



Outbreak investigation and relevant data collection – domestic pigs – Lithuania example

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Outbreak investigation: information flow and organization

National Food and Veterinary Risk assessment Institute

- ASF national reference laboratory
- Laboratory diagnostics

Emergency Response Department, SFVS / National disease control center

Coordination, support and control

Regional diseases control centers and ASF Competence Center, LUHS

• Outbreak eradication and epidemiological investigation



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Outbreak investigation: matched case control study

- In 2019 updated ASF Contingency plan
 - Including developed questioner
- Case control study for risk factors assessment
 - 1 case farm + 2 control farms
- Matching
 - On size:
 - Less than 10 pigs; 10-50 pigs; 51 and more pigs
 - Distance from the outbreak farm:
 - the 2 nearest similar size farms are chosen





Outbreak investigation: possible risk factors

- Biosecurity evaluation
 - Physical measures on place, appropriate use of physical measures, understanding principles of biosecurity
- Pig feeding and bedding:
 - Feeding practices: own/purchased; non-animal origin/animal origin
 - E.g. cow milk, potatoes, grass
 - Feed storage: biosecurity, place on farm
- Movement of transport
 - From forests, pastures, sharing of transport and etc.
- Movement of personnel to forests and pastures/fields
 - Purpose, how often etc
- Farm visitors during 4 weeks (up to 2 months in large commercial farms)
- Other animals present on a farm:
 - Present/absent; kept in the same space with pigs or not; etc
 - Movement of other animals from pastures/fields/forests



Outbreak investigation: home work

- Outbreak farm check in database
 - No. of animals and categories
 - Movements
 - Other information
- Printed maps with information on:
 - ASF in wild boars, pigs
 - Forests
 - Pastures, fields
- Selection of control farms
 - Address
 - Contact information





National database on animal register

(information on names, addresses, number of pigs is provided)

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Outbreak investigation: estimation of ASF virus introduction

- Investigation efforts more concentrated on the probable exposure time period
 - if serology results are not available yet, infection time is re-estimated
- General consideration: in small farms sick pigs are noticed quickly, while in large farms it could take same time



Val. – hours ; d. – day; PGR – PCR (polymerase chain reaction; IFA – ELISA (enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay; ipt – Indirect immunoperoxidase test (IPT)



Outbreak investigation: on arrival

- Zoning: infected/clean area
 - Do not rush to the pigs!!!
- Visual inspection
 - Biosecurity
 - Signs of various activities eg, new firewood's, silage bales, hay, construction work
 - Burial site assignment
 - Data and onsite situation checking
- Pictures
 - Sometimes you find some details which was not noticed on spot









Outbreak investigation: relevant data collection

- Pig keepers are avoiding to disclose some information
 - Visits to forests, visitors on the farm and etc.
- How to ask an intelligent question to acquire information:
 - Are there a lot of wild strawberries in Žalgirio forest?
 - Probably there are very few mushrooms in the surrounding area recently?
- Cross check questions in the questioner
 - Movement of farm personnel is checked by several different questions through the questioner.







Biosecurity: improper



• All in controls !









Biosecurity: proper





Biosecurity: proper







Outbreak investigation: biosecurity evaluation

• Formal requirements

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- Fences, disinfection math's, working cloths
- Culture of biosecurity
- Reliever's' opinion on quality

26. Biosecurity assessment in the holding

Measure	Information	Is there	a risk?
		YES	NO
nal biosecurity			
Fence and gate quality		Х	
Manure keeping place is fenced			Х
Disinfectant barriers (quality and use)		Х	
Fomites (only for pigs or not)		Х	
Appropriate environment (clean and etc)		Х	

How reliably can be concluded that disinfection maths, rubber boots and working clothes for biosecurity purposes are in good conditions, are used properly and regularly (assessment by the rewiever)

Not	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Reliable
reliable						х					



Outbreak investigation: search for risk factors

7. Are other animals present on the farm (indicate number for each species): Yes X No \Box ;

if "Yes" what animals:

