



Overview of ASF in the EU and European Commission Activities

23rd Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever

18-19 September 2024

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Directorate G

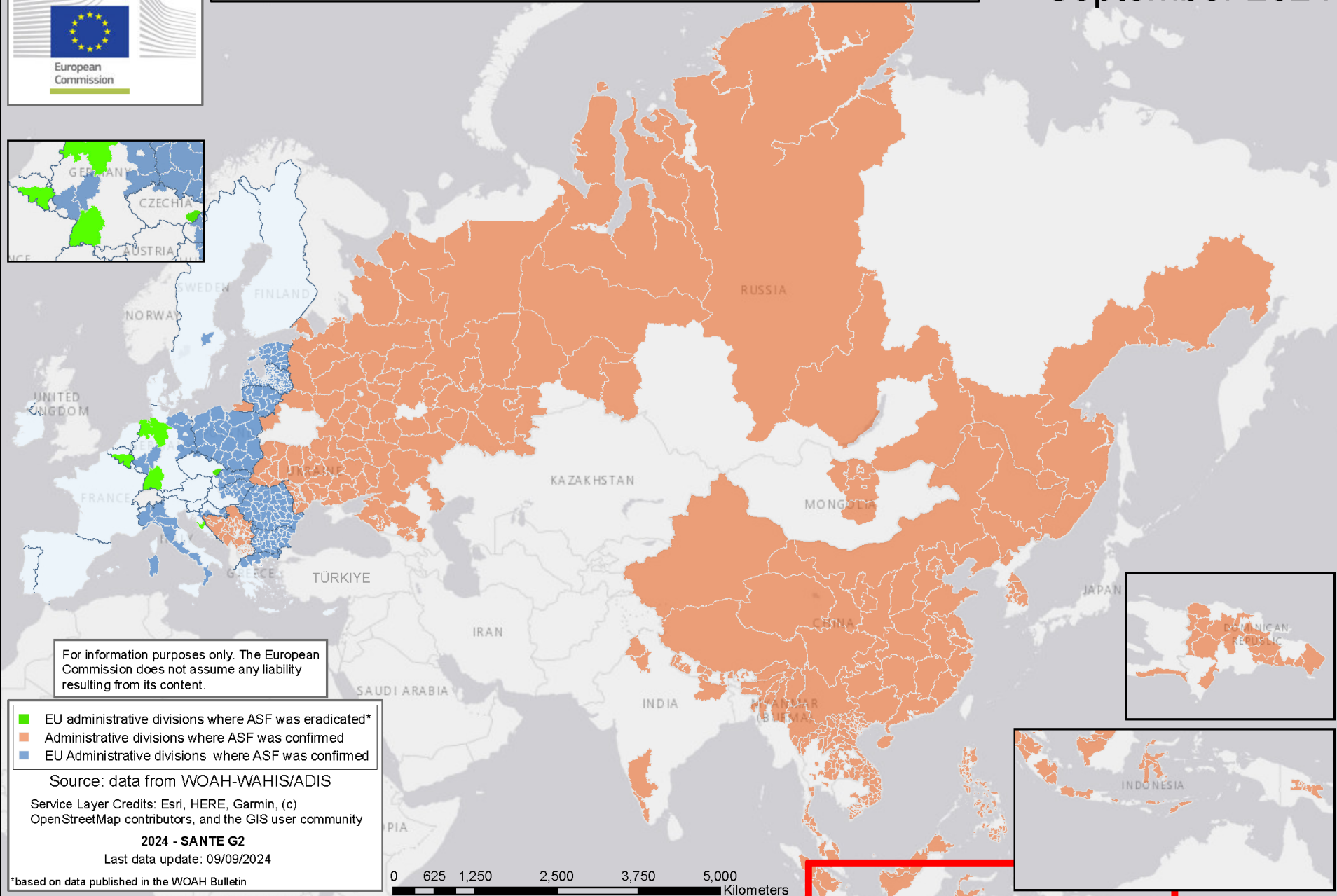
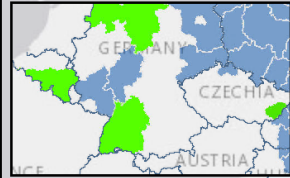
Crisis preparedness in food, animals and plants

