

**Twenty-second Meeting of the Standing  
Group of Experts on African swine fever  
in Europe (SGE ASF22)**

Evolution of fencing solution used in Europe  
and the possible future role of vaccination against ASF in wild boar

V. Guberti

ISPRA

Ozzano E. (BO); ITALY



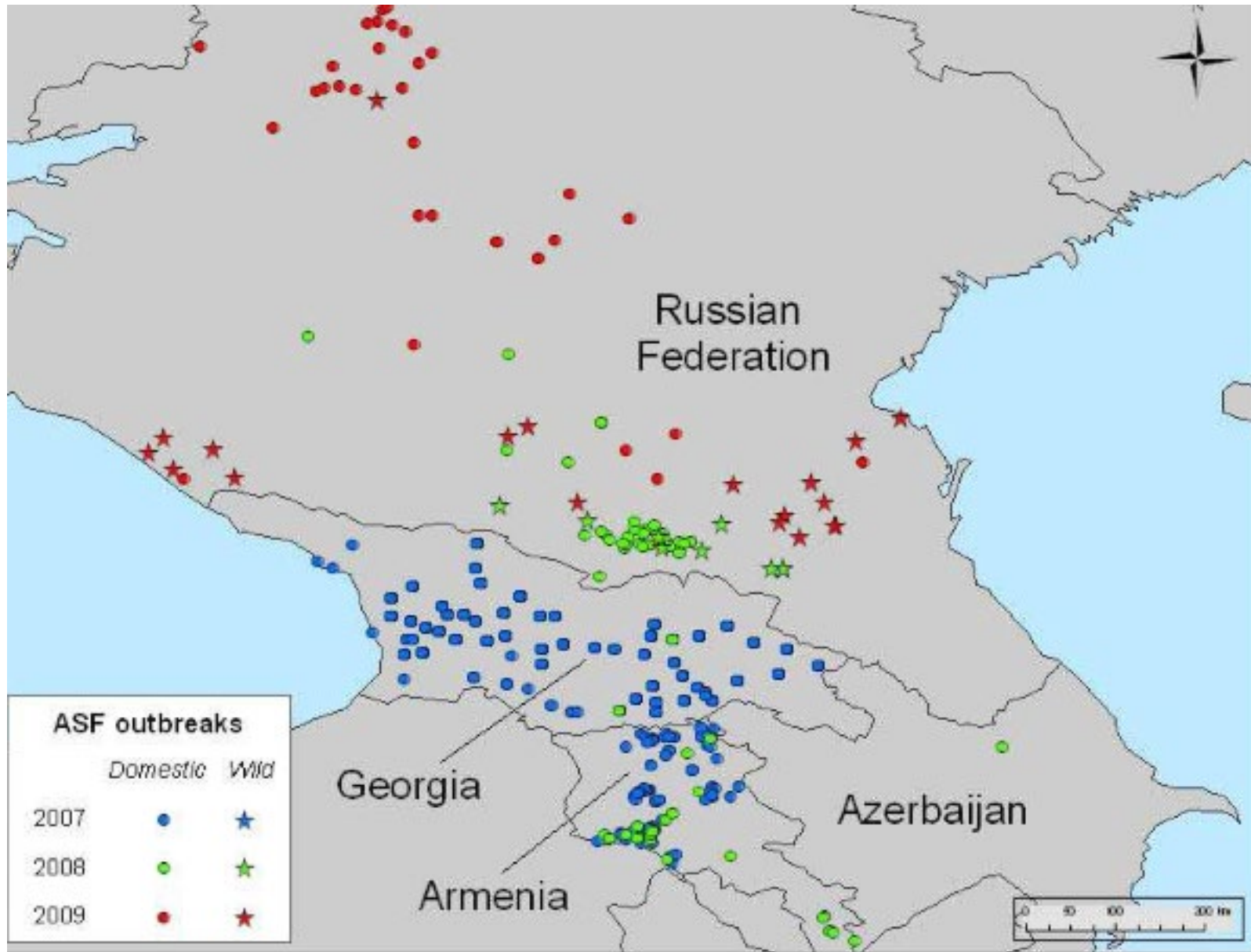
The journey began:  
Georgia 2007

Cleaning and disinfection in a semi-commercial infected farm



## ASF: what did we know?

- Highly contagious infection;
- Fatality rate 40-50% of infected animals;
- 
- Essential role of ticks;
- Seropositive individuals continuous or intermittent spreaders;
- Chronic – seropositive animals
- Epidemiological reservoir: large populations of domestic pigs reared in the absence of biosecurity;
- Wild boar: epiphenomenon of infection in domestic pigs;

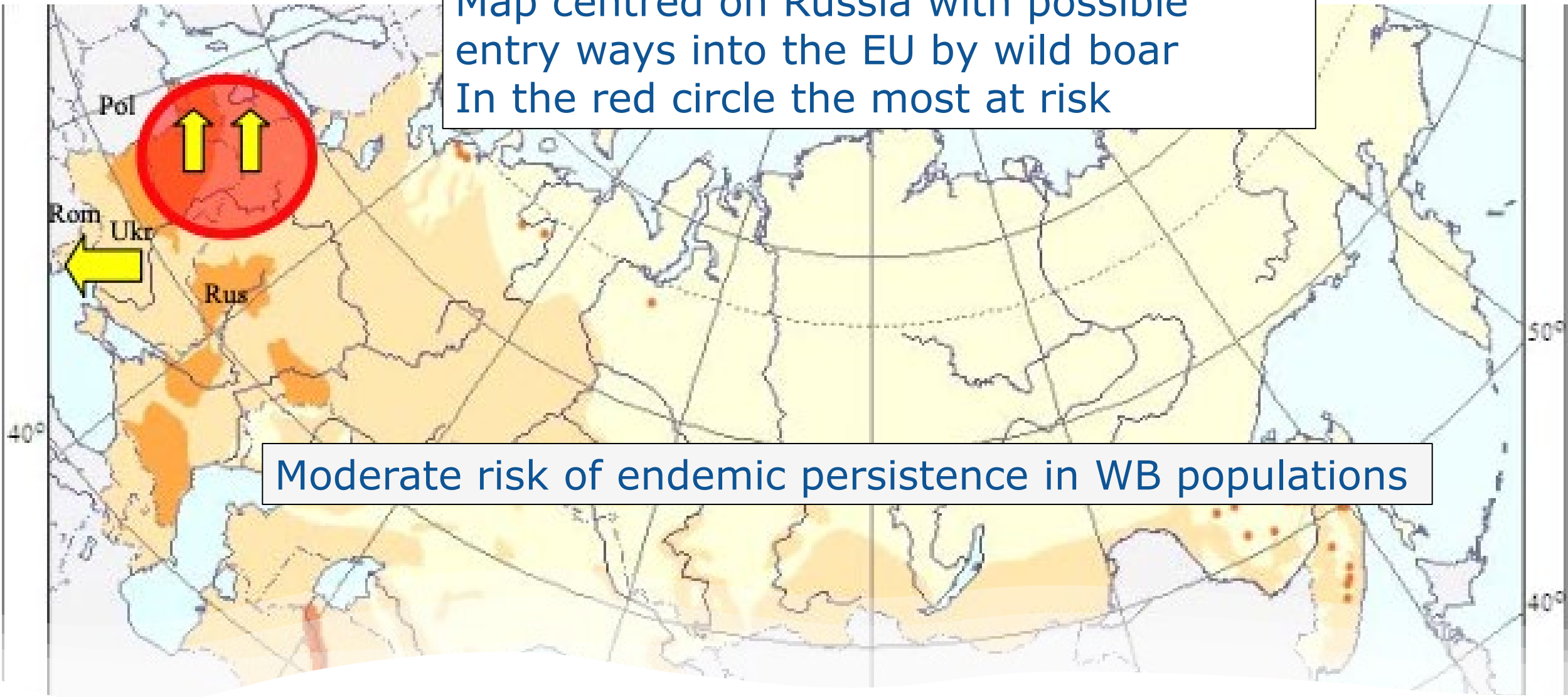


## Not many stars

still convinced that  
the wild boar was not  
particularly  
important:  
a victim of the  
infection  
in the domestic pig