X bovines2 cows and calf	□ sheep		
□ goats	X poultry31		
X dogs1	□ cats6		
□ horses	□ other		_
	(specify)		
• The other animals leave farm territory (Indi	cate species)cow	_Yes X No □	
• Other animals are kept together in the same			
premise (the same room/space)(Indicate spe	ecies) calving!	Yes X	No 🗆
• Is there a physical barrier (solid walls without a straight of the second sec	out holes, gaps		
and etc.) between pigs and other animals in	the building?	Yes X No \square	
• Can pigs and other animals have direct cont	tact with each other	Yes X	No □
• Can pigs and animals have indirect contact	with each other	Yes X No \square	
• Additional information one cow calved on 1	11 th June		
Movement of animals from pasture/forest to farm	n in the last 4 weeks	Yes X No 🗆	
Which speciescow for calving, kept inside for 2	2 days		
Every day			
Several times per week \Box			
Once per week and less X			



Outbreak investigation: search for risk factors

- Other animals on a farm (15 cases / 30 controls)
 - 100% of cases / 86% controls
- Other animals in the same space
 - 40% of cases / 31% controls
- Cattle in a pig holding
 - 67% of cases / 57% controls
- Cattle in the same space
 - 20% vs. 6%



Outbreak investigation: data collection

12. Pig feeding:

X fed non-animal origin feed produced by themselves and purchased

 \Box fed non-animal origin feed produced by themselves

 $\hfill\square$ fed non-animal origin feed which is purchased

X green fodder is used (grass, **potatoes** and etc)

 \Box fed with purchased feed of animal origin (e. g.: blood, fish meal and etc.)

 \Box fed with milk of cows (goats, sheep) from own farm

X feeding with milk processing products or by products from enterprises milk from neighbours cows

□ other feeding practices_____ **Purchased feed from Kalvariju market.**____

12.1 In-depth information on feeding (diet, technology, feed suppliers):

Flour from own grown grain□Is it steamedYes □No□Bought flour XIs it steamedYes XNo□

Comments_____



Outbreak investigation: search for risk factors





Pig feed origin 2019 (15 case holdings, 30 controls)





Outbreak investigation: data collection

12.5 Feed storage:

In the same space/room where pigs are kept	1
In the same building next to pig holding space	
In the same pig keeping building, but you have	to bring feed from outside the building \square
Biosecurity is good \Box	
Biosecurity is bad \Box	
In a separate building with good biosecurity	Х
In a separate building with bad biosecurity	1
Grain is ground in a pig holding space	$Ves \square No X$
Other	
Comments	

12.6 Beddings: X	homemade	\Box acquired or bought		
X straw	□ sawdust	\Box No bedding		

12.7 Storage place of beddings (other information):

In the same space/room when	nere pigs are kept \Box
In the same building as pig	S 🗆
In the same pig keeping bu	ilding, but you have to bring feed from outside the building \Box
Another building:	
With good biosecurity	Х
With bad biosecurity	
Additional information	



Outbreak investigation: data collection

22. Other contacts within the last 4 weeks: Yes D No X

Possible contact with wild boars Yes \square No X		
Common use of machines or parts of machines (e.g. grass or silage choppers)	Yes □	No X
Sharing of fomites with neighbours/friends within the last 4 weeks	Yes □	No X
Other possibilities of the contact:		

(specify)

2.1 Movement of farm personnel to forest in the last 4 weeks	Yes □	No X
Purpose of movement		
Once per week \Box		
2-3 times per week \Box		
More than 3 times per week \Box		
Date of last visit		
22.3 Movement of farm personnel to pastures in the last 4 weeks	Yes X	No 🗆
Purpose of movement _ works on fields		
Once per week \Box		
2-3 times per week \Box		
More than 3 times per week X		
Date of last visit 2019-07-17		



Outbreak investigation: search for risk factors





Purpose of visiting pastures/fields in the last 4 weeks (15 case holdings, 30 controls)





Outbreak investigation: summarizing

- Impact of visitors, visits to forests and swill feeding could be underestimated due to purposive or unintentional faults of memories
- Biosecurity should be improved
- In case farms there is stressful situation, it is difficult to remember for the locals
- In several hours very difficult to know trust or not the pig owners
- Try to contact neighbors, they can provide valuable information
- Risky behavior occurs more often in case farms comparing to control



Thank you for attention!