DG SANTE, European Commission



African swine fever by administrative divisions affected in 2013-2024 in Europe, Asia, Oceania and Americas

September 2024



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Legend:
■ EU administrative divisions where ASF was eradicated*
■ Administrative divisions where ASF was confirmed
■ EU Administrative divisions where ASF was confirmed
Source: data from WOAH-WAHIS/ADIS
Service Layer Credits: Esri, HERE, Garmin, (c) OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
2024 - SANTE G2
Last data update: 09/09/2024
*based on data published in the WOAH Bulletin

ASF in Asia, the Pacific and the Americas

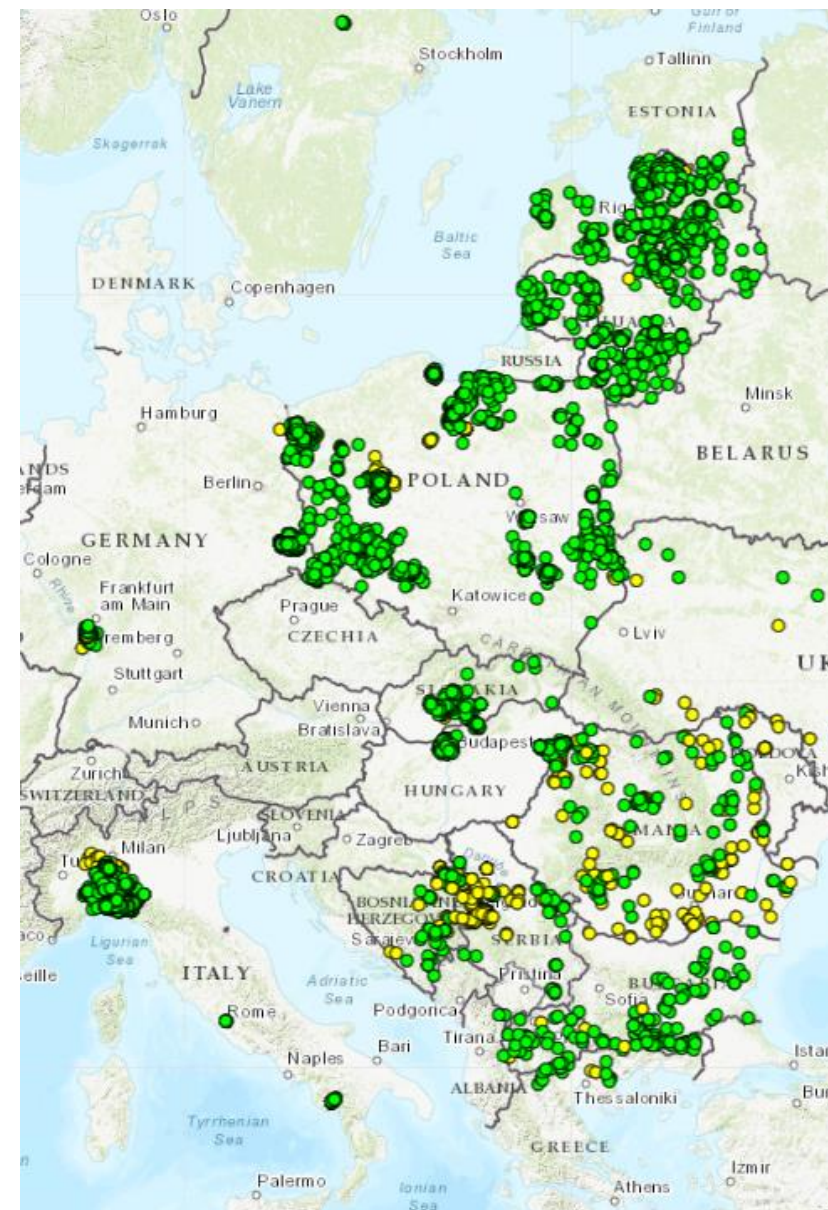
1. China (Aug 2018)
2. Mongolia (Jan 2019)
3. Vietnam (Feb 2019)
4. Cambodia (March 2019)
5. Hong Kong (May 2019)
6. Democratic People's Republic of Korea (May 2019)
7. Lao People's Democratic Republic (Jun 2019)
8. Myanmar (Aug 2019)
9. The Philippines (Jul 2019)
10. Republic of Korea (Sep 2019)
11. Timor-Leste (Sep 2019)
12. Indonesia (Nov 2019)
13. Papua New Guinea (Mar 2020)
14. India (May 2020)
15. Malaysia (Feb 2021)
16. Bhutan (May 2021)
17. Dominican Republic (July 2021).
18. Haiti (September 2021).
19. Thailand (January 2022).
20. Nepal (March 2022).
21. Singapore (February 2023).
22. Bangladesh (November 2023)



