



Before, during and after the hunt

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Why cooperation between competent authority and hunters are important?

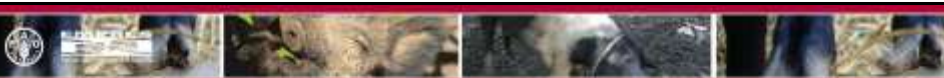
- Hunters - our eyes and ears;
- The involvement of hunters and their willingness to cooperate is a success factor in the wild life disease management;
- Hunters are the main actors in implementation of measures in practice for the wild life;
- Well trained hunters can work as "Early detection" system.





Risk of spread after introduction of the virus in to the sensitive wild animal population

- Delayed diagnosis;
- Wild animal population size and density;
- Forest connectivity;
- Inappropriate hunting methodologies;
- Lack of biosecurity measures applied during hunting;
- Uncontrolled hunt and poaching...



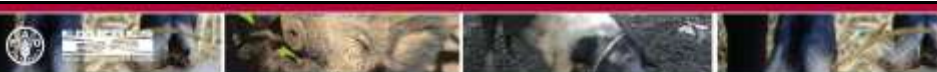
The challenge for a country

- Provide trainings for hunters;
- Explain the epidemiological role played by wild animals;
- Explain the major risk linked with hunting activities;
- **Unfortunately:** it should be explained that they have no advantages in declaring the presence of the infection in their hunting grounds...




The challenge for a country

- The procedures should be in place on:
 - - how to take samples;
 - - how to keep the hunted wild animal or the carcass (with / without the skin and organs separately);
 - - how to dispose of offal's;
 - - how to dispose of entire carcass in a positive case;
 - - how to dispose the found dead wild animal;
 - - how to clean and disinfect the dressing area.



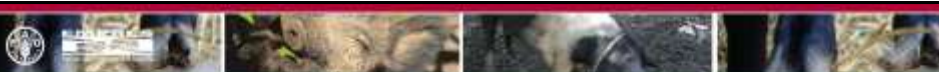
Role of hunters dealing with ASF suspicion

- Each hunter in the area at risk must be well trained:
 - - to recognize clinical symptoms of ASF in wild boar (even hunted)...
 - - to know what kind of samples to take;
 - - how to take samples;
 - - to notify the suspicion (to whom, when?);
 - - disposal of carcass (how?);
 - - basic biosecurity requirements;
 - - hunting hygiene.



Biosecurity

- Definition:
- “The implementation of measures that reduce the risk of the introduction and spread of disease agents;
- it requires the adoption of a set of attitudes and behaviors by people to reduce risk in all activities involving domestic, captive/exotic and wild animals and their products”...



The challenge for a country

➤ 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;
- hunted wild animals should remain in the premises of the hunting ground until tested;



The challenge for a country

- Offal from hunted wild animals (especially 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 animal, 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 rendering / incinerating, burying or burning.





INFECTED DEAD = INFECTED HUNTED WILD ANIMAL?

- Usually hunted wild animals are transported with the hunter's own car to the hunting lodge; the probability of virus contamination of cars, hunting equipment is increased;
- Hunted wild animals – if infected – will contaminate the dressing area of the hunting house; if not dressed in the hunting house, infected offal remain in the forest: failure in reducing the environmental contamination of the virus;
- Shot infected wild animals are stored in the hunting lodge that, in some part, it is likely to be contaminated by the virus;
- Hunting lodges are visited by many persons, some of them could not be fully aware of the possible environmental contamination...






TRANSPORT OF HUNTED ANIMALS

Transport of hunted animals to the dressing facility SHOULD BE carried out using dedicated vehicles.







Dressing area

- To be used in order to minimize the risk of ASF viral contamination of the environment;
- Open air or closed facilities;
- Designated exclusively for animal dressing;
- Authorized by Competent Authority;
- Recognized by hunters;
- Equipment used for dressing should not be used in any other places or moved to the animal keeping places;
- Authorized disinfectants should be used (!)







