



Federal Agency
for the Safety of the Food Chain

GF - TADs

ASF11 steering group of experts

“African Swine fever in wild boar in Belgium”

Warsaw, 24-25 September 2018

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Animal health

Competence :

- **Food safety => Federal competence**

“from farm to fork”, incl. Animal health domestic and other captive (wild) animals

- **Wildlife => the Regions**



Confirmed cases

On the 24th of September 2018 :

9 confirmed cases of ASF in wild boar

Municipality of Etalle, Province of Luxembourg



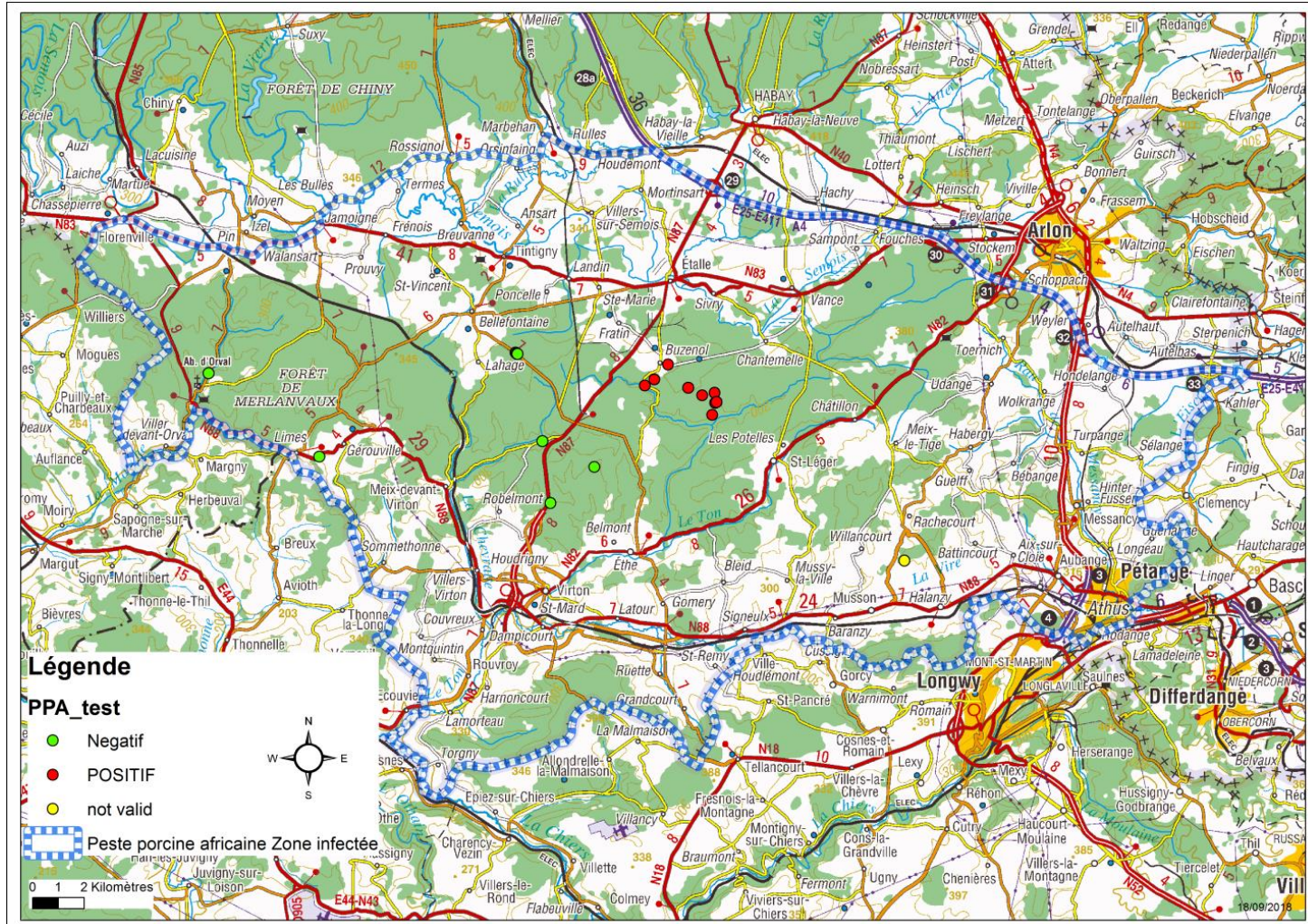
Overview



Overview



Map cases



ADNS notification 13th of September 2018

ADNS notification of 2 cases

Case 1.1

- 3 adult wild boar found dead on Sunday 9th of September
- Advanced state of decomposition
- On Monday 10th of September the dead animals were transferred to the University of Liège. Samples of one animal were sent to the NRL for laboratory tests.
- On 13th of September Sciensano confirmed the samples as positive for ASF virus by PCR



ADNS notification 13th of September 2018

Case 1.2

- In the same area, a young weakened wild boar was observed on 10th of September
- The animal was shot and transferred to the University of Liège
- During the autopsy lesions suspected of African swine fever were found. Samples were sent to the NRL for laboratory tests.
- On 13th of September Sciensano confirmed the samples as positive for ASF virus by PCR.



Following ADNS notification

Further cases

ADNS 15th of September