ASF in the EU in 2014 - 2024

No	MS	1 st ASF detection	Wild boar	Pigs	Remarks on the ASF situation in 2024
1.	LT	1/2014	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 6 outbreaks in pigs
2.	PL	1/2014	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 43 outbreaks in pigs
3.	LV	6/2014	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 6 outbreaks in pigs
4.	EE	7/2015	+	+	mainly in wild boar;
5.	CZ	6/2017	+		ASF eradicated in 2019 ; new cases in wild boar at the border with PL (since 12/2022)
6.	RO	7/2017	+	+	in wild boar; 147 outbreaks in pigs
7.	HU	4/2018	+		in wild boar only
8.	BG	6/2018	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 1 outbreak in pigs
	BE	9/2018	+		free from ASF since 11/2020
9.	SK	7/2019	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 2 outbreaks in pigs
10.	EL	2/2020	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 10 outbreaks in pigs
11.	DE	9/2020	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 10 outbreaks in pigs
12.	IT	1/2022	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 28 outbreaks in pigs
13.	HR	6/2023	+	+	mainly in wild boar; 6 outbreaks in pigs
14.	SE	9/2023	+		in wild boar

ASF in the EU and WB in 2024 (up to 13/9/2024)



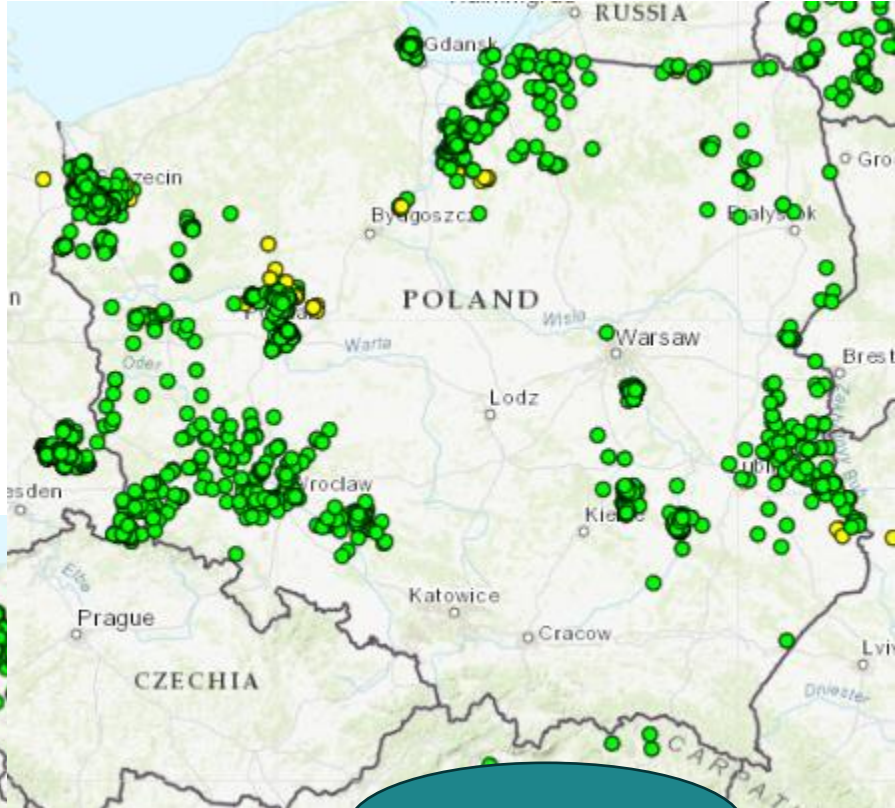
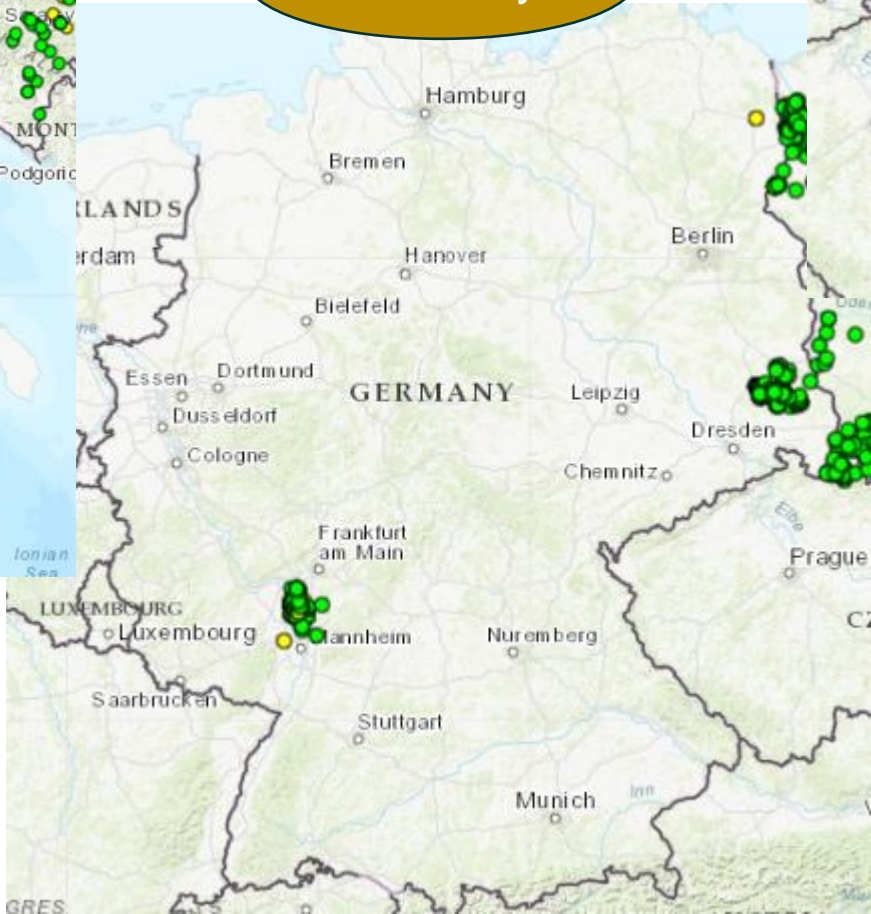
ASF outbreaks in wild boar
ASF outbreaks in domestic pigs