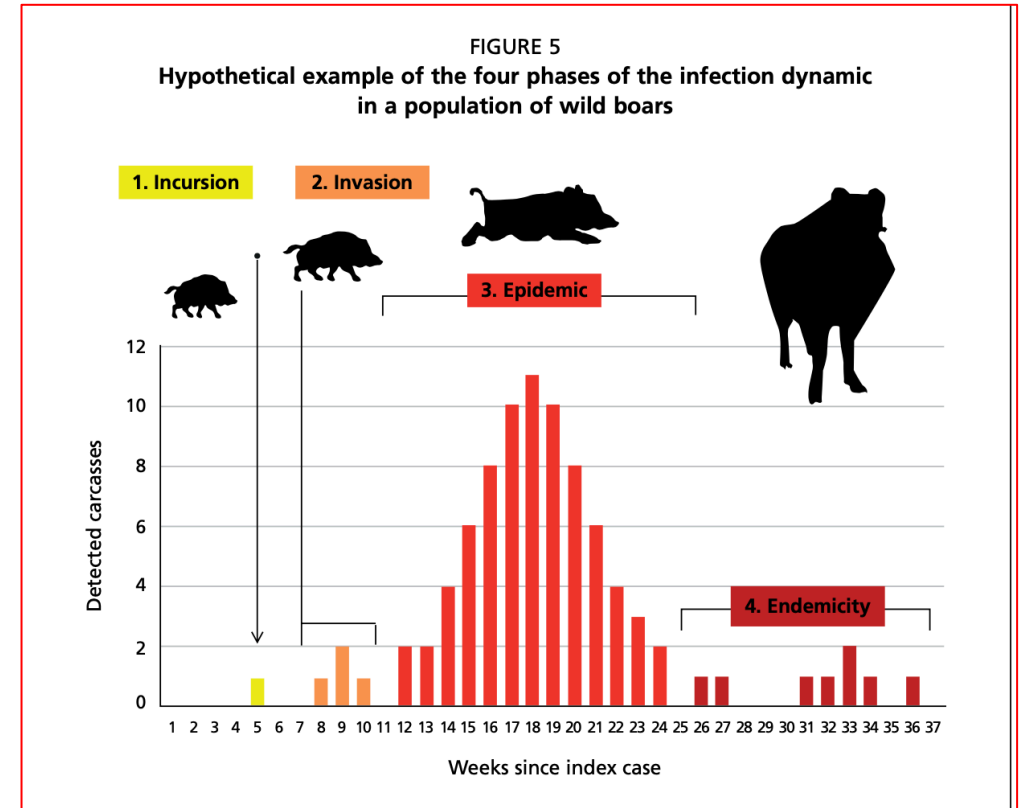
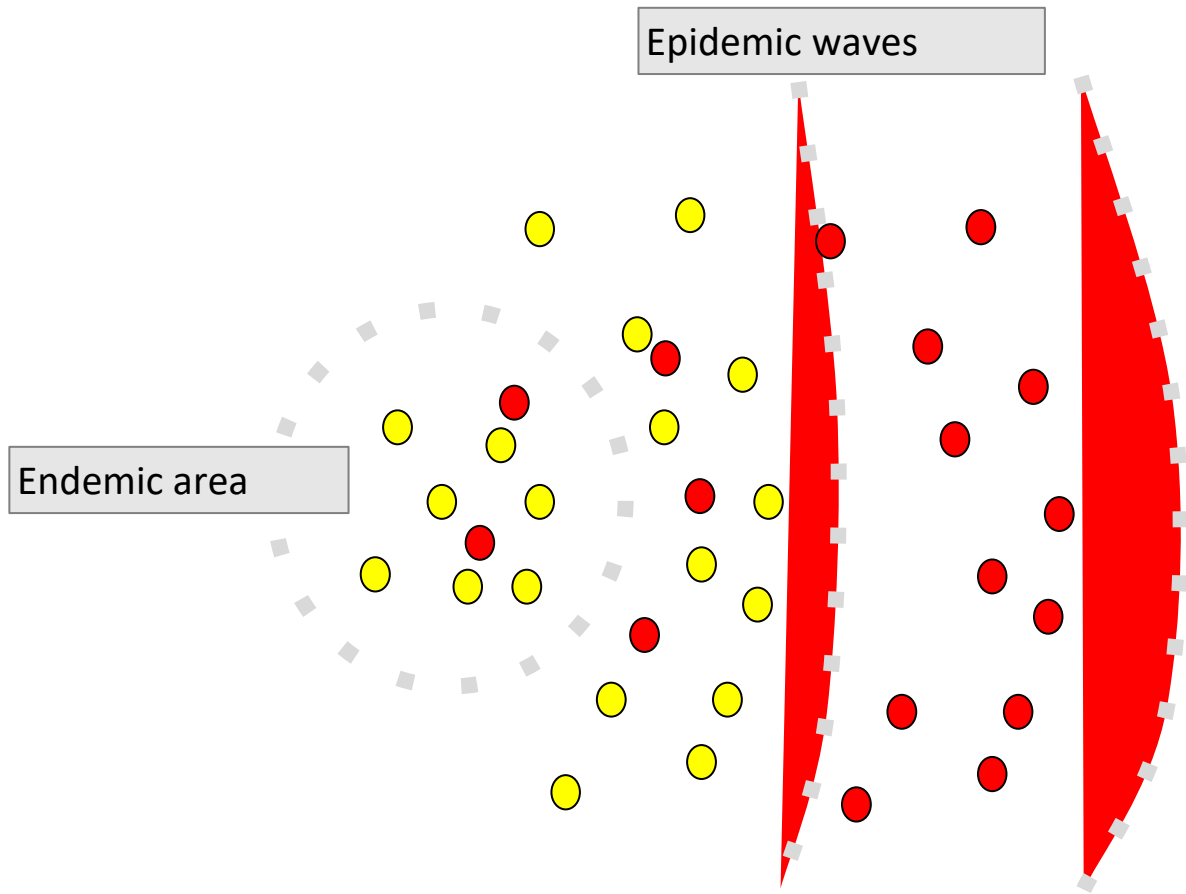
EFSA, 2010

Map centred on Russia with possible entry ways into the EU by wild boar  
In the red circle the most at risk

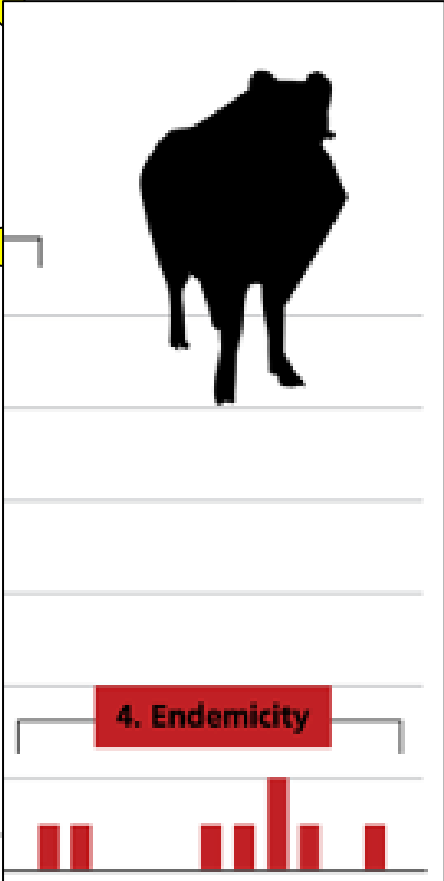
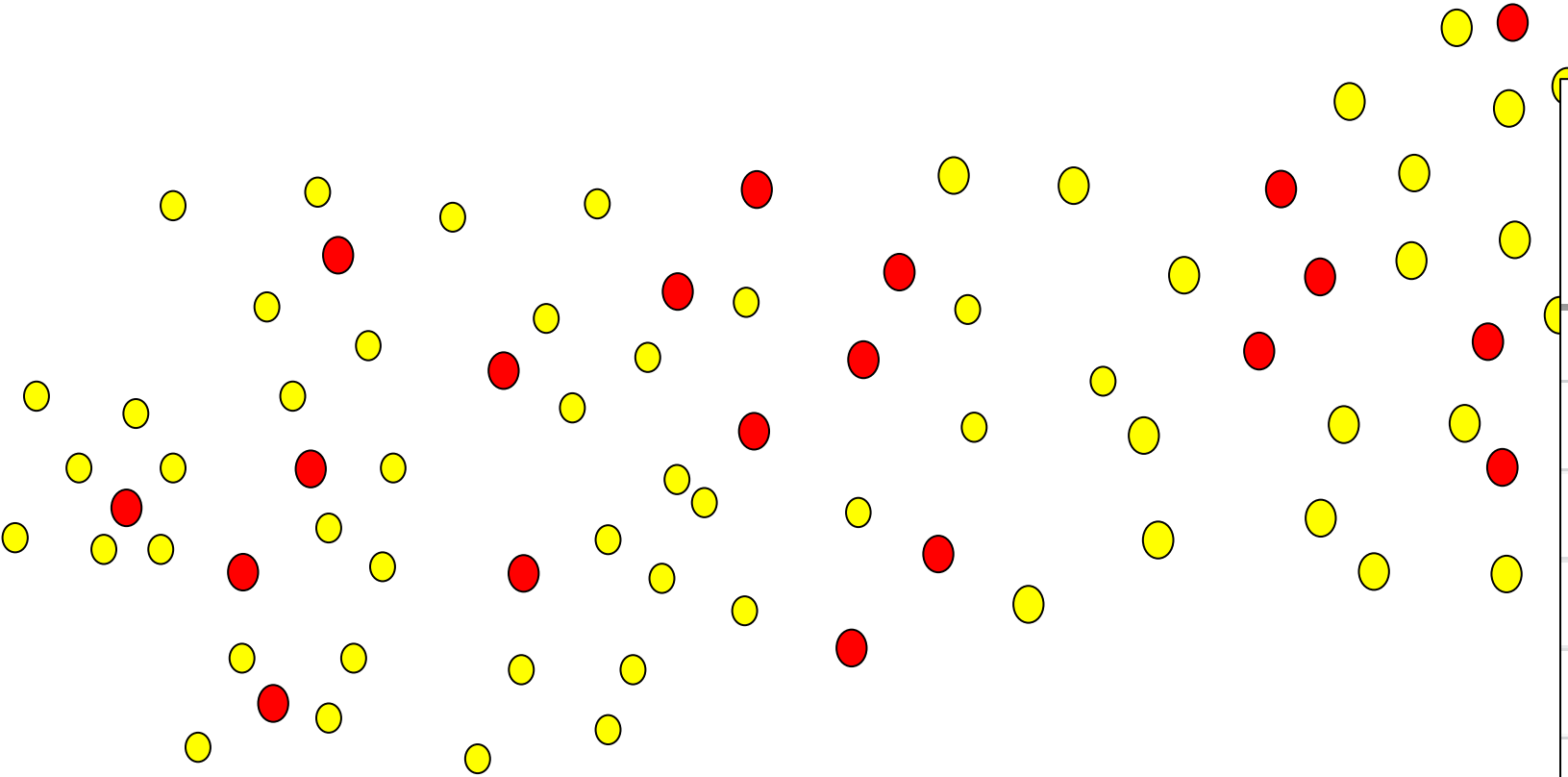


Moderate risk of endemic persistence in WB populations

# ASF in wild boar epidemiological picture observed in the field



Result: large endemic areas





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Research



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## Behaviour of free ranging wild boar towards their dead fellows: potential implications for the transmission of African swine fever

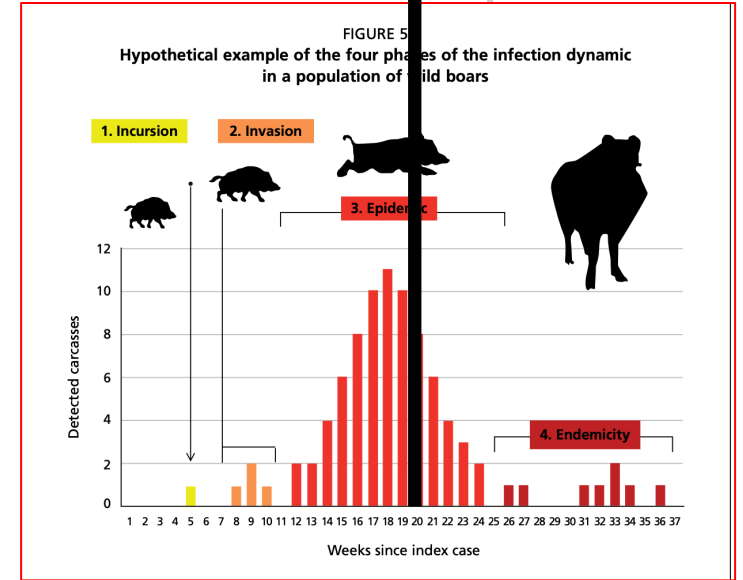
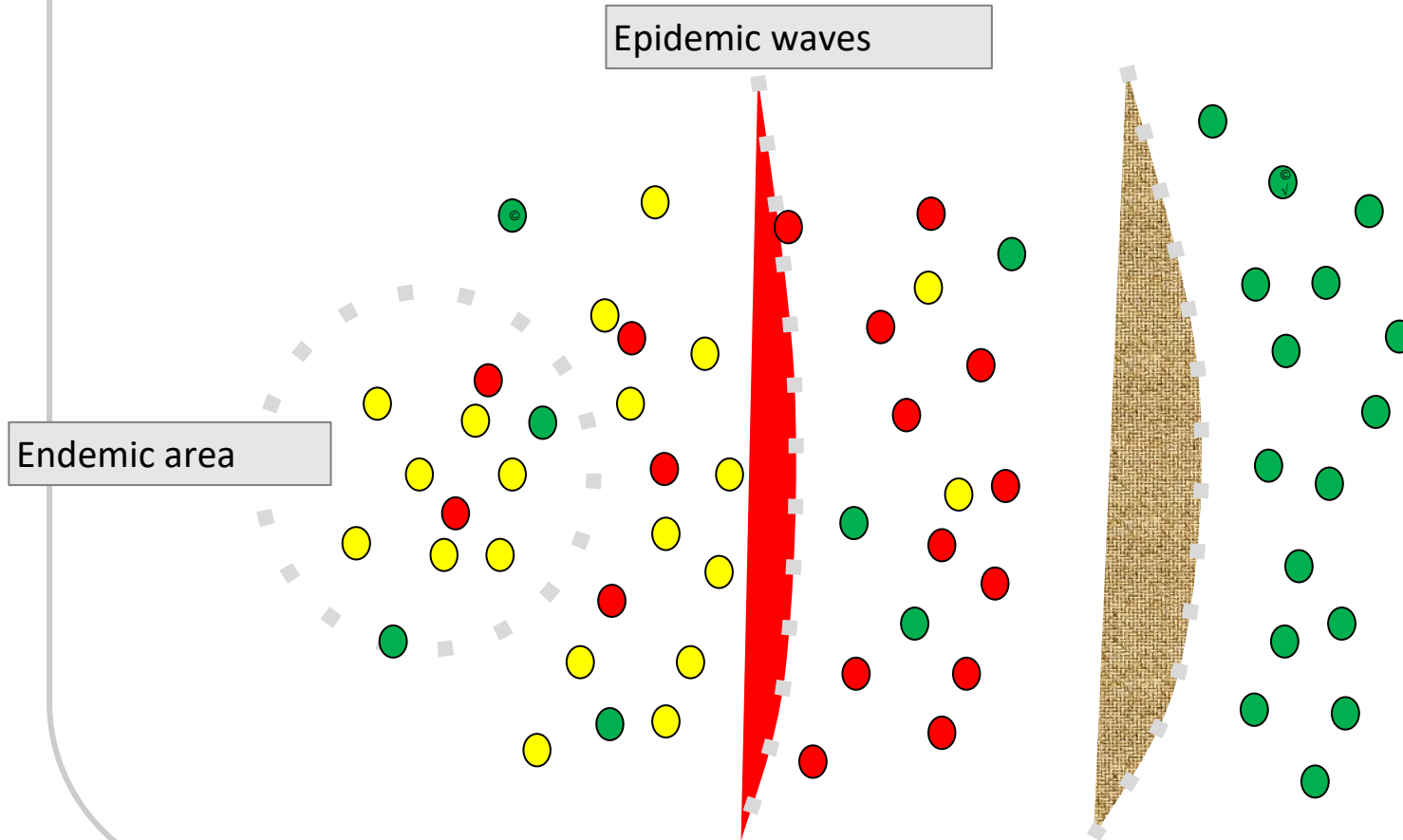
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# If the epidemic wave was not halted, there would be no end to it





