



# Wild boar ecology

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WB in Europe



**A MEDIUM-SIZED, DARK TO RUSTY-BROWN HAired SUBSPECIES WITH LONG AND RELATIVELY NARROW LACRIMAL BONES**



Currently distributed across almost all of mainland Europe, with the exception of some northern areas in both Scandinavia and European Russia and the southernmost parts of Greece.



## Wild boar

<p><b>North African boar</b> <i>S. s. algira</i></p> 	<p><b>Carpathian boar</b> <i>S. s. amia</i></p> 	<p><b>Indian boar</b> <i>S. s. cristatus</i></p> 
<p><b>Central Asian boar</b> <i>S. s. davidi</i></p> 	<p><b>Maremman boar</b> <i>S. s. majori</i></p> 	<p><b>Northern Chinese boar</b> <i>S. s. moupinensis</i></p> 
<p><b>Japanese boar</b> <i>S. s. leuconotus</i></p> 	<p><b>Mediterranean boar</b> <i>S. s. meridionalis</i></p> 	<p><b>Formosan boar</b> <i>S. s. formosus</i></p> 
<p><b>Anatolian boar</b> <i>S. s. Myasur</i></p> 		



## Ecology

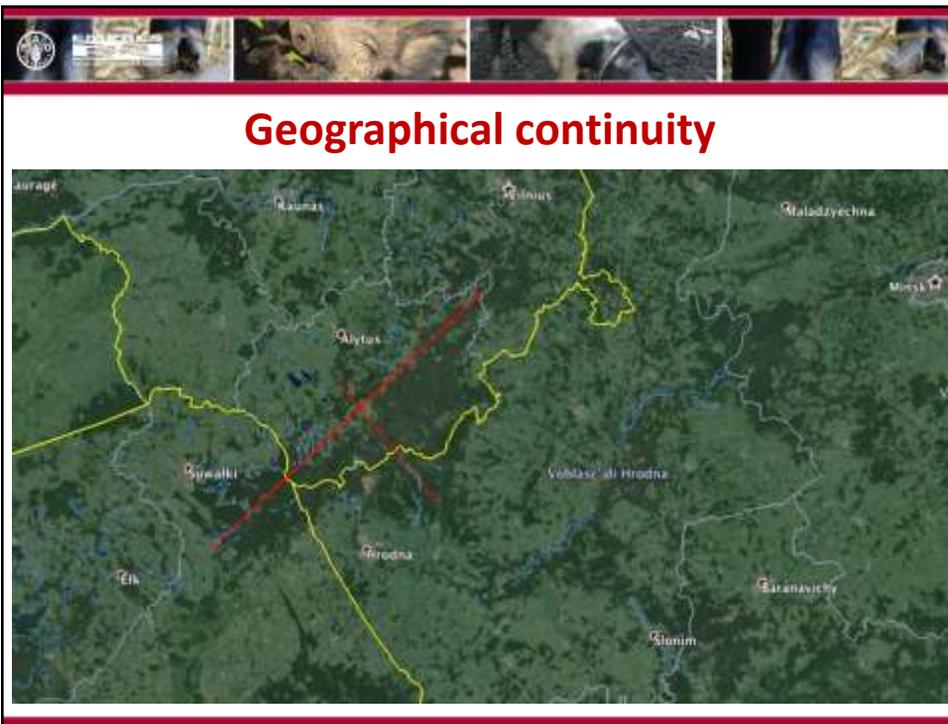
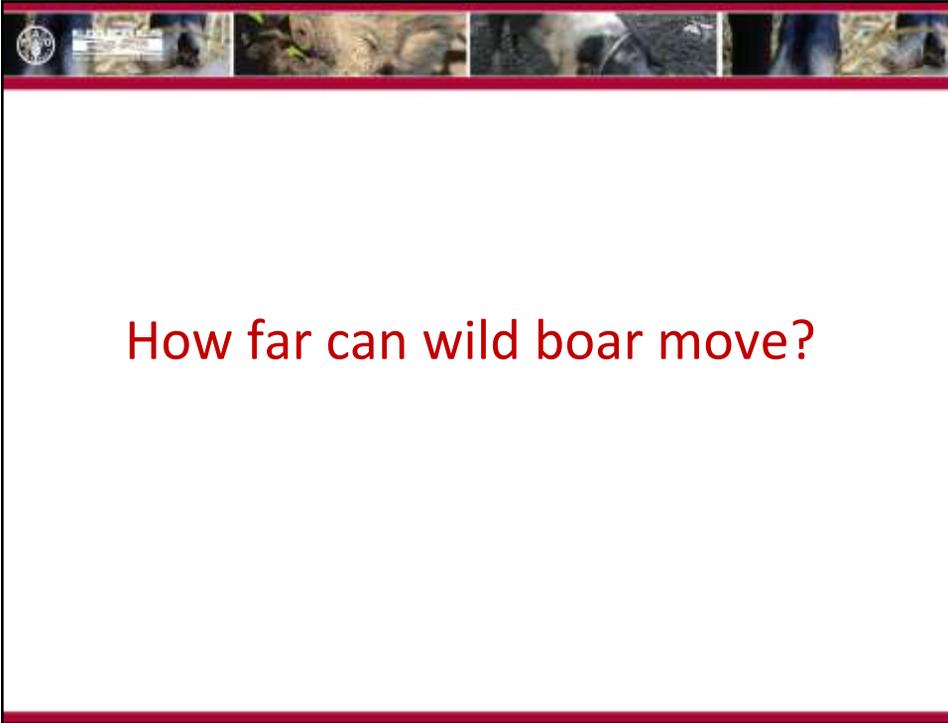
- The wild boar inhabits a diverse array of habitats from boreal taigas to deserts.
- In mountainous regions, it can even occupy alpine zones, occurring up to 1,900 metres in the Carpathians, 2,600 metres in the Caucasus and up to 3,600-4,000 metres in the mountains in Central Asia and Kazakhstan.
- The main habitats favored by boars in Europe are deciduous and mixed forests, with the most favorable areas consisting of forest composed of oak and beech enclosing marshes and meadows.