Highlights - EU 2024



Italy

Germany



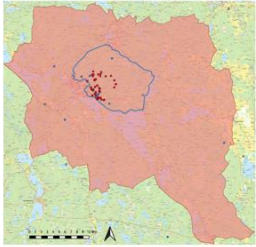
Poland

Best practises in the EU: Sweden (next success??)

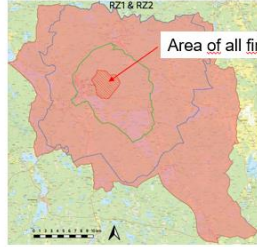
The last (PCR positive) ASF cases found in May and June 2024 are **old carcasses = old infection!!!**



Zoning according to EU legislation

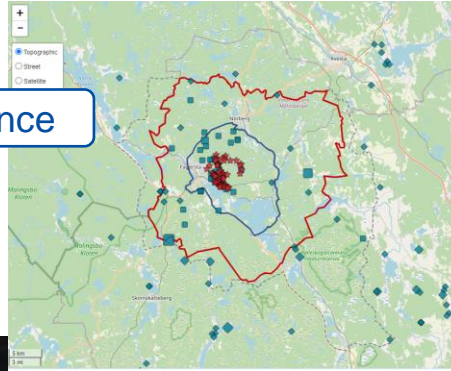


Sept 6:
1000 km² infected zone
Core area defined by Sept 14



Nov 30, current:
130 km² core area, all fenced in (green) + buffer zone
Total zone reduced to 600 km² RZ (blue)

