts;
- Hunting of wild boar by trained hunters (local wild boar meat consumption);
- Application of minimum biosecurity requirements for hunters;
- Active search for wild boar carcasses (trained staff);
- Total ban on feeding (no baiting);
- Testing of all found carcasses and shot wild boar.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

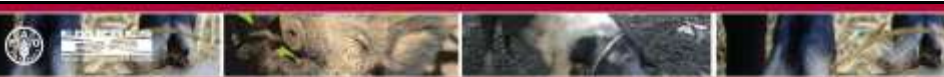
4) Around infected area (100 km radius from the border of infected areas):

- Intensive hunting: targeting adult females followed by sub-adult females;
- Total ban on feeding (no baiting);
- Testing of all found carcasses and shot wild boar;
- Checking biosecurity measures in all pig holdings.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

- Baiting is allowed (non-sustained feeding, limited food only for attracting wild boar for hunting).
- Sustained feeding should be forbidden.
- Targeted hunting is encouraged in order to target adult and sub-adult females.
- The overall hunting bag should be balanced between male and females (50% each). Priority should be given to adult and sub-adult females.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

Minimum biosecurity requirements for the hunters should be foreseen by the competent authority; at least these aspects should be included:

- dedicated authorized dressing facility should be available in each hunting ground;
- inside each hunting ground a facility/premise should be equipped with refrigerator (if it's allowed to consume wild boar meat);
- hunted wild boar should remain in the premises of the hunting ground until tested (if it's allowed to consume wild boar meat);



General rule

Hunted wild boar should never leave the hunting area unless tested for ASF and the carcasses released only when resulted negative to ASF!



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

- **Offal from hunted wild boar should not be removed from the animal in the field;**
- shot wild boar should be brought to dedicated authorised dressing facilities limiting loss of body fluids (including blood).
- After dressing the wild boar, the place and equipment used (including transport vehicles) should be washed and disinfected with authorized disinfectants.
- Animal by products should be collected and processed by burn, burial or rendering / incineration.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

Principle of sampling in the whole country should be based on enhanced passive surveillance: all found dead and sick wild boar have to be tested for ASF using qRT-PCR.

Additional sampling (active surveillance) from hunted animals has to be performed in the infected area (100% sampling and testing by qRT-PCR). The hunted animals of these areas should be tested additionally for antibodies against ASF virus.



ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

Removal of wild boar carcasses

- Carcass finding and safe disposal should be carried out in high risk areas, infected area and any other risk area (the impact of this measure is more effective the sooner after the death of the animal that its carcass is removed).
- The disposal of carcasses to be carried out either by burial, bringing to the rendering plant or burning.

ASF measures to be applied for wild boar

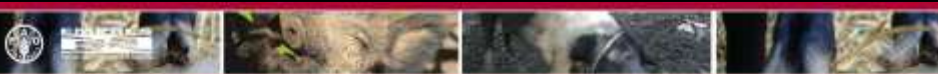
Continuous awareness campaigns should be foreseen for hunters for informing about the new strategy and the intended goals so to encourage the participation of hunters in the strategy.

Strategic approach to the management of African Swine Fever for the EU

Rev. 11 – under discussion!

Specific measures for management of wild boar will be foreseen for the following situations:

- Measures to be taken in all areas;
- Free area (far away from infected area);
- Free area close to infected area;
- Newly infected area;
- Area where the disease is present for more than one year.



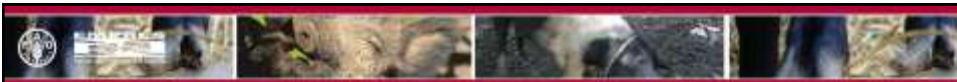
Measures to be taken in all areas

- a) Sustained feeding of wild boar is prohibited;
- b) Baiting is allowed (non-sustained feeding, limited food only for attracting wild boar for trapping and/or culling, not exceed 10kg/km²/month);
- c) Targeted hunting is encouraged in order to target adult and sub-adult females. The overall hunting bag should be balanced between male and females (50% each). Priority in reaching the quotas should be given to adult and sub-adult females;
- d) The minimum biosecurity requirements for hunters are applied.



Measures to be taken in free areas (far away from infected areas)

- a) Strong reduction of wild boar density needed;
- b) Baiting is allowed for trapping;
- c) Hunting should be addressed and coordinated by competent authority;
- d) Targeted hunting is encouraged;
- e) Surveillance based on enhanced passive surveillance;
- f) Trapping for culling and testing for ASF is permitted, carcass for personal consumption if results are negative;
- g) Fencing depends on epidemiological factors;
- h) Restriction of areas is not needed.



Measures to be taken in free areas (close to infected areas)

- a. Intensive hunting to obtain a strong reduction of wild boar density.
- b. Baiting is allowed for trapping and for culling, carcass for personal consumption if results are negative.
- c. Biosecurity in place (hunting grounds fulfil the prescribed biosecurity measures approved by competent authority).
- d. requirements for hunters.
- e. Surveillance based on enhanced passive surveillance.
- f. Active patrolling to find carcasses (trained staff) in order to reinforce passive surveillance.
- g. Testing of all wild boar found dead. All hunted wild boar tested for ASF Ag detection using PCR.
- h. Fencing depends on epidemiological factors.
- i. Disposal of all carcasses



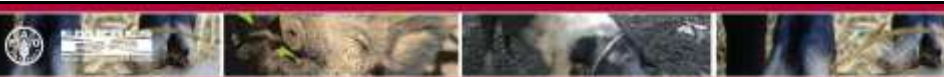
Measures to be taken in newly infected areas

- Baiting is allowed for trapping and for culling.
- Total ban of wild boar hunting until the epidemic phase has decreased.
- No driven hunts.
- Biosecurity measures in hunting grounds applied;
- Restricted access to the infected area.
- Specific training for hunters to reduce the probability of further spread of the virus.
- No dressing of the animals (no evisceration).
- Fencing should be done in defined areas. Timely built to slow down the disease speeding and anticipating the epidemiological wave.
- Disposal of all carcasses.



Endemic areas (ASF more than 1 year)

- a) Baiting is allowed for trapping and for culling.
- b) Hunting only under strict biosecurity measures finalised to collect samples for testing (Ag detection using PCR and for Ab detection)
- c) Biosecurity required during hunting and carcass removal.
- d) Trapping for culling and testing for ASF is permitted, carcass for personal consumption if results are negative.
- e) Fencing not needed.
- f) Disposal of all carcasses if positive.
- g) Local consumption of wild boar meat after negative testing.
- h) Surveillance based on enhanced passive surveillance
- i) Active patrolling to find carcasses (trained staff) in order to reinforce passive surveillance.



Thank you for the attention