Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings

Silvia Bellini
Unit G2 – Animal Health
Directorate General for Health and Consumers
European Commission, Brussels

This presentation does not necessarily represent the views of the European Commission
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1. The principles of the EU strategy on the relevant animal diseases

2. Legislation on ASF

3. Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings
The principles of the EU strategy on the relevant animal diseases

• Control measures against major epizootic diseases (FMD, ASF, CSF, AI....)
• Contingency plans in each MS for dealing with epizootic diseases
• Eradication and monitoring programmes for diseases already in the Community
• Diagnostic Manual to assure uniform procedure to diagnose animal diseases
• Network of EU and MSs Ref Laboratories
• Community Veterinary Emergency Team (CVET)
• Training
• Scientific advise - EFSA
• EU research projects - RTD
CVET work on Swine Fevers (CD 2007/142)

aim of Community Veterinary Emergency Team: to assist the Commission in supporting Member States and third countries in veterinary matters relating to certain animal diseases

**Missions ASF**
- Georgia - 2007
- Armenia - 2007
- Ukraine – 2010
- Lithuania – 2014
- Poland - 2014

**Missions CSF**
- Lithuania – 2011
- Latvia - 2012 and 2013
Scientific advise – EFSA (1)

Recent scientific opinions on ASF and CSF

- role of tick vectors in epidemiology of ASF (10/08/10)
- significance and risk of endemicity of ASF in the countries neighbouring the EU, in the EU, role of wild boar, role of vectors (19/04/10)
- control and eradication of CSF in wild boar (12/12/08)
- animal health safety of fresh meat derived from pigs vaccinated against CSF (12/12/08)
Scientific advise – EFSA (2)

Last Requests on ASF:

• Significance and risk of endemicity of ASF in the countries neighbouring the EU, role of wild boar, role of vectors (updating 2010 opinion, deadline March 2014)

• Request for urgent scientific and technical assistance on the evaluation of hunting wild boar as a mitigation measure to prevent the introduction of African swine (deadline March 2014)
Main Legislation in force on ASF


**Commission Decision 2003/422/EC:** of 26 May 2003 approving an African swine fever diagnostic manual

**SANCO/7138/2013** - Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings
The EU main strategies for ASF control and eradication

Animal Identification and Registration
Surveillance
Animal movement control
Zoning and regionalization
Stamping out policy (domestic pigs)
Cleansing and disinfection
Farm bio-security
SANCO/7138/2013

Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings
The guidelines are based on:

- EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on African swine fever
- EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on the control and eradication of Classic Swine Fever in wild boar
Aim of the document

"to provide guidance to the Member States in controlling ASF when the disease is suspected or confirmed in feral pigs"

(art 15 – 16 CD 2002/60)
Objectives of controlling ASF in feral pigs:

- to reduce the risk of transmission to domestic pigs, and
- to prevent the disease to become endemic in the feral pig population

**Article 15:** as soon as a MS confirms a primary case of ASF in a feral pig population:

"The MS should establish an expert group including veterinarians, hunters, wildlife experts and epidemiologists. The expert group shall assist in:

- studying the epidemiological situation
- defining the infected area and
- to implement the eradication plan."

Then, within 90 days the eradication plan

**Article 16**

Article 15
Measures in cases where African swine fever is suspected or confirmed in feral pigs

Article 16
Plans for the eradication of African swine fever from a feral pig population
General provisions when ASF is suspected/confirmed in feral pigs

A. Demarcation of the infected area

B. Surveillance in the infected area
   ✓ In feral pigs (extent of the infection, follow the trend)
   ✓ In domestic pigs (all holdings in infected area CH - BY)

C. Preventive measures:
   ✓ pig holdings
   ✓ in the area
Demarcation of the infected area

Taking into account:

✓ Historical and current geographical distribution of the disease
✓ the results of the epidemiological investigations
✓ the feral pig population (spatial distribution, meta-population, home range..)
✓ landscape structure and existence of natural/artificial obstacles influencing home range or limiting contact between feral pigs.
Surveillance in the Infected Area
Due to the characteristics of ASF: Morbidity, Lethality

Passive Surveillance
Key role in early detection

Feral pigs
- Animals sick or found dead
- Serological monitoring of shot animals (evolution of the disease)
- Inspection of places at high risk (WB collection points)

Domestic pigs
- Strict health monitoring programme (all pigs sick/dead examined and tested for ASF - CD 2003/422/EC)
- Vet inspection on pig slaughtering for own consumption
Preventive measures (pig holdings of the infected area/infected area)

- Pigs: standstill and movement control (under official control, census, biosecurity to avoid contacts with wild boar)
- Live pigs markets: when ASF suspected under control, closed when confirmed
- Carcasses disposal: all animals (DP, WB) tested and properly disposed (category I, Regulation 1069/2009)
- Swill feeding (prohibition should be ensured, system for gathering waste..)
- Biosecurity (animals, personnel, vehicles, fence, feed, carcasses disposal, equipment..)
- Tick control
- Awareness campaign
- Hunting
Hunting

Hunting feral pigs has been used for the control of CSF but there is little evidence that hunting is an efficient disease management tool in controlling the disease.

necessary for sampling purpose
However, it is extremely important:

- To test for ASFV & Abs all feral pigs found dead or shot in the infected area and in its surroundings, to adjust the measures on the bases of the results achieved; and

- To prevent the contact between feral pigs and domestic pigs, by ensuring the application of all the proper biosecurity measures in order to prevent the transmission of diseases amongst the two populations.
http://ec.europa.eu/food/animal/diseases/controlmeasures/asf_en.htm

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS

Animals


African swine fever

Description

The African swine fever appears among pigs, warthogs, bush pigs, European wild boar and American wild pigs.

Transmission is made through direct contact between sick and healthy animals; indirect transmission happens through feeding with garbage containing infected meat, through fomites (premises, vehicles, implements, clothes) or through biologic vectors (soft ticks).

The sources of virus are blood, tissues, secretions and excretions of sick and dead animals, carrier animals (especially African wild swine and domestic pigs in enzootic areas) and soft ticks.

Prevention in free countries can be done through import controls; disposal of waste food from aircraft/ship coming from infected countries.

In infected areas, control is done through slaughtering of all pigs and destruction of cadavers and litter, cleaning and disinfection, designation of infected zone and control of pig movement, as well as epidemiological investigation (tracing of sources and possible spread of infection).

African swine fever is a CTE listed disease.

This means it is a transmissible disease that has the potential for very serious and rapid spread, irrespective of national borders, is of serious socio-economic or public health consequence and is of major importance in the international trade of animals and animal products.

For more details, click on the CTE technical card on African swine fever.

Control measures

- Document SANCO/7135/2005 contains Guidelines on surveillance and control of African swine fever (ASF) in feral pigs and preventive measures for pig holdings. The aim of this document is to provide guidance to the Member States in controlling ASF when the disease is suspected or confirmed in feral pigs.

The guidelines are based on:
- the provisions of Council Directive 2002/60/EC, and in particular of Articles 15 and 10;
- Chapter IV of the Annex to Commission Decision 2003/422/EC;
- the EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on the control and eradication of Classic Swine Fever in wild boar;
- the EFSA Scientific Opinion of the Panel on AHAW on African swine fever.

Notification and Health Situation


Click on Microsite for a description of the notification system and the latest health situation table.

ASF Diagnostic Manual


Community Reference Laboratory