surveillance

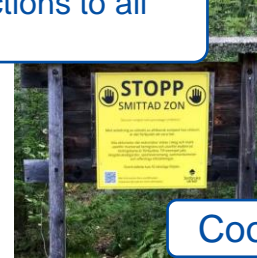


Carcasses search



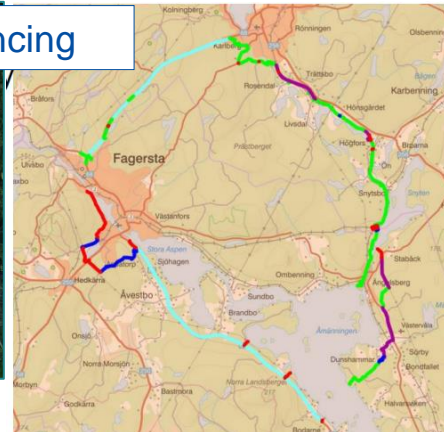
biosecurity

Awareness and restrictions to all activities



Coordination and cooperation

Strategic fencing



Trapping and culling



EUVET



Some of the animals that died July-September 2023 were not found until the search in May 2024. This was expected since the there was heavy ground coverage during the peak of the outbreak, making carcasses very difficult to find. In the spring when the snow has melted, the carcasses have been much easier to discover.



After the forensic examinations it has been confirmed that all findings found 2024 originate from animals that died July-September 2023.

ASF main challenges

Biosecurity:
Backyard/small-scale farms



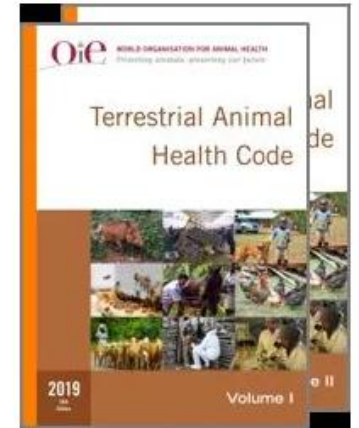
Wild boar management in large areas and **cross-borders** movement control/population reduction



Risk of ASF introduction by **international travelers** and **national and international human mediated 'jumps'**



Recognition and proper **enforcement** of WOAAH international standards (**zoning/regionalisation**) by trading partners

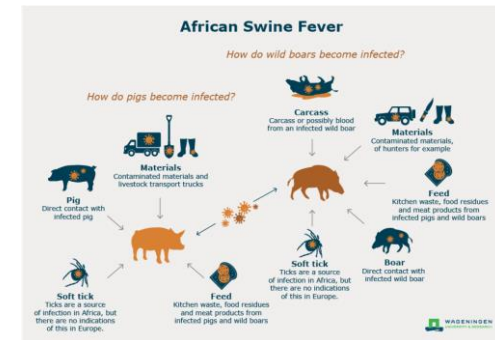


Absence of effective and safe ASF vaccines, worldwide!!!



NEW challenge!!!

Reoccurrence after eradication – different source of introduction/failure of biosecurity



Main EU initiatives on ASF

- Preparedness
- Scientific advice (EFSA)
- Network of labs (+ EURL)
- Research
- EU Legislation (horizontal + specific)
- EU Guidelines
- Zoning (Regionalization)
- Border controls
- Audits
- Financial support
- Training (BTSF)
- Public awareness
- Urgent intervention (EU VET)
- International cooperation

- GF-TADS



CONTROL OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER IN THE EU
The key role of hunters

African swine fever (ASF) is a devastating, usually deadly, infectious disease of pigs and wild boar for which no vaccine exists.

The consequences of the disease are:

- 1. Farms and the economy:**
 - economic losses for EU farmers are aggravated by a complete ban on the sale of animals and meat
 - economic losses for the farmers
- 2. Wildlife and hunting:**
 - loss of income for hunters and the economic impact on rural areas
 - hunting may be restricted or even banned in some areas, which is leading to a reduction of revenues and jobs

Hunters can make the difference – for better or worse – as they may increase or reduce the spread of the disease.

European Commission/FACE Conference
PREPARING EUROPEAN HUNTERS TO ERADICATE AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

Introduction: EV DE
Eurasien: private

30 January 2019, 10:00-18:00
Kongresszentrum Messegelände, 58109 Solingen
Registration closed: 28.01.2019 18:00

HIGH-LEVEL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL PORK PRODUCTION UNDER THE THREAT OF AFRICAN SWINE FEVER

17th January 2020

AWARENESS CAMPAIGNS

HARMONISED RULES

efsa
European Food Safety Authority

For more information consult ASF topic page and story map on EFSA website
<https://goo.gl/u03EdD>

TRAVELLERS MUST SURRENDER THESE PRODUCTS FOR OFFICIAL CONTROLS*

Products of animal origin may carry pathogens that cause infectious diseases in animals.