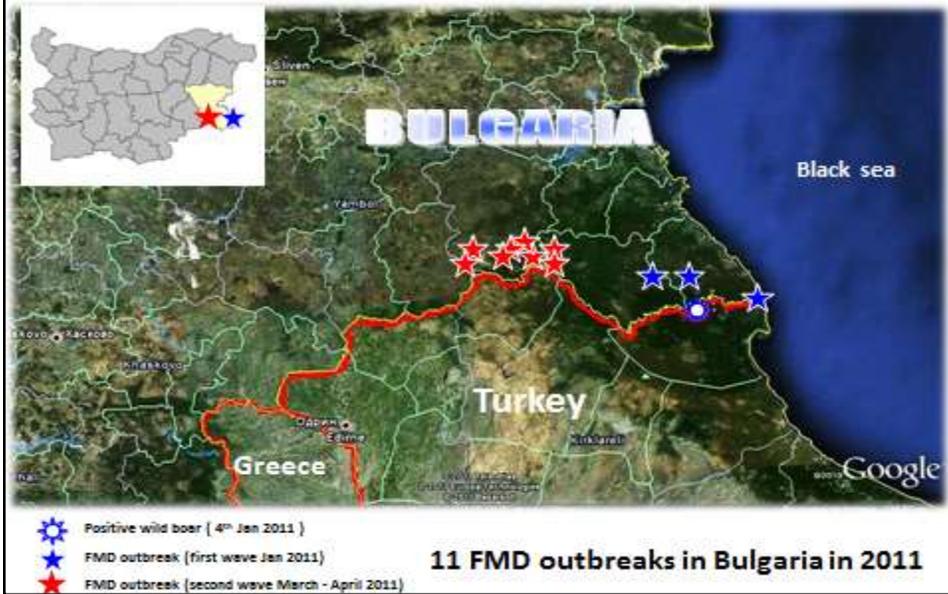
## Ecology

- The animal's primary habitat consists of well developed, broad-leaved and mixed forests, along with marshy mixed forests, with coniferous forests and undergrowth's being of secondary importance.
- Wild boar are known to be competent swimmers, capable of covering long distances. In 2013, one boar was reported to have completed the seven mile swim from France to Alderney in the Channel Islands. Due to concerns about disease it was shot and incinerated.