3 wild boars

ADNS 21th of September

4 wild boars

-> the cases are localized at a distance of less than 2900 m of each other



Preparedness

- Last 2 years multiple collaboration initiatives were taken beforehand between the different ASF concerned partners :
 - Meeting group experts “wildlife” (federal-regions)
 - Communication platform “Plasur” epidemiologic surveillance
 - March 2018 : National Taskforce ASF discussing related holistic matters such as sanitary & preventive measures, economic impact (federal-regions), ...
 - Common control plan and exercises
 - Passive surveillance of dead wild boars
 - ...

=> Operational preparedness + strong network of stakeholders



Reaction

- Timeline :
 - 12/09 evening : suspicion ASF – national contacts + international contacts (EC & CVOs FR + LUX+ (13/09) NL + DE)
 - 13/09 AM : crisis meeting FASFC & Region (+tel with EC) => preparation implementing measures – definition of the infected area (63.000 ha)
 - 13/09 PM : confirmation ASF
 - 14-17/09 : mission of EU experts => key message & political principles for wild boars
 - 17/09 : meeting commissioner & BE ministers

**RAPID RESPONSE BEFORE EVEN CONFIRMATION OF
THE FIRST CASE !**

Measures taken

According to Council Directive 2002/60/EC

Infected zone was established (630 km²)

confirmed by Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1242 of 14 September 2018 concerning certain interim protective measures relating to African swine fever in Belgium

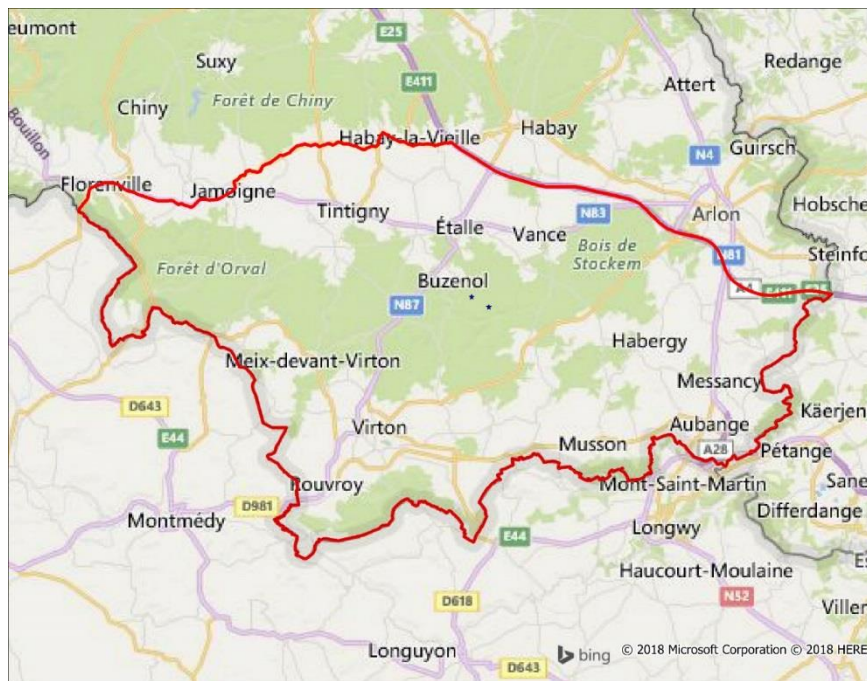
Competent authorities:

- ✓ Pigs and other kept animals: federal state
- ✓ Wild boar and other wild animals: regions

Coordination at all levels!



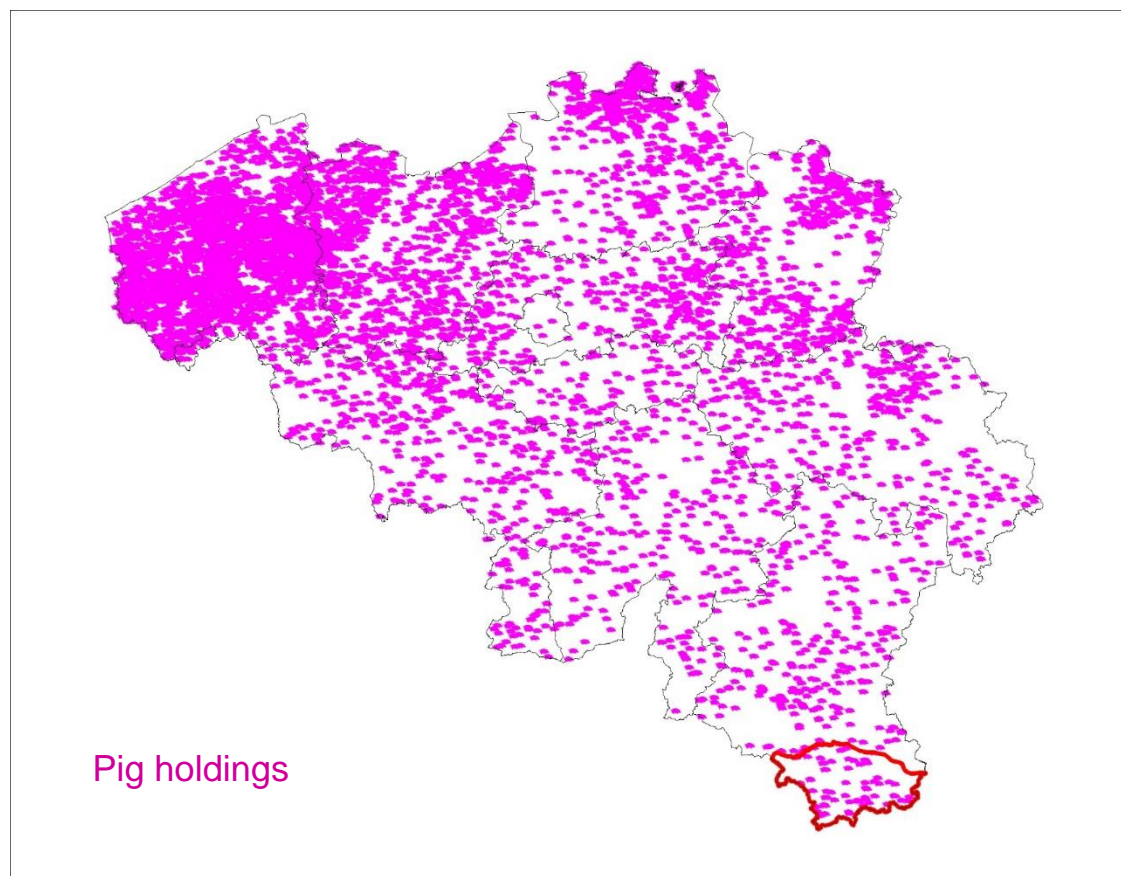
The infected zone



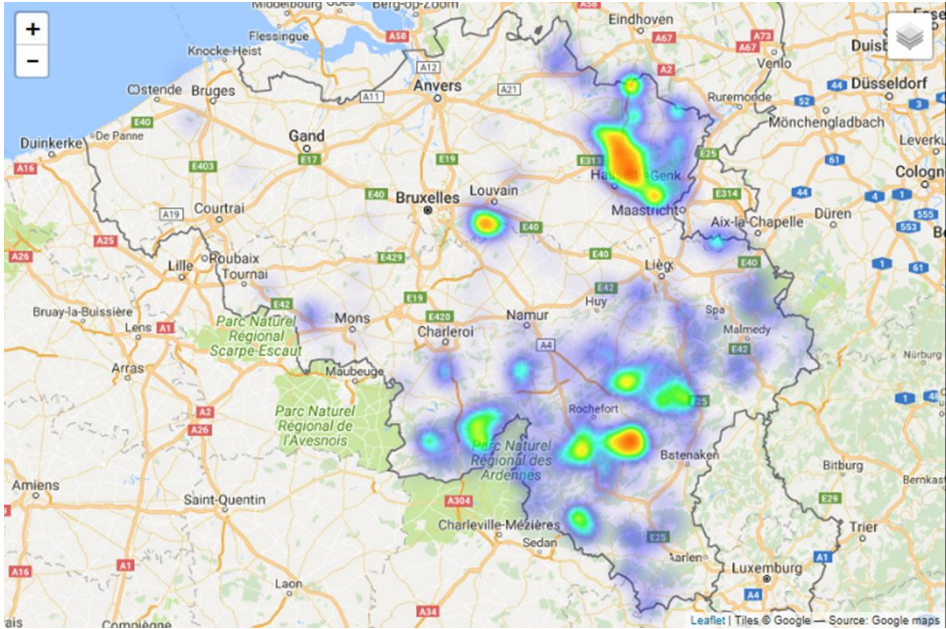
Measures taken

Total of pig holdings in the infected zone : ~70, 4000 pigs

The vast majority of the pig holdings in the infected zone are non-commercial holdings keeping a few fattening pigs for personal use. There are only a few commercial pig holdings present : 50 (5) - 400 (1) - 1000 pigs (1)



Wild boar density



Wild boars – (Wal. Region) - measures in the infected zone

- Ban on hunting wild boar
- Ban on feeding wild boar
- Ban on all activities (commercial and leisure) in the forest
- Biosecurity measures :
 - Disinfection vehicles, boots, ...
 - Specific instructions for the staff sampling and transport carcasses
- Call center to notify dead wild boar
- Collection and testing of all wild boar found dead => define the real infected area



Federal FASFC measures (domestic and captive wild pigs) in all the country in any time

- Preventive measures permanently in place
 - Biosecurity measures
 - After contact with wild boar: no access to pig holding for 72 h
 - No introduction of dead or shot wild boar in pig holding
 - Cleaning and disinfection of vehicles after each transport
 - No outdoor access or effective double fencing
 - No contact with possibly contaminated feed, utensils,
 - All introduced pigs must pass quarantine
 - No visitors allowed to pig holding if not needed



Federal FASFC measures (domestic and captive wild pigs) in all the country following appearing ASF

- All assemblies of pigs prohibited
- 1-1 transports
- Increased surveillance: no treatment of sick pigs without sampling for ASF tests
- Raising awareness of farmers, hunters and vets (newsletter)



Federal FASFC measures (domestic and captive wild pigs) in the infected zone

Additional to the measures in all country :

- Visit of all the pig holdings :
 - Inspection
 - Inventory of pig herds
 - Raising awareness
- No transport in/out of pigs without prior authorisation
- **Culling of all the domestic pigs within the infected zone – principle decided by minister on 22th September - Ministerial decree will be published by the end of the week**



Precise localization of the real infected zone

- Active search for dead wild boar
- Systematic testing of dead wild boar
- Cartographic localization



Conclusion

- Measures for the eradication of ASF are in place
- All concerned partners are actively involved
- Preparation started in case an outbreak would occur in domestic pigs





Thank you for your attention !