There are strict procedures and veterinary controls on the introduction of products of animal origin into the European Union.

*Only those items carrying such animals are exempt from general importation rules.

Uwaga!

Achtung!
Die Bundesministerien für Ernährung und Landwirtschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland informieren: Seit 2014 breitet sich die hochansteckende Krankheit der Afrikanischen Schweinepest (ASP) weltweit aus. Diese Krankheit ist für den Menschen ungefährlich, verursacht aber große Schäden für die Landwirtschaft und die Wirtschaft. Bitte achten Sie daher besonders auf die folgenden Maßnahmen:

Warning!
The Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture of the Federal Republic of Germany hereby gives notice that: Highly contagious African Swine Fever has been spreading globally. It poses a serious threat to a range of livestock and the pork sector. This disease, which is not dangerous for humans, can be transmitted by food. Please make sure that all relevant food is not in contact with contaminated meat.

Pozor!
Specjalne ministerstwa przesyła wiadomość: Wysoko zakaźna Afrykańska Wirusowa Choroba Świnej (AWChŚ) rozprzestrzenia się globalnie. Jest to choroba, która nie stanowi zagrożenia dla człowieka, ale powoduje ogromne szkody w rolnictwie i przemyśle mięsno-rolniczym. Aby zapobiec rozprzestrzenieniu się choroby, należy przestrzegać następujących zasad: Nie należy spożywać mięsa zwierząt, które mogły być w kontakcie z zarażonymi zwierzętami. Nie należy dotykać żywej karmy zwierząt, która mogła być w kontakcie z zarażonymi zwierzętami.

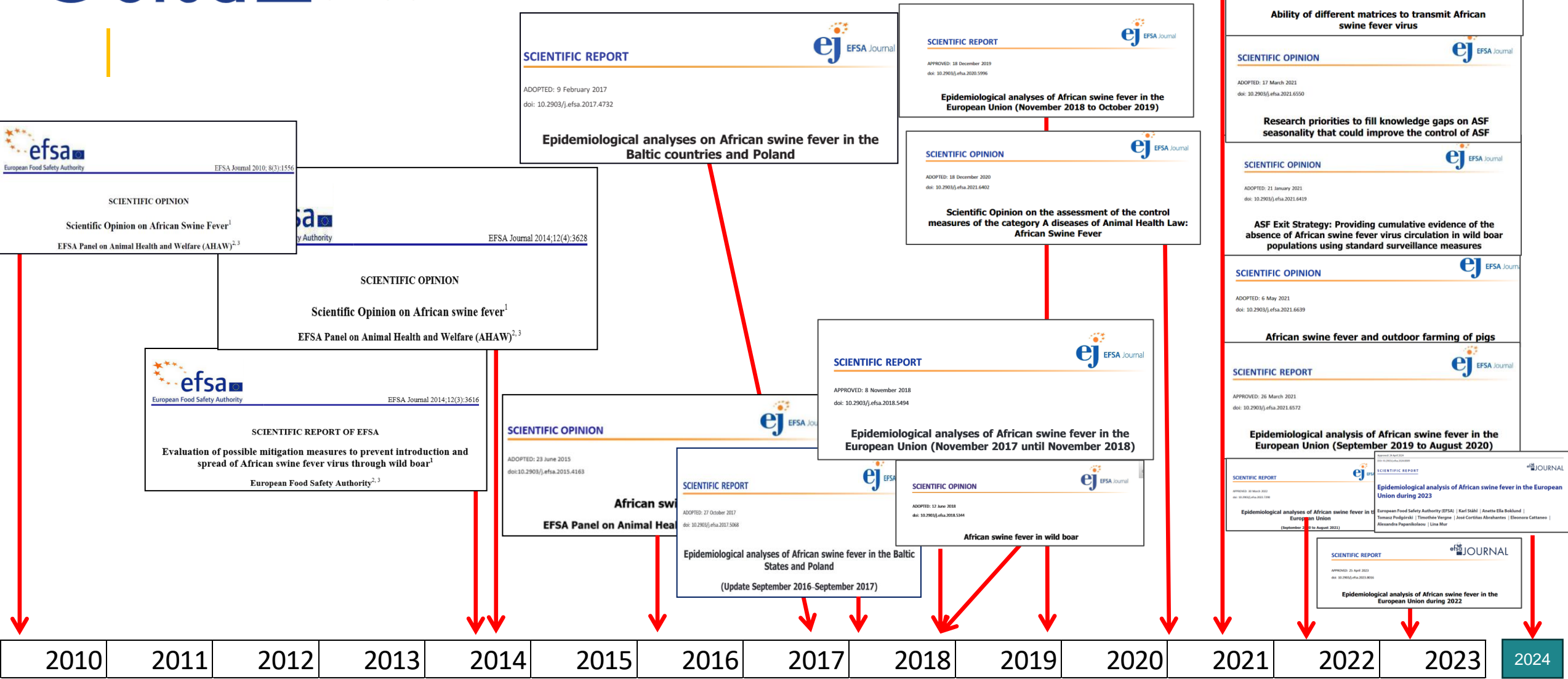
Atentie!
Ministerul Federațional al Agriculturii și Silviculturii din România informează: Afrikanul Scurtă de Porci este o boală foarte contagioasă care poate afecta și animalele de companie și animalele de fermă. Această boală este foarte periculoasă pentru sectorul agricol și economic. Pentru a preveni răspândirea bolii, este necesar să se respecte următoarele măsuri: Nu se consumă carne de animale care au fost în contact cu animale infectate. Nu se atingă hrana pentru animale care a fost în contact cu animale infectate.