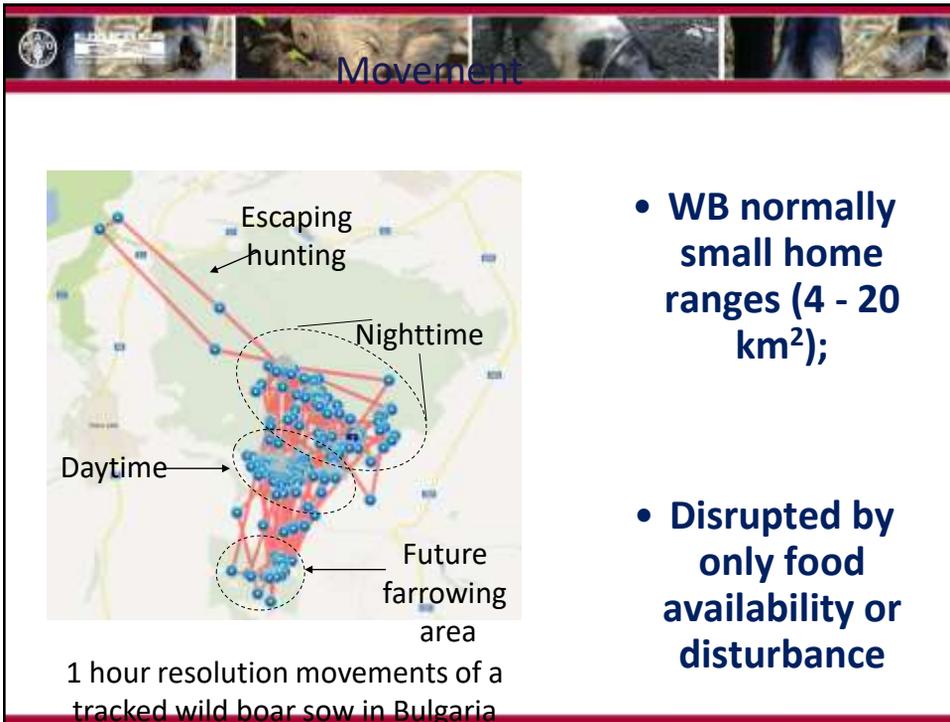
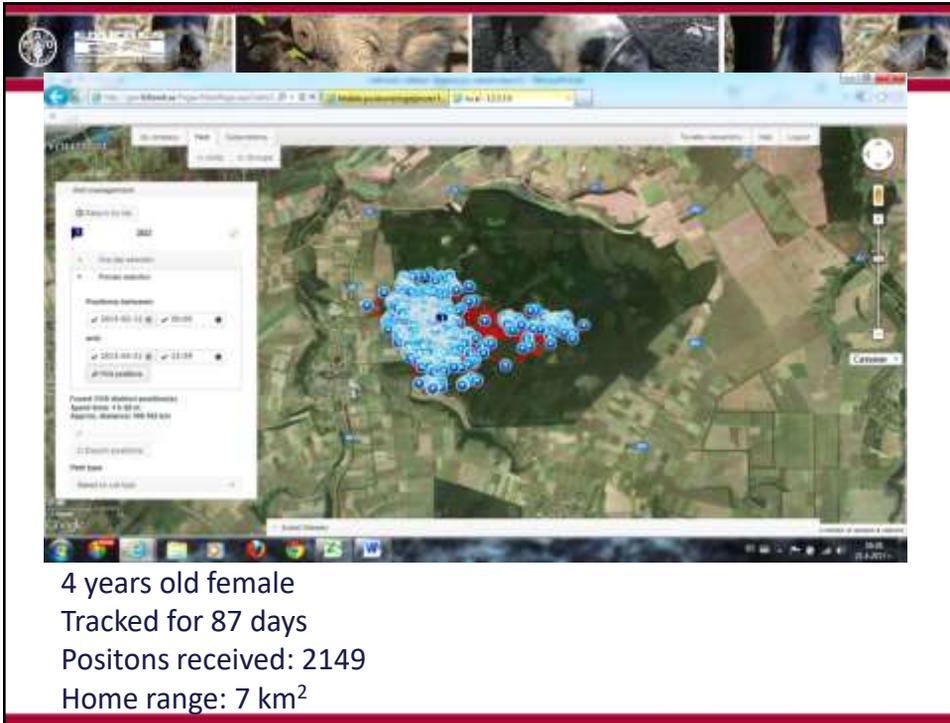


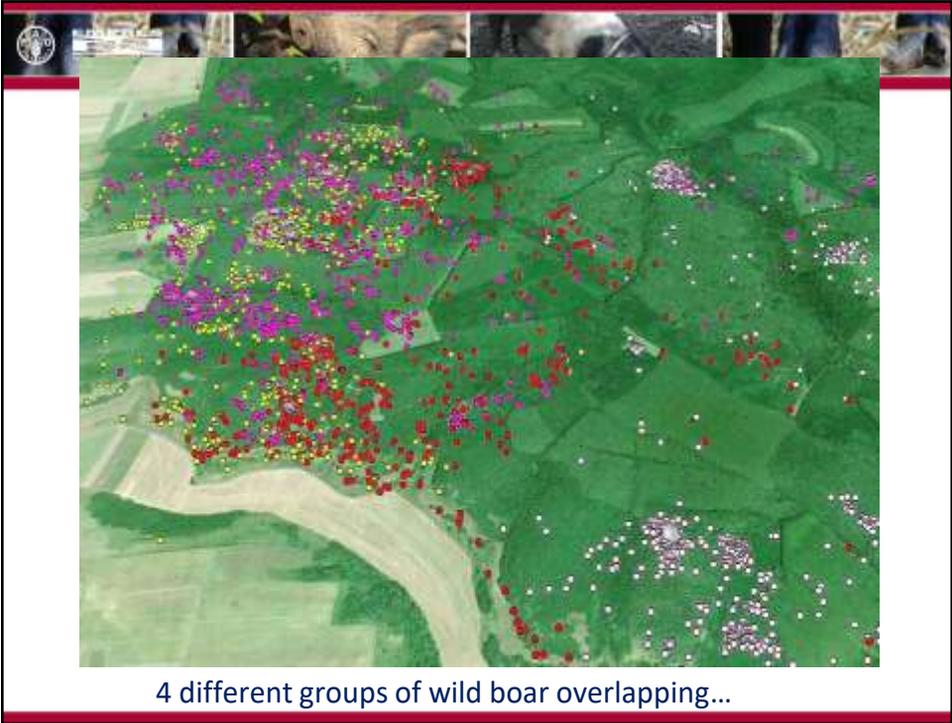
## Geographical continuity













### Wild boars – social behaviour

- Boars are typically social animals, living in female-dominated sounders consisting of barren sows and mothers with young led by an old matriarch.
- Male boars leave their sounder at the age of 8–15 months, while females either remain with their mothers or establish new territories nearby.
- Sub adult males may live in loosely knit groups, while adult and elderly males tend to be solitary outside the breeding season.



## Behavior and Lifestyle

Wild Boar are nocturnal animals that only come out at night to forage for food.

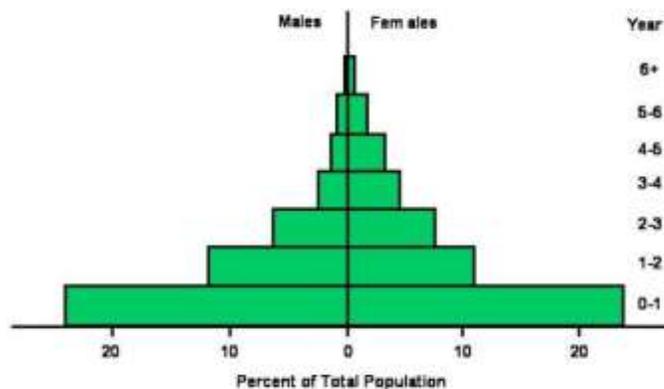
Female's are relatively sociable animals, inhabiting loose territories in groups known as sounders which can contain between 6 and 30 individuals.

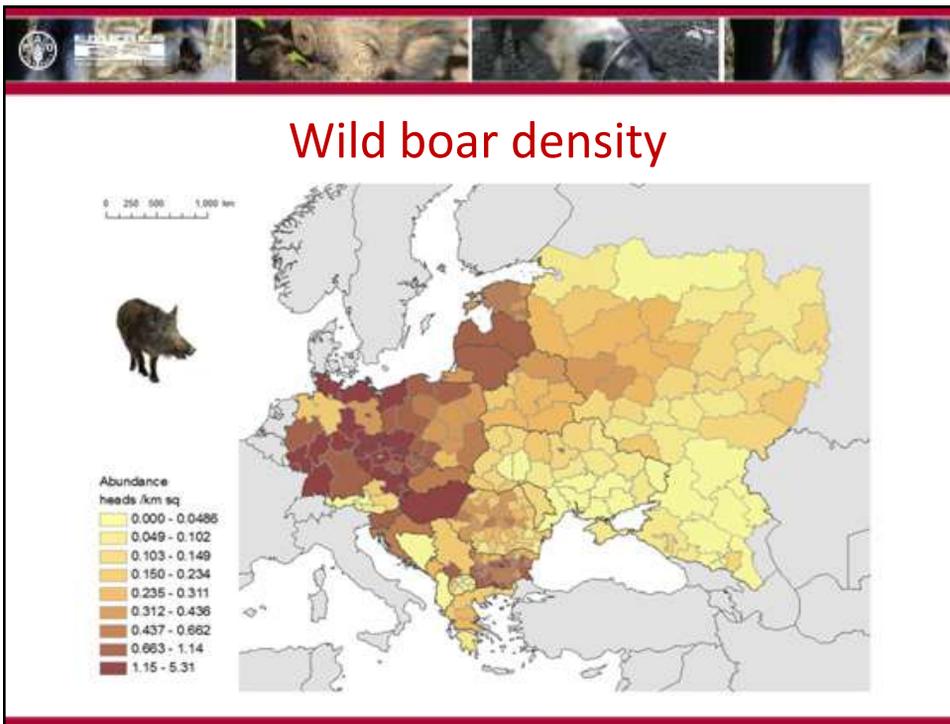
Males however, are solitary for the majority of the year, with the exception of during the breeding season when they can be found in close proximity of both the sounders, and indeed other males. Male Wild Boar compete with one another by fighting for the chance to mate with a female.



## Wild boar - population

Population pyramid showing the sex and age class composition of a typical population.







## Fertility and fecundity of female wild boars according to age

Age (months)	% fertility	Av. fetuses
7-12	25	3,4
13-18	42	4,2
19-24	58	5,1
25-36	52	5,1
Over 36	54	4,8



## Fertility and fecundity of female wild boars according to weight

Weight (kg)	% fertility	Av. fetuses
0-34	0	0
35-45	30	3,8
45-60	52	4,8
61-80	78	6,1
Over 80	85	5,7



## Diet

The wild boar is a highly versatile omnivore  
choice of food rivals that of humans

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## Field trials

Field trials with the cadavers of domestic pigs and wild boars have been performed trying to understand the possible ways of the virus transmission from the dead animal to live animal in the wild boar population.



## Field trials

- Find out if wild boar will eat pig / wild boar cadaver;
- The understand the possible way of the virus transmission from the dead to live animal.





**DOGS**



**BIRDS**



**WILD BOARS**  
Visiting, but not eating



**FOXES,  
RACCOON  
DOGS**




**Who's eating the wild boar cadaver?**

The contacts of wild boars with the cadavers are rather seldom but potentially sufficient to transmit ASF.

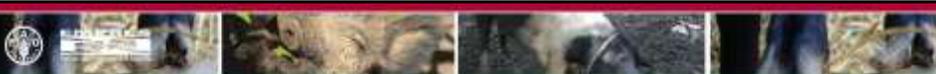






## Diseases

- Pseudorabies (Aujeszky's disease)
- Swine brucellosis
- Influenza
- Tularemia
- West Nile virus
- E. coli
- Salmonella
- Trichinosis
- Streptococcus
- Ticks, fleas, lice
- Internal parasites
- Toxoplasmosis and Trichinosis
- Classical swine fever
- African swine fever
- PRRS
- Anthrax
- Foot and mouth disease
- Porcine circovirus



**Thank you for your attention!**

