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# FAO activities on wildlife diseases surveillance (Europe-focused)

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## Targeting the search of African swine fever-infected wild boar carcasses: A tool for early detection

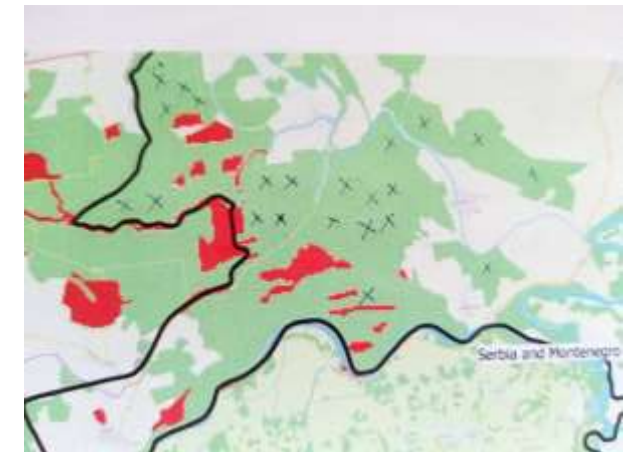
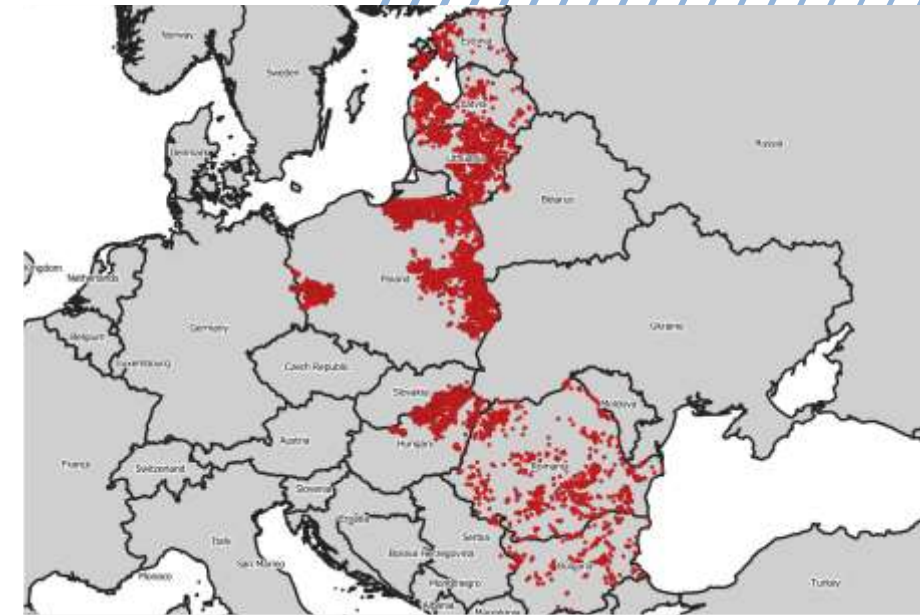
Alberto Allepuz<sup>1</sup>  | Mark Hovari<sup>2</sup> | Marius Masiulis<sup>3,4,5</sup>  | Giovanna Ciaravino<sup>1</sup>  | Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo<sup>2</sup>

- Spatio-temporal analysis of found dead ASF-positive wild boar carcasses from 2017 to January 2021 in 10 countries: 21,785 cases.


### Main results:

- Temporal:
  - Southern countries → higher number of cases between January and April
  - Northern countries → no clear temporal pattern.
- Space-time clustering within distances of 2 km and within 1 week.
- Risk factors:
  - Land use: transition areas between woodland and shrub, green urban areas and mixed forests.
  - Presence of a path and a higher abundance of wild boar

Recommendations to design a search strategy to find ASF-infected wild boar carcasses, which is a crucial activity for surveillance purposes, but also for control



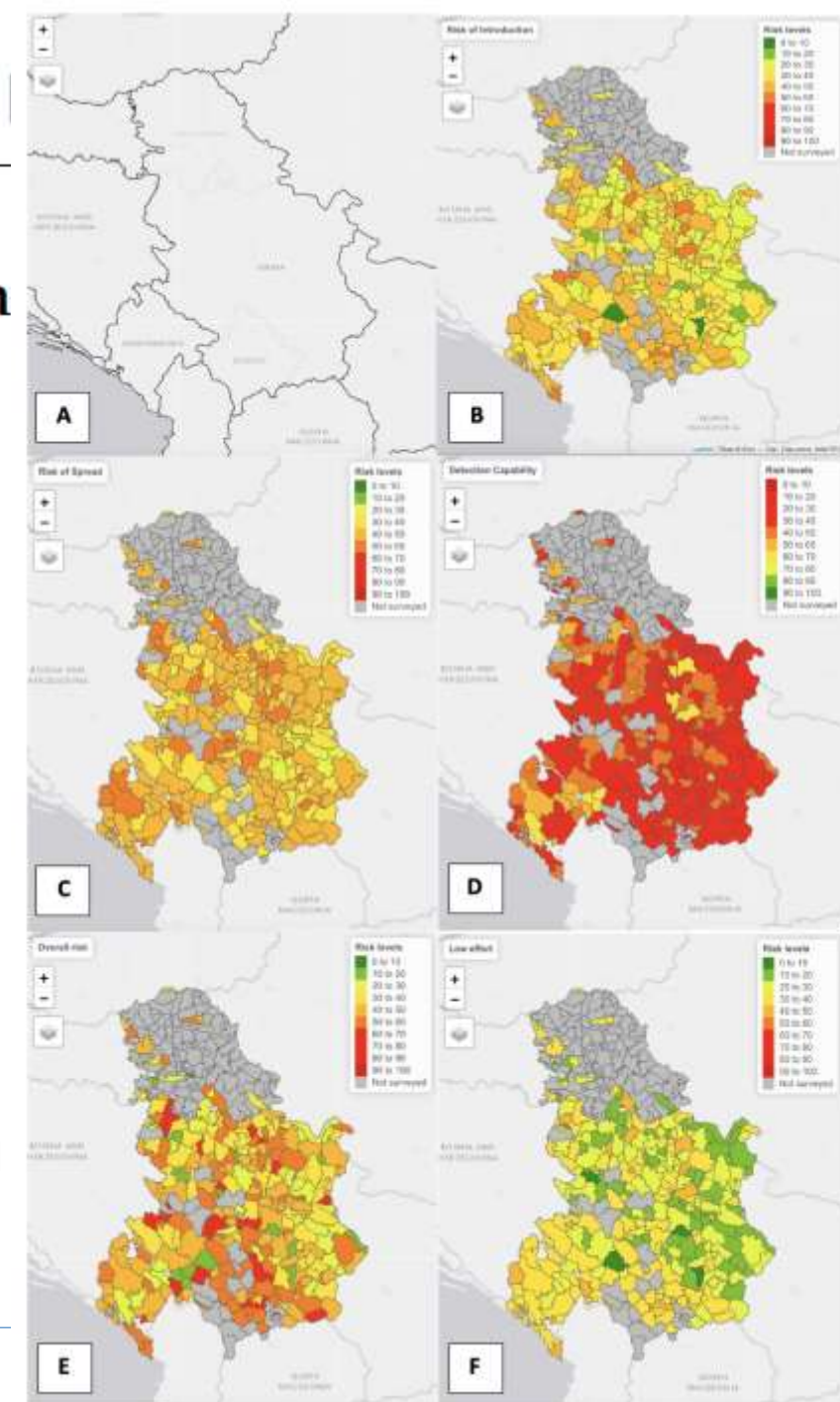
# A Novel Tool to Assess the Risk for African Swine Fever in Hunting Environments: The Balkan Experience

Mario Orrico<sup>1,2</sup>, Mark Hovari<sup>1</sup> and Daniel Beltrán-Alcrudo<sup>1,\*</sup> 

To estimate the risk of ASF introduction, spread and capacity of detection at hunting ground level. Plus the overall risk

- Face-to-face survey for hunting ground managers looking into general management, husbandry and biosecurity practices at the hunting ground (*epicollect5*)
- Expert Knowledge Elicitation (EKE) with 33 experts to weight risk factors
- Assess how feasible it is to change current practices, and how the risk would decrease if changes were implemented.
- Map the risk based on a 0-100 scale
- Outputs can be used to guide policy makers, highlighting gaps or geographical areas to prioritize.
- Conducted in Kosovo\*, Montenegro and Serbia

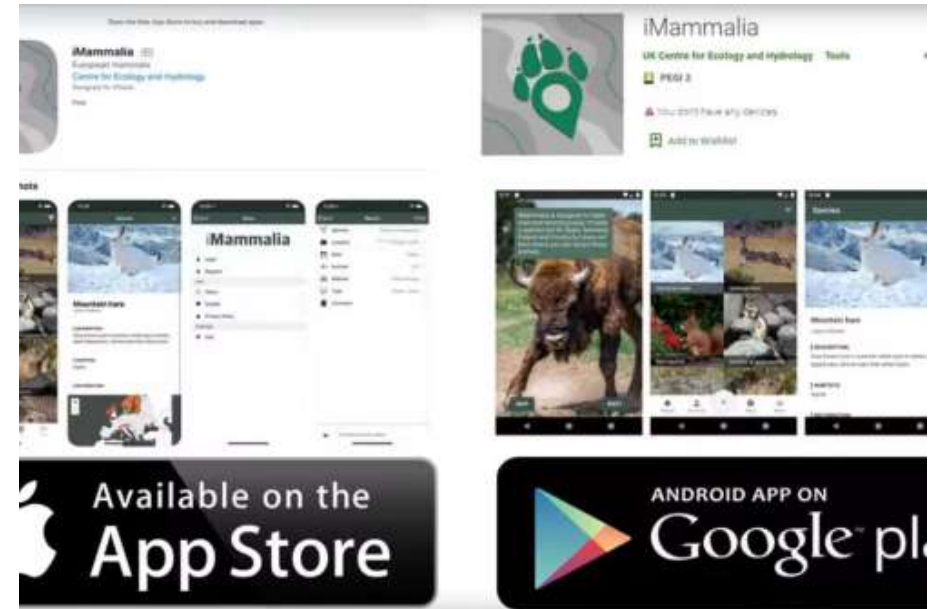
\*As per United Nations Security Council resolution 1244





## [iMammalia mobile application](#) to report dead wild boar

- Collaboration with MammalNet to update iMammalia App for citizens to report wildlife sightings
- Now iMammalia can also be used for early reporting of wild boar carcasses (geolocation, species and picture)
- Added info on sex, age, whether the dead animal has been hunted or not, or the degree of decomposition observed
- FAO's role: initiate the idea, provided the fields, translated it into Balkan languages, promoted its use in the Balkans, and linked the App to the vet services for early notification
- The App today:
  - Languages: Italy, Greece, Serbia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Albania, and Portugal
  - 14,393 mammal observations all over Europe
  - 1,270 observations of dead animals (5.53%)





## Online trainings

Through [Virtual Learning Centre \(VLC\)](#) – One per region

Variety of training formats and languages

Network of focal points

Interactive modules

Course format:

- Videos, webinar recordings, resources, further readings
- Discussion forum
- Surveys
- Final course assessment and certificate

Self-study



Tutored



Webinars



An Introduction to  
**One Health**



| Date          | Topic   | Language        | Number of participants |
|---------------|---|-----------------|------------------------|
| Sep-Oct. 2021 | <a href="#">ASF Preparedness for Canada</a>       | English, French | 300                    |
| Nov-Dec. 2021 | <a href="#">ASF Preparedness in Russian</a>       | Russian         | 300                    |
| Jan-Feb. 2022 | <a href="#">AI Preparedness – Global</a>          | English         | 360                    |
| Apr-May. 2022 | <a href="#">Lumpy skin disease – Russian</a>      | Russian         | 350                    |
| Apr-2022      | <a href="#">Workshop on Outbreak Costing Tool</a> | English         | 30                     |
| Nov-Dec 2022  | <a href="#">Stamping Out Course</a>               | English         | ~ 100                  |
| Nov-Dec 2022  | <a href="#">AI Preparedness - Russian</a>         | Russian         | ~ 300                  |

| Date          | Topic   | Language | Number of participants |
|---------------|---|----------|------------------------|
| Feb 2023      | <a href="#">One Health Course</a>             | English  | ~ 300                  |
| Feb-Mar 2023  | <a href="#">ASF Preparedness for Spain</a>    | Spanish  | TBD                    |
| Mar-Apr 2022  | <a href="#">AMR Surveillance Course</a>       | Russian  | ~ 350                  |
| Apr-May 2023  | <a href="#">Stamping Out Course - Russian</a> | Russian  | ~ 350                  |
| May-June 2023 | <a href="#">ASF preparedness for Europe</a>   | English  | ~ 300                  |
| TBD           | <a href="#">Food Waste and Loss Course</a>    | English  | TBD                    |
| TBD           | <a href="#">Chestnut Blight Course</a>        | English  | TBD                    |



## Face-to-face trainings for hunters in wild boar and hunting biosecurity

- Half day, hands-on, certified training on ASF and hunting biosecurity
- Targets hunting ground managers
- Translated/implemented in Albania, Macedonian and Serbian
- In collaboration with local hunting associations



| Dates         | Location               | # of trainings | # of hunters trained |
|---------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------------|
| July-Aug 2021 | <a href="#">Serbia</a> | 10             | 200-220              |
| July-Aug 2021 | Kosovo*                | 2              | 40-60                |
| Aug-Oct 2021  | North Macedonia        | 12             | 200-250              |
| Oct 2021      | Montenegro             | 3              | 60-80                |



## Workshops

### National events on wild boar management and hunting biosecurity

- Serbia, 24 May 2019
- Montenegro, 10-11 Sep 2019
- Kosovo\*, 26-27 Sept 2019
- North Macedonia, 17-18 Oct 2019

### Simulation exercises

- [North Macedonia 27-28 Nov 2019, face-to-face](#)
- [Kosovo\\* 26-27 Feb 2020](#)
- [Multi-country SimEx \(B&H, Serbia & Croatia\) 23-24 Feb 2021, online](#)
- [Montenegro 18 – 19 Aug 2021, face-to-face](#)

[Regional ASF Wild Boar Management Workshop, Belgrade, Serbia, 21 – 23 May 2019](#)

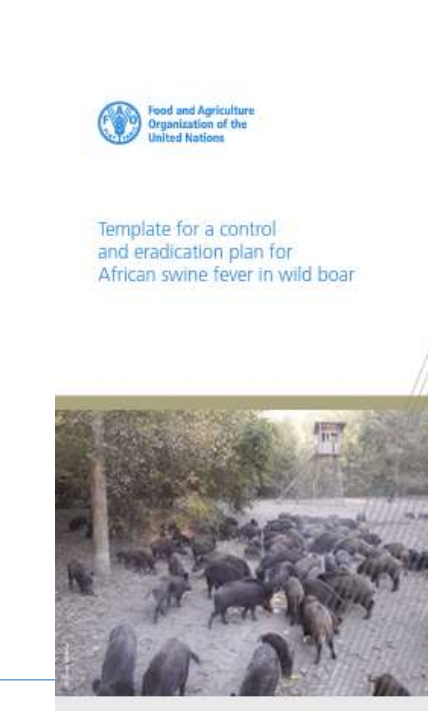
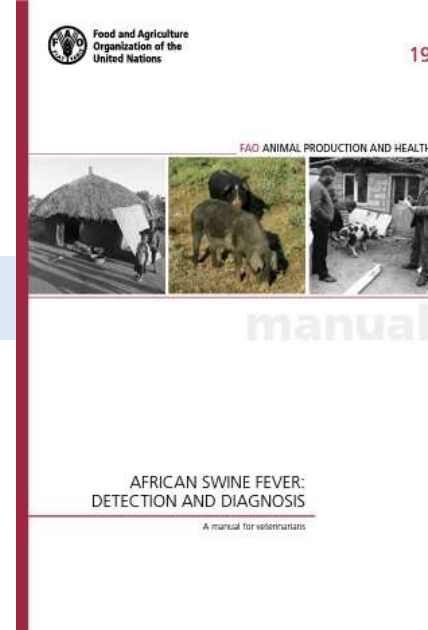






## Technical materials on ASF relevant to wildlife

- [African swine fever: detection and diagnosis – A manual for veterinarians](#)
- The [second edition of the handbook African swine fever in wild boar - Ecology and biosecurity](#)
- 2-pager on "[What hunters need to know about African swine fever and biosecurity measures during hunting](#)"
- [Template for a control and eradication plan for African swine fever in wild boar](#) intended as a short guide on how to structure a control and eradication plan for ASF in wild boar





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Thanks