## **Lithuania will build a fence to prevent entry of African swine fever**

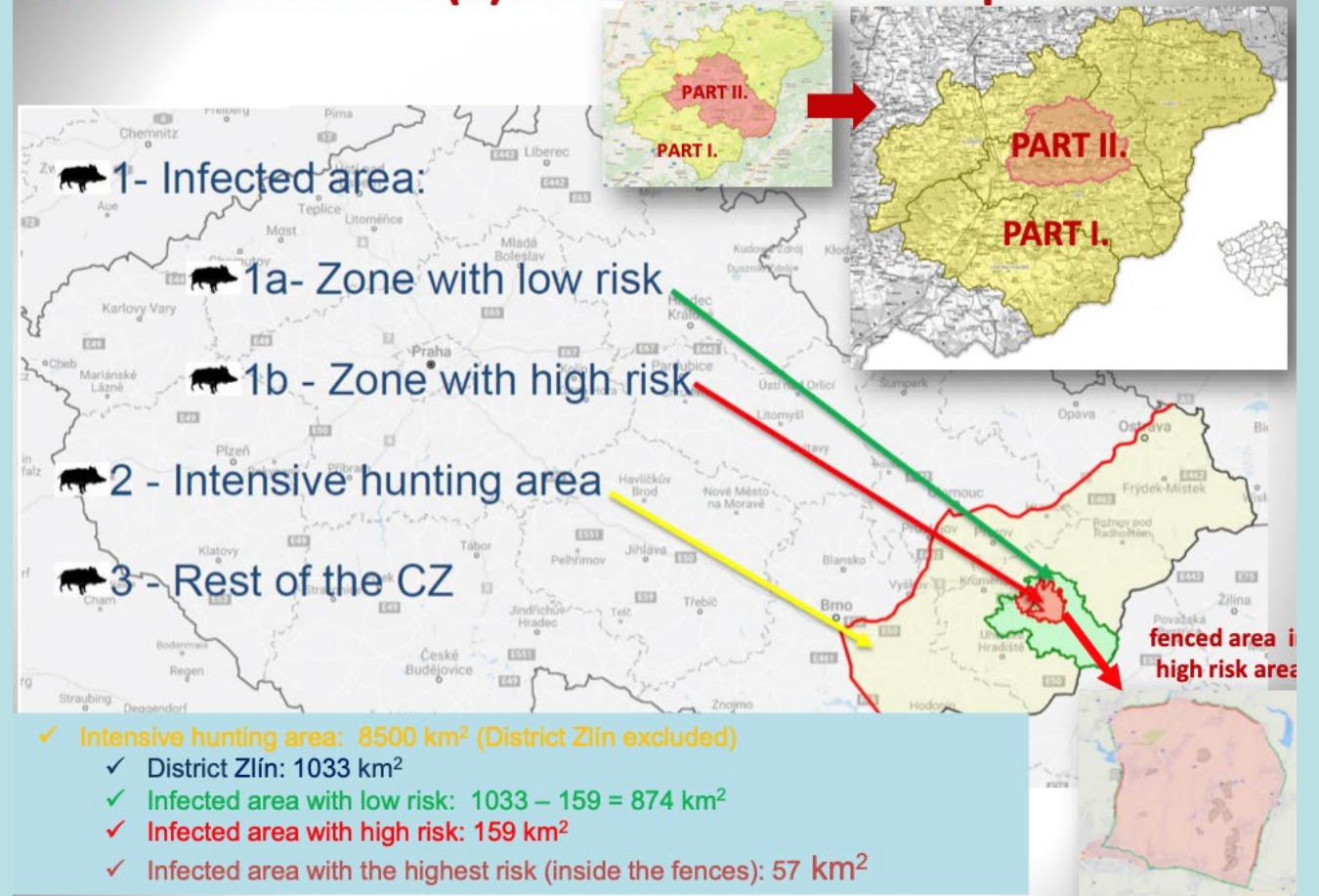
Read this article in: [🌐 Language](#) ▼

The fence will be constructed in the territory of the focus of the swine fever – Varcios, Gedimino and Kalesniku forests in Alytus and Varena districts.

# Czech Republic, Zlin area: the first success an electric fence with an overall strategy for wild boar and ASF management

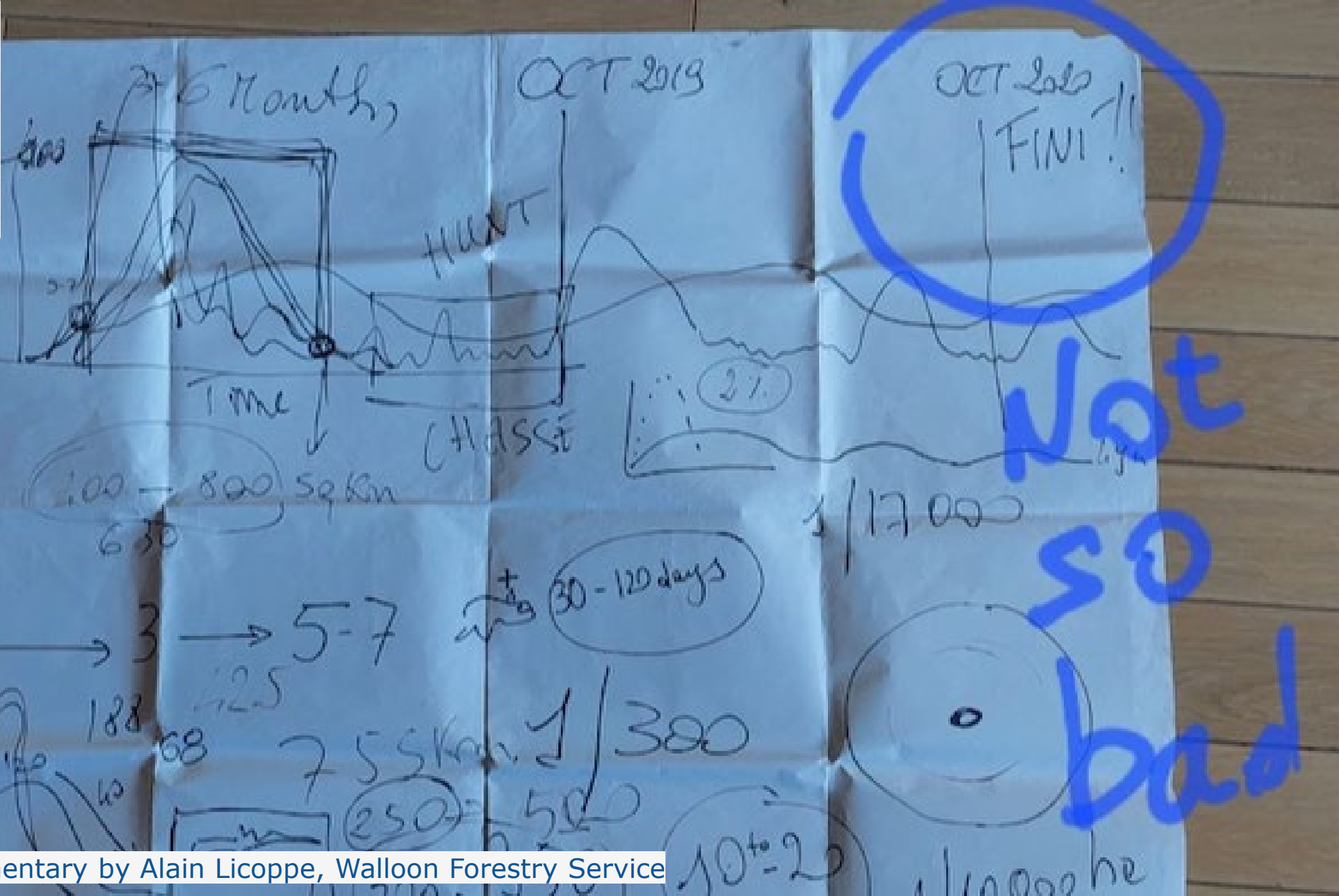


## ASF measures in 4 (5) levels in the Czech Republic

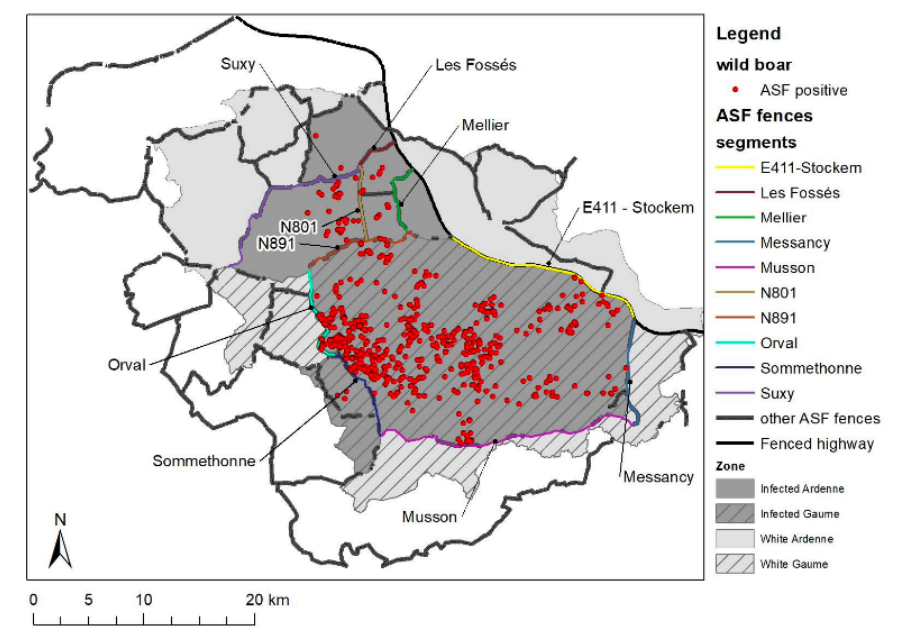


June 2017

September 2018  
EUVET mission in Belgium  
Sketch scenario during the final meeting



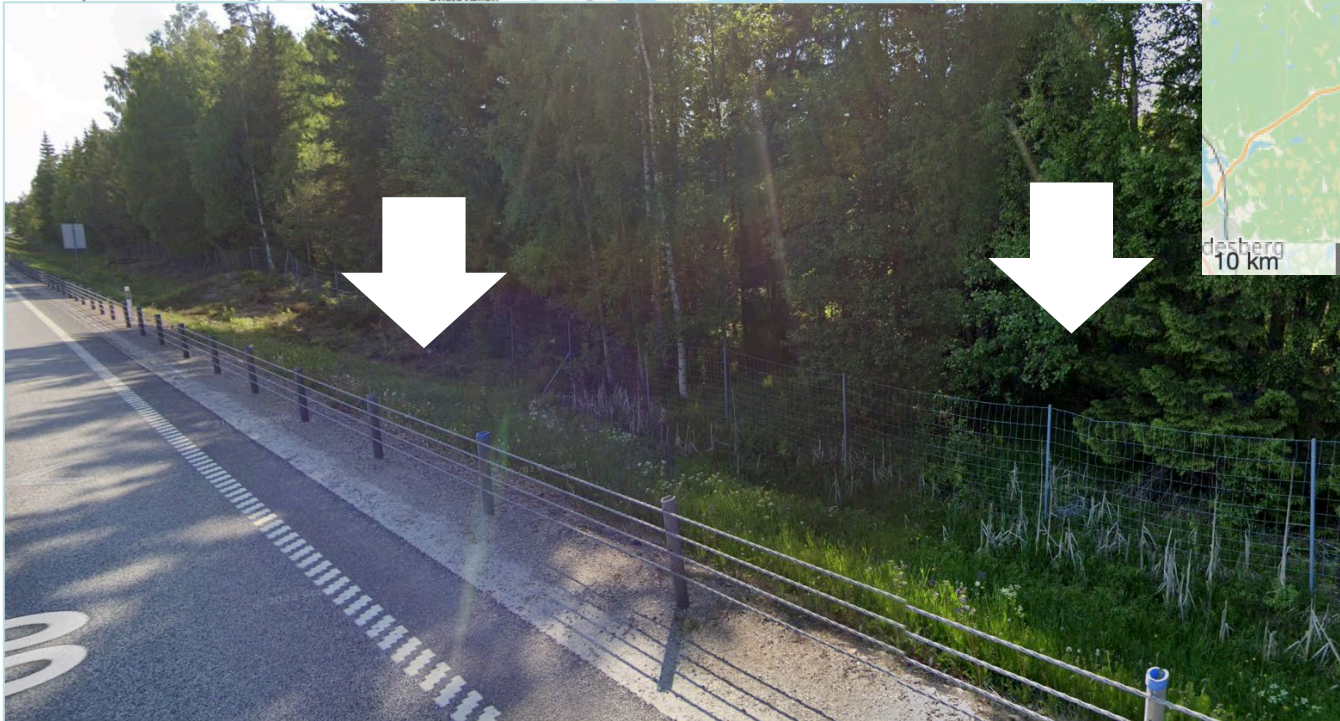
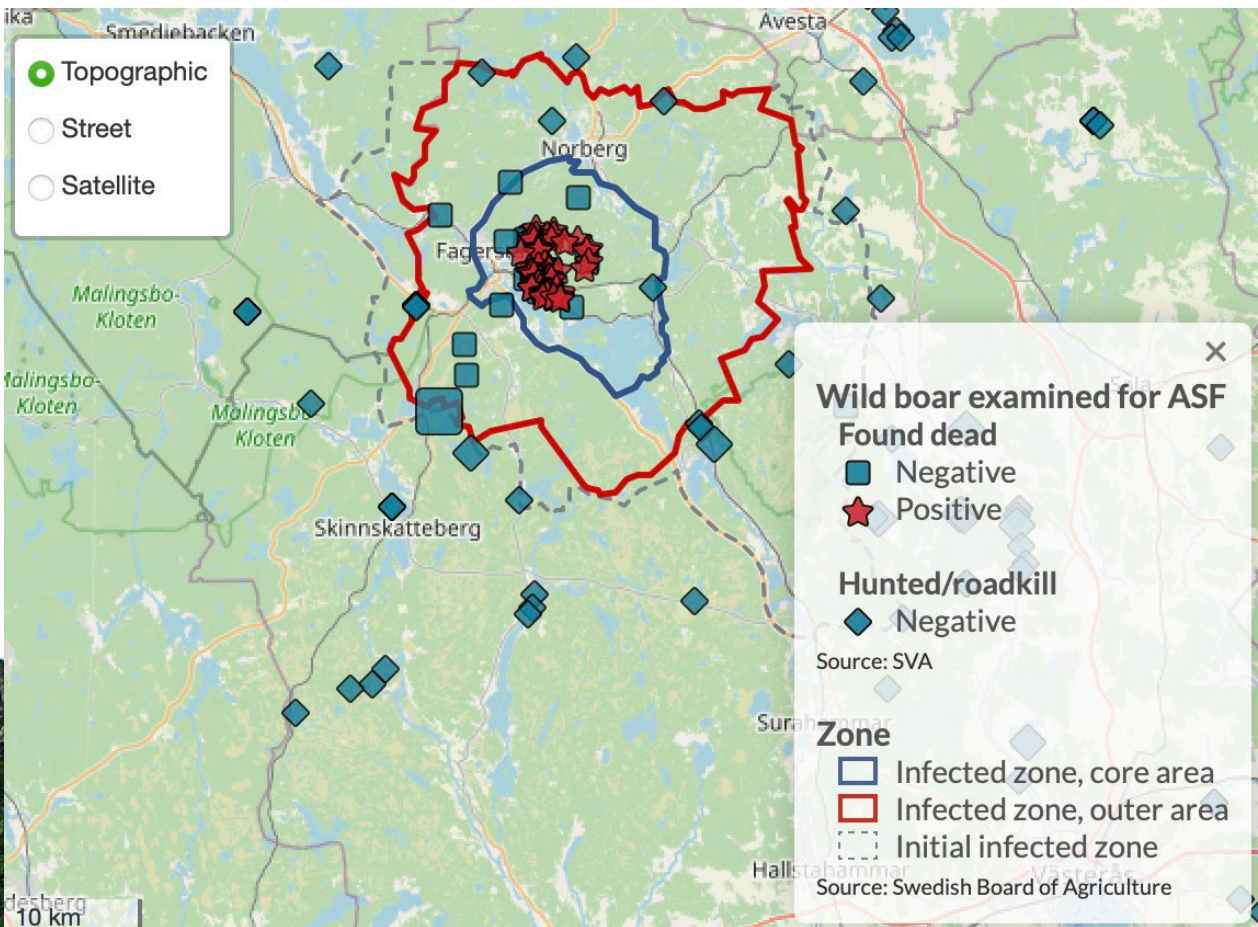
Photos and commentary by Alain Licoppe, Walloon Forestry Service



**Figure 7.** Network of fences in Belgium, France, and Luxemburg, and identification of the 10 fenced segments directly exposed to ASF-positive wild boar.

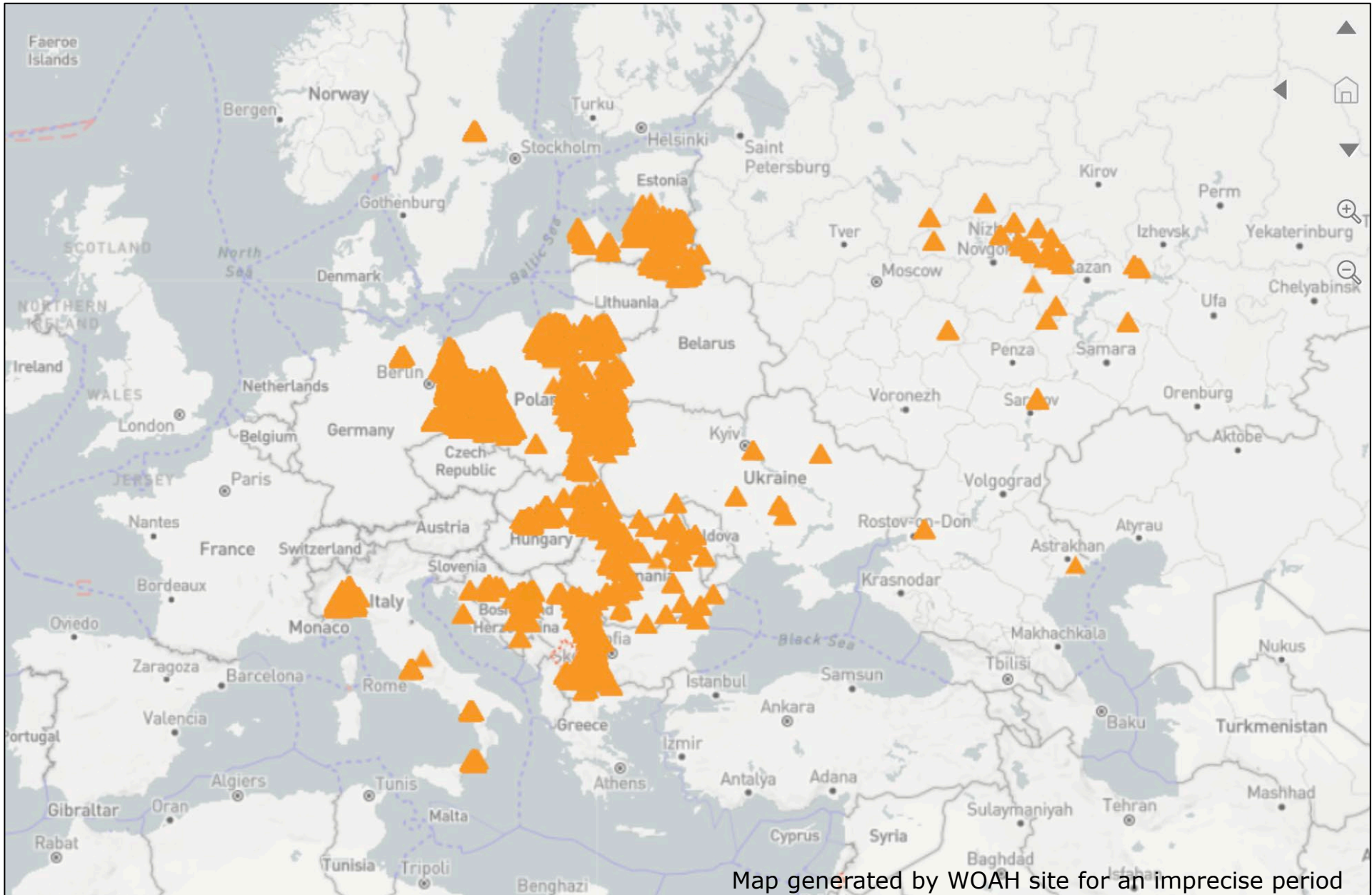


# EUVET 2023



Sweden:  
taking advantage of the  
local situation

September 2023



It is pleonastic to realise that not every ASF in wild boar infectd area can be fenced, especially the larger endemic areas

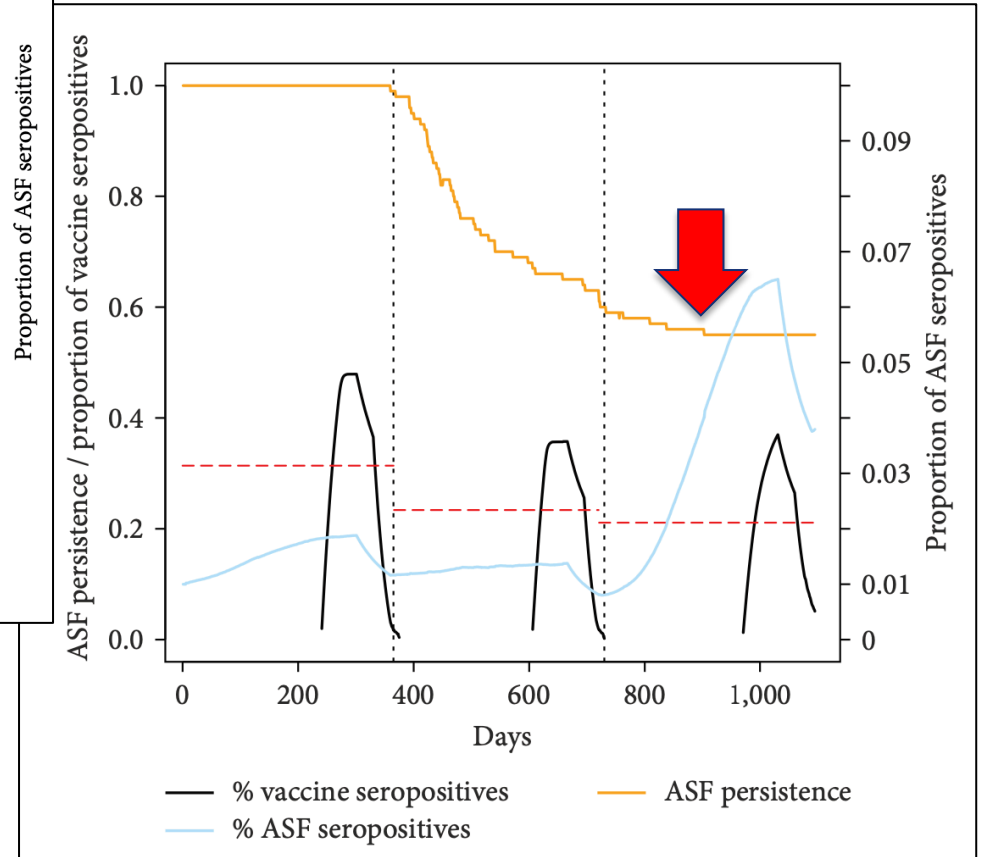
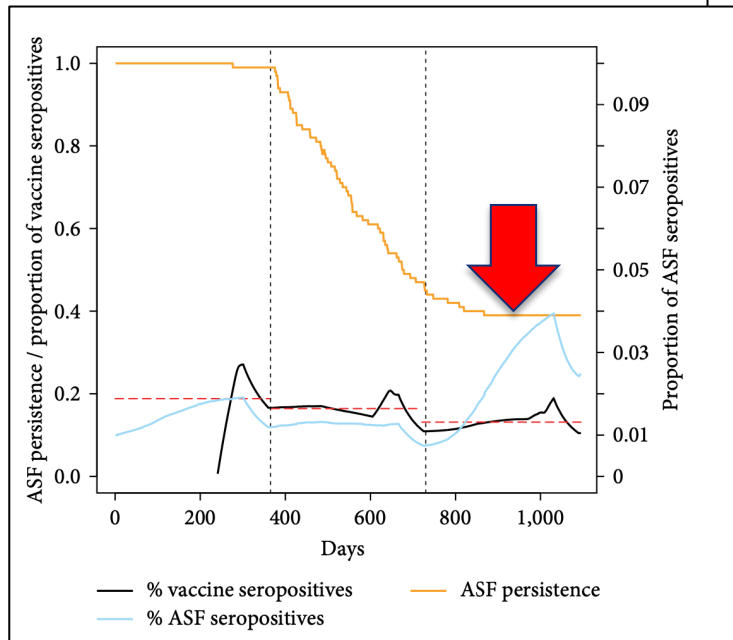
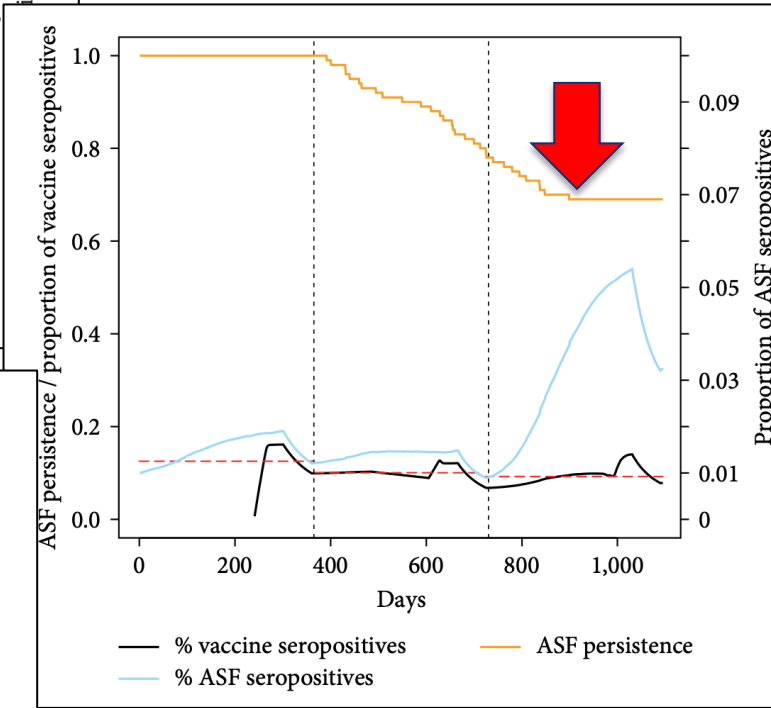
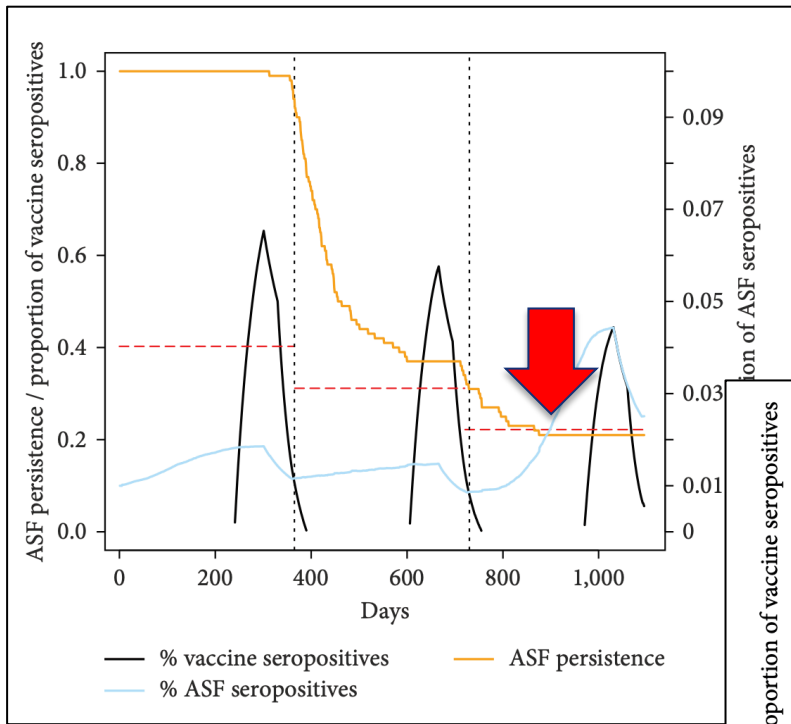
Map generated by WOAHSite for an imprecise period



## Project EU, DEFEND

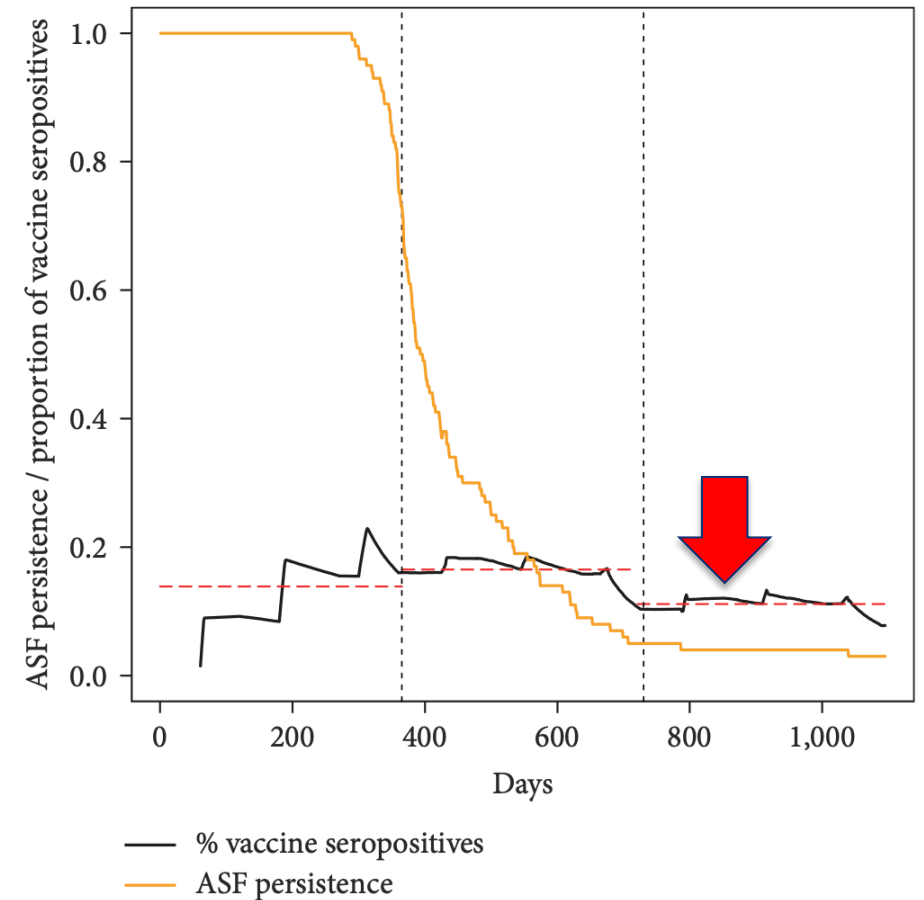
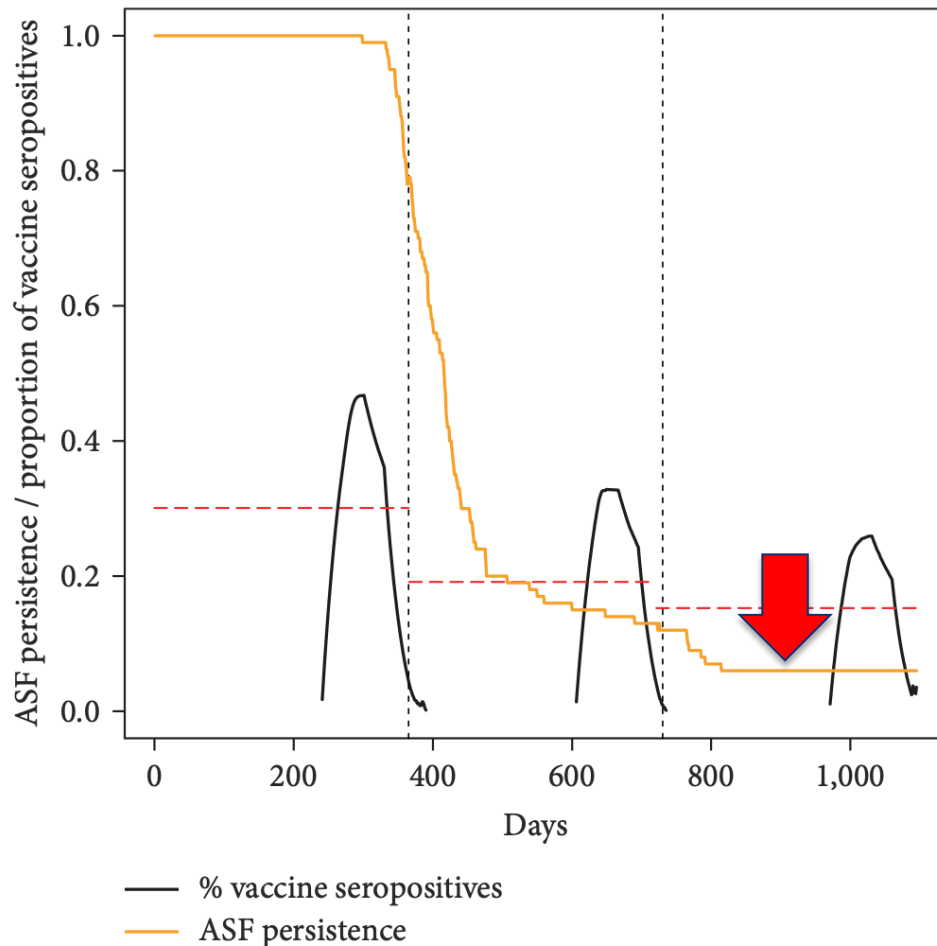
If an excellent vaccine is not available (100% efficacy, >6 months duration of immunity)

**vaccination alone does not lead to eradication;**



However, depending on the characteristics of the vaccine (even a bad one) and by **modulating the vaccination campaigns** accordingly, and by **appropriately managing the infected wild boar population**, it is possible to achieve very good eradication probabilities

**Vaccination, like fences, is a tool but suitable for large endemic areas.  
The future is upon us**



## Acknowledgements

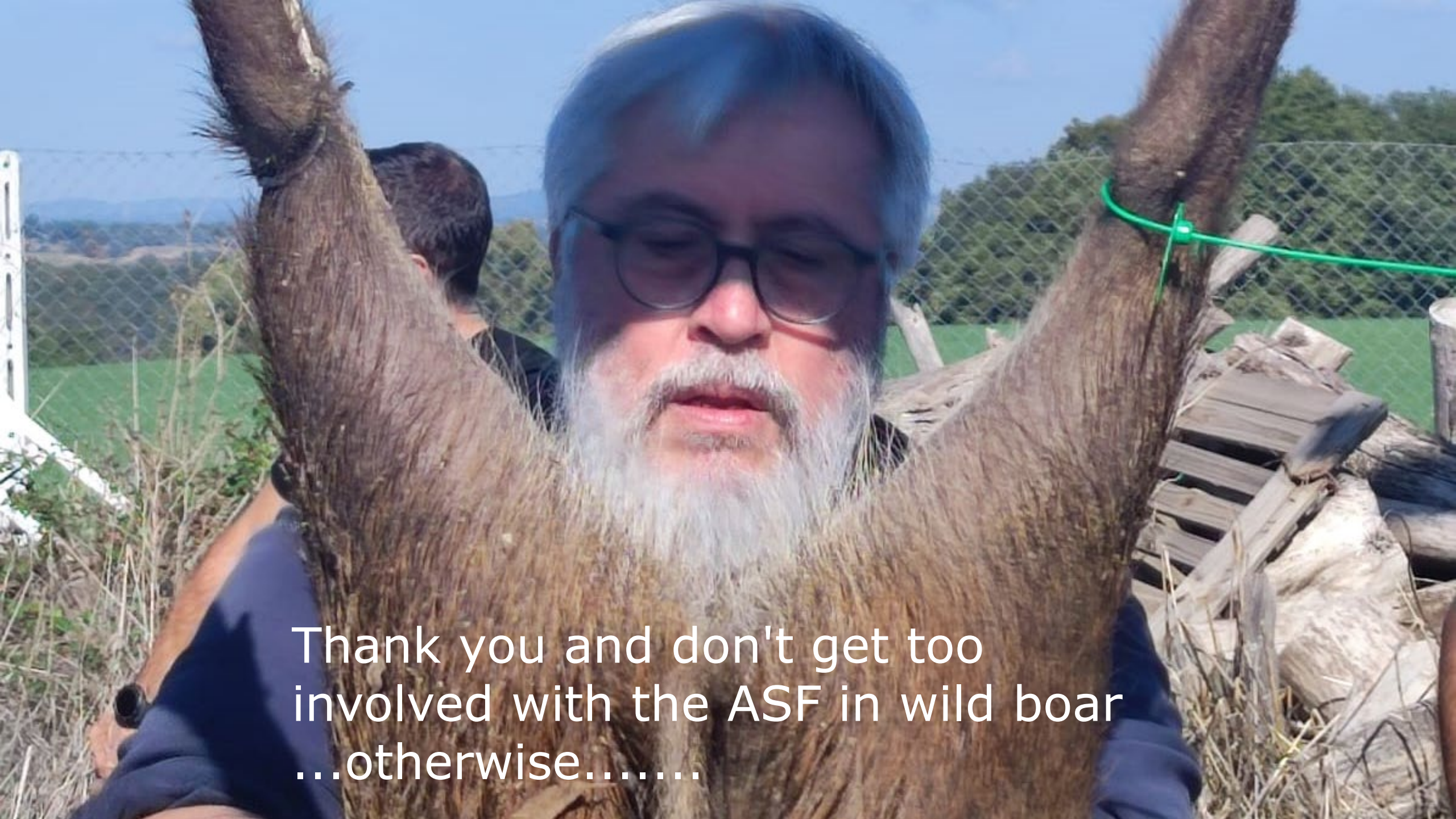
EC, FAO and WOAHA (in alphabetical order)

Colleagues from EUVET and the ASF Expert Group of the GF TADs

Project DEFEND (EU funded)

EFSA

The ASF Brotherhood (the collection of all the ideas of each of the colleagues from the infected countries)

A close-up photograph of a man with a full white beard and glasses, wearing a dark blue shirt. He is holding a large, brown, shaggy animal skin, likely a wild boar, in front of him. The skin is draped over his shoulders and arms. In the background, there is a chain-link fence, some wooden debris, and a clear blue sky. Another person's head is visible behind the man. The text is overlaid at the bottom of the image.

Thank you and don't get too  
involved with the ASF in wild boar  
...otherwise.....