Внимание!
Федеральное Министерство сельского хозяйства Российской Федерации информирует: Африканская свинная чума (АСЧ) распространяется по всему миру. Это высокозаразная вирусная болезнь, которая не опасна для человека, но наносит огромный ущерб сельскохозяйственному производству и экономике. Чтобы предотвратить распространение болезни, необходимо соблюдать следующие меры: Не употреблять мясо животных, которые могли контактировать с зараженными животными. Не прикасаться к живой кормовой смеси животных, которая могла контактировать с зараженными животными.

GF-TADS
GLOBAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE TRANSBOUNDARY CONTROL OF TRANSBOUNDARY ANIMAL DISEASES

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations | World Organisation for Animal Health

Scientific Reports and Opinions



Integration of science

Integration of **EFSA science** into the management of ASF has been **crucial** in developing and refining **strategies, best practices** (e.g. fencing, carcasses search and removal, white zones, biosecurity) and **control measures** (e.g. size of protection and surveillance zones).

Policies are continuously adapted to more tailored and effective interventions.

EU legal framework for a harmonised ASF control measures in the EU

Until 21 April 2021

Directives 90/425/EEC, 89/662/EEC

Directives 2002/60 & 2002/99

 No longer in force!

Safeguard Decisions (Directives 2002/99, 90/425, 89/662)

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2014/709

From 21 April 2021

Regulation (EU) 2016/429 ('AHL')

Commission **Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687** as regards rules for the prevention and control of certain listed diseases

Commission **emergency measures** (Art. 259 of AHL) – when needed

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2021/605  No longer in force!

Commission **Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/594** (from 21 April 2023) '**ASF Regulation**'

