



Some basic considerations regarding ASF control in domestic pigs and wild boar

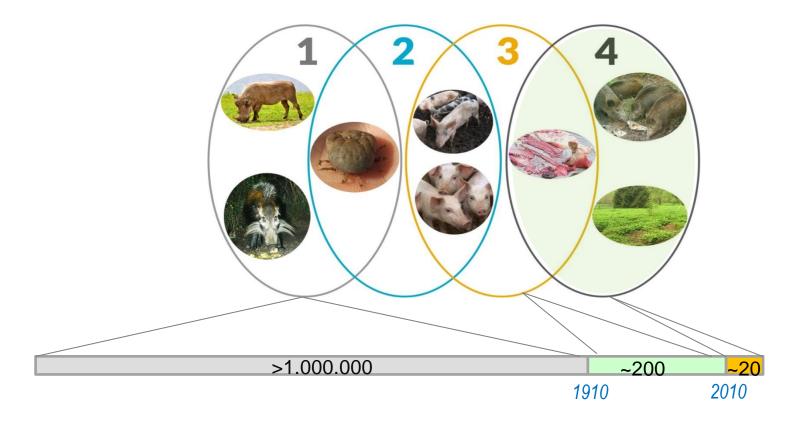
C Haarmann, K Depner

SGE ASF16 23 November 2020





A short history of ASF







Characteristics of epidemics in wildlife populations

Complex situation: interaction of many factors

(infected animals, animal density, hunting activities, agriculture, etc.)

Obscure situation: not all important parameters are

KNOWN (e.g. animal density, animal movements, etc...)

Dynamic situation: permanent change of parameters

(e.g. seasonal influences, fluctuation in animal number)

Influencing one factor can cause unpredicted side-effects





What's all about?

A: <u>Early detection</u> >>> Passive surveillance

B: Disease control and eradication

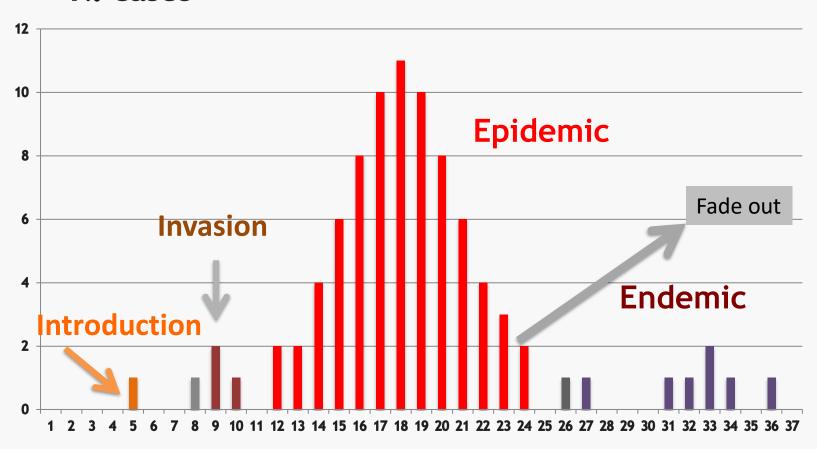
Hunting strategy, biosecurity, feeding strategy, etc...

- B works only when A works
- A can only be successful when good passive surveillance





N. cases



Guberti et al (2018): Handbook on African Swine Fever in wild boar and biosecurity during hunting; OIE/FAO (GF-TADs)





- ASF is in the field not a highly contagious disease
- ASF in WB is a habitat disease
- ASF is a "slow" disease
 - ASF did not fade out: NO implosion
 - ASF did not spread rapidly (Rabies-like...) NO explosion
 - Lethality high (>90%)
 - Starting mortality low (<5%)
 - Prevalence low (<5%)
 - Not necessarily a density dependent process

Endemic in the region, slow spread

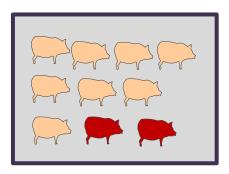




Key characteristics of ASF:

- low contagiousness, slow spread, few secondary infections
- no transmission by wind or insects,
- <u>site fidelity</u> (stable disease / habitat disease),

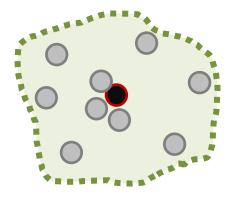
DP: stable disease



Measures:

- Standstill
- 2. Culling
- 3. C&D

WB: habitat disease



Measures:

- 1. Standstill (no disturbance of WB, no hunting, electrical fence, (feeding)
- 2. (Trapping)
- Disposal of carcasses

Successful approach!!

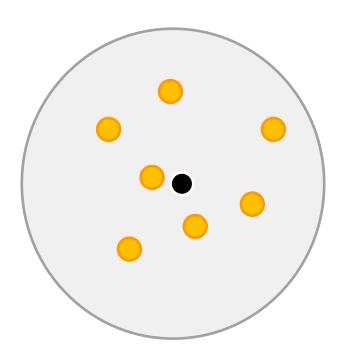
"Virtual stable" in forest

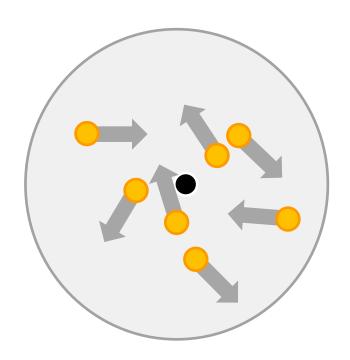


Exposure opportunity



Marbles in motion





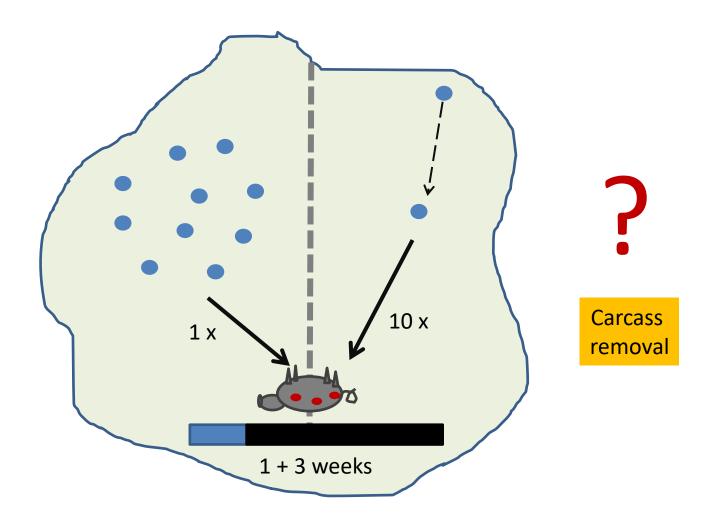
Contact rate +

Contact rate +++



Exposure opportunity





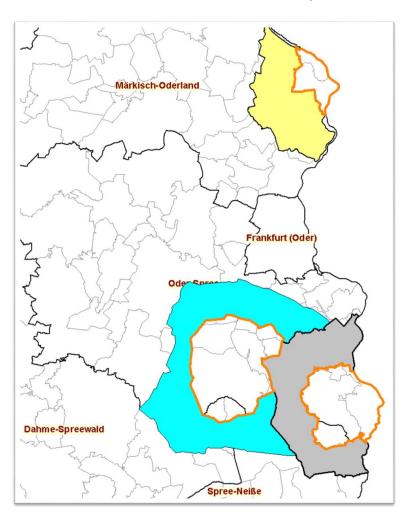
- If carcasses will be timely removed, exposure opportunity will decrease -> less contacts
- If carcasses will NOT be removed, exposure opportunity will increase -> more contacts





Concept of passive surveillance (carcass search) based on indicators

(V. Guberti & A. Licoppe -**EUVET**)



Estimating the number of carcasses/year originating from natural death (and car accidents) in a particular area (metapopulation)

~ about 1% of estimated population should be found and tested -However, calculations always need to be adapted to the particularities of the region and wild boar population



Biosecurity



Hardware



Money



Software

(Mindset/Philosophy/Management)





Education

J. Westergaard





V. Guberti





" ... the precautions now being exercised beneficially show that under the conditions at present existing the disease is one **which can in large measure be avoided"**

E. Montgomery 1921

Targeted information campaign

- Main target groups: hunters, farmers, <u>travellers, long-distance driver</u>, hunting turists, caregivers and nursing staff, veterinarians
- Media: posters, flyer, brochures, multi-language information material, FAQ's and further information on the website of the Federal Ministry, information in trains, infographics, social media and twitter
- Interviews and information in specialised press to pass deeper information to hunters and farmers
- Cooperation with other MSs and Switzerland
- Information campaigned exists since 2014 and was ever since deepened and enlarged







ASP-information campaign of BMEL (targeted to hunters)









Thank you for your attention

For more information, especially to the information campaign please see:

- → <u>www.bmel.de/asp</u>
- → www.fli.de/de/aktuelles/tierseuchengeschehen/afrikanische-schweinepest





Summary of German situation

- first confirmation of ASF in wild boar in Germany on September 10th 2020 in district Spree-Neisse
- additional confirmations only in **wild boar** (found dead or hunted with or without symptoms) in districts Spree-Neisse, Oder-Spree, Märkisch-Oderland and Görlitz
- Three core areas in Brandenburg (Neuzelle/Sembten: 150 km², Bleyen: 50 km² and Friedland: 230 km²)
- Part II areas in Brandenburg covering parts of four districts Spree-Neisse, Oder-Spree,
 Dahme-Spreewald and Märkisch-Oderland: 1649 km²
- **Part I area in Brandenburg**: 2.232 km²
- **Part II area in Saxony** covering part of one district Görlitz: 135 km²
- Part I area in Saxony: 309 km²
- pig holdings in restriction zones **BB**: 245 with appr. 60.000 pigs
- pig holdings in restriction zones **SN**: 28 pig holdings (6 empty) 73 pigs



Measures in force in infected area

- Core area: public entering (pedestrians etc.) also prohibited
- Ban of any hunting and agricultural use (harvesting, foresting)
- Search for carcasses by people, specially trained dogs and drones
- notification system for carcass findings
- Sampling and safely disposal of carcasses by trained teams
- Preliminary E-fencing of the initial core area
- prohibition of free-range dogs
- Investigations on whereabouts of harvested crops
- bonus for notification of carcass findings (100-150€)