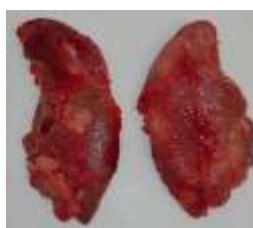


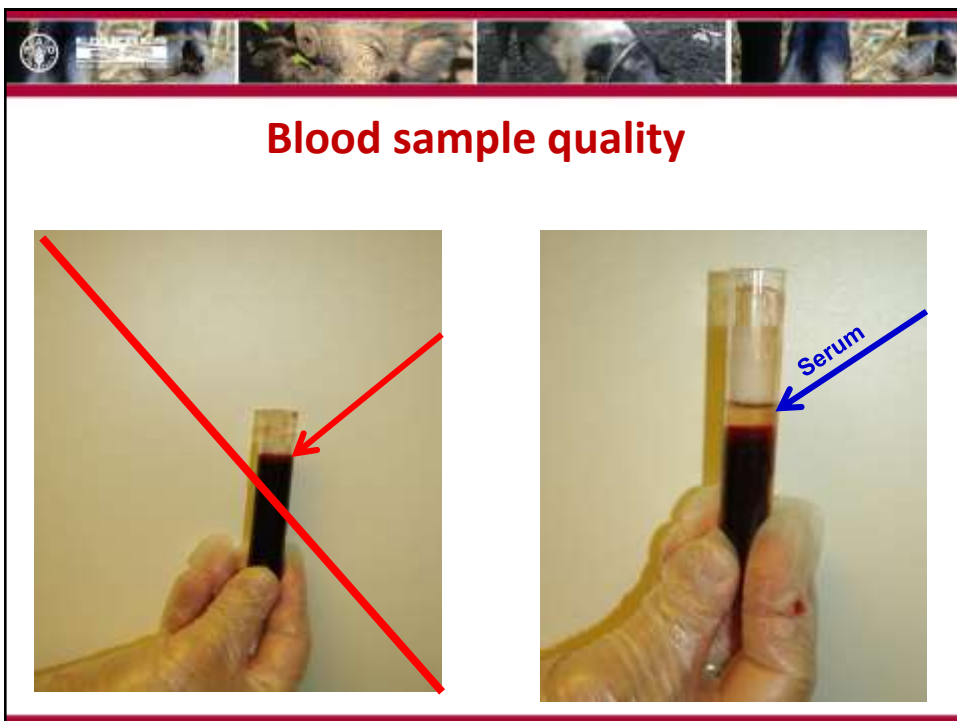


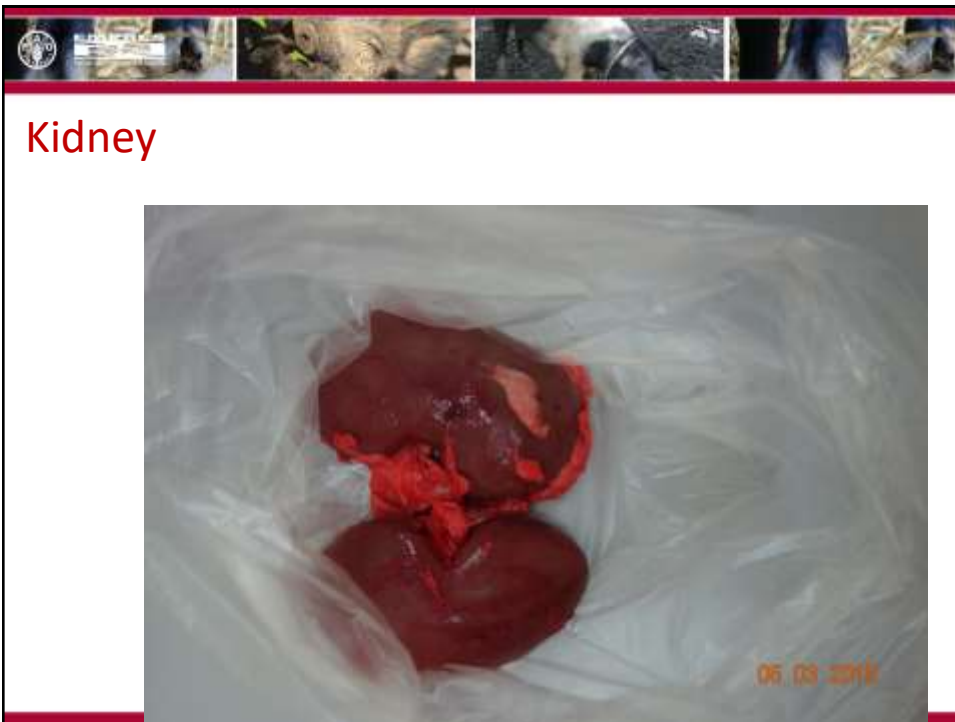
Sampling of blood



Sampling for ASF







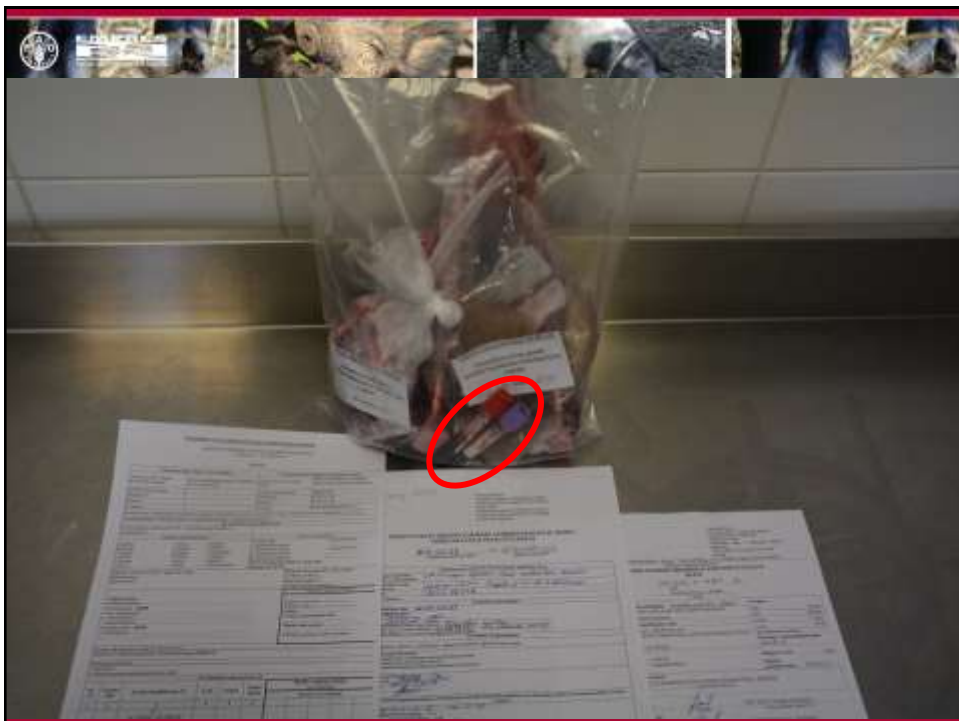
















Biosafety

Hunters should **process hunted wild boars** in special designated places and all ABP's should not be moved outside but kept in special tightly closed animal waste pits or containers and further should be disposed according to the legislation.





Disposal of offal, animal by-products or dead wild animals in the infected area




Containers
Example (Latvia)



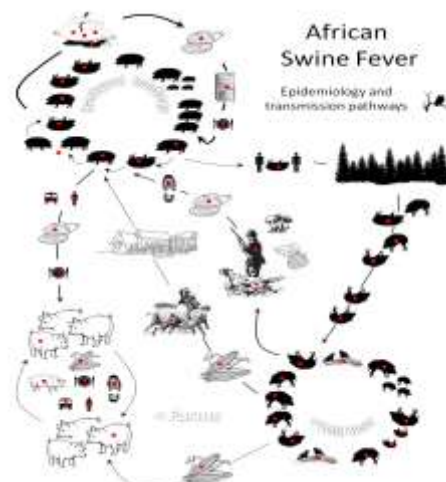
Handbook on ASF in wild boar and biosecurity measures during hunting

The Standing Group of Experts on African Swine Fever for the Baltic and Eastern Europe region ([SGE ASF](#)) expressed the need for more guidance on combatting ASF in wild boar and biosecurity measures during hunting and recommended that "OIE, FAO and the EU should cooperate in preparing a technical practical document with detailed information about hunting biosecurity and wild boar carcass disposal".



Handbook on ASF in wild boar and biosecurity measures during hunting

Complex of epidemiological factors and transmission pathways involved in sustaining endemicity and geographical expansion of ASF in Europe.




Handbook on ASF in wild boar and biosecurity measures during hunting

Chapter 1 - Epidemiology of ASF in wild boar populations;
 Chapter 2 - Some aspects of wild boar biology and demography relevant to control of ASF;
 Chapter 3 - Approaches to wild boar population management in the areas affected by ASF;
 Chapter 4 - Biosecurity in infected forests;
 Chapter 5 - Biosecurity during hunting;
 Chapter 6 - Data collection;
 Chapter 7 - Effective Communications between Veterinary Services and hunters.



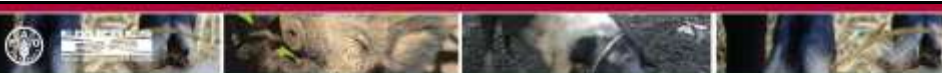


Handbook on ASF in wild boar and biosecurity measures during hunting

This publication aims at informing hunting management officials, hunting associations and general hunting community about epidemiology of ASF in wild boar.

It offers a simple and feasible set of practical biosecurity measures to be applied during wild boar hunting.

It is expected that better awareness of the ways to mitigate risk during hunting and while dealing with infected animals will help in preventing both the local and long distance spread of the virus.



Thank you for your attention!