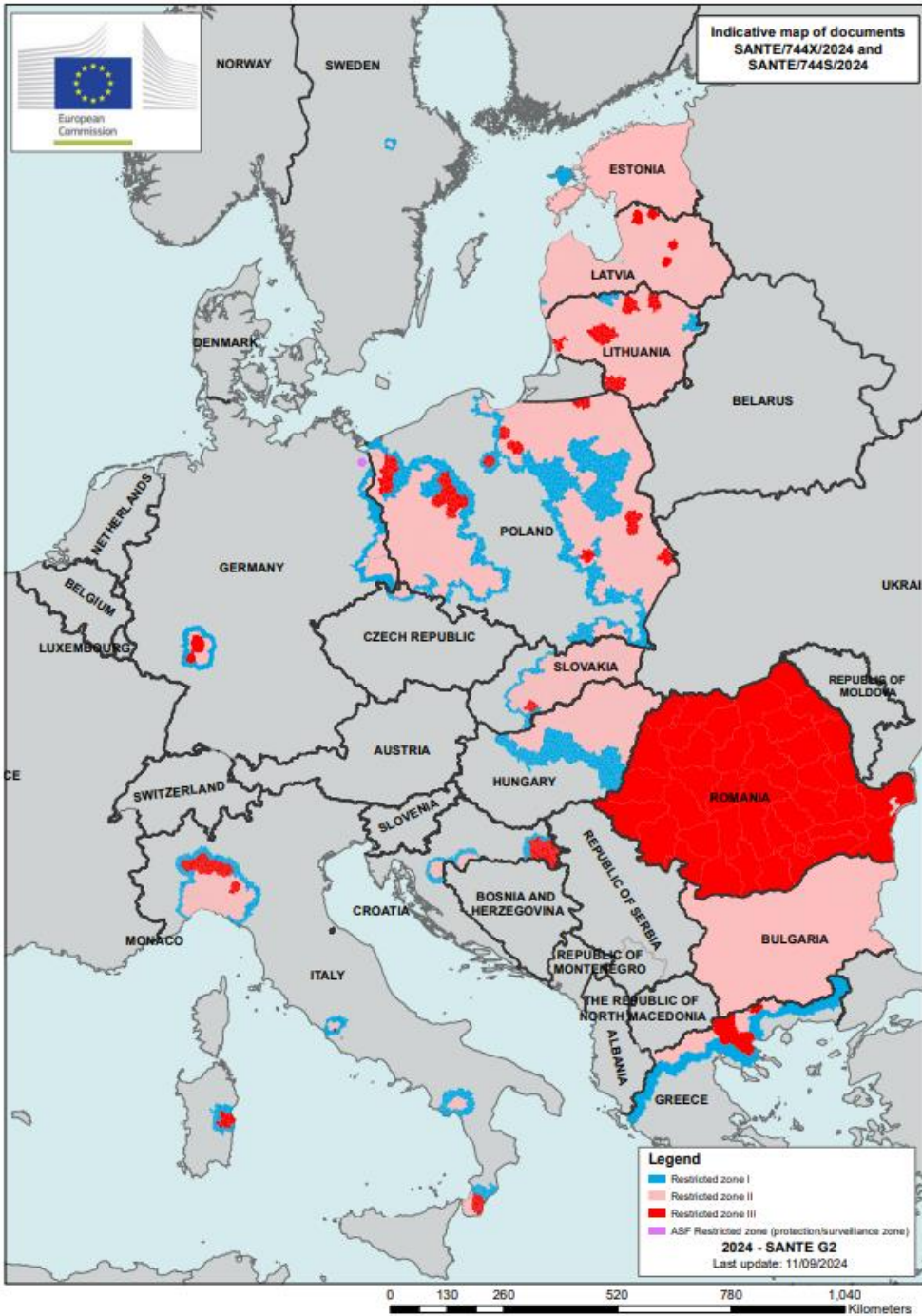
Update legislation

PAFF Committee
Rules agreed among EU
Member Countries

The need to ensure continuity with previous efficient legal framework must be coupled with a continuous revision of the control measures (based on EFSA science).

CIR 2023/594 provides a more comprehensive and transparent framework for managing ASF:

- Regulates movements of consignments of pigs and products also within restricted zones = sustainability of pig farming
- Requires Member States to develop national action plans for wild boar
- New Annex II lists areas identified at Union level as protection and surveillance zones or, in the case of wild boar, as infected zone, thus enhancing clarity and transparency (now all ASF zones included in one legal act)



EU regionalisation measures for ASF

In line with
WOAH

Regulation (EU) 2023/594:

- **Restricted zone I** ('an additional further restricted zone') – zone, bordering zone II or III, where relevant (no ASF)
- **Restricted zone II** ('an infected zone') – ASF in wild boar
- **Restricted zone III** ('a further restricted zone', in addition to PZ/SZ) – ASF in domestic pigs (with or without ASF in wild boar)

NEW guidelines published in December 2023!!!!

Commission Notice on the guidelines on the prevention, control and eradication of African swine fever in the Union ('ASF guidelines') :

- developed on the basis of previous working documents and updated considering the most recent legislation and the latest scientific knowledge on ASF;
- Provide information on best practices on the management of ASF, advice on specific measures on ASF prevention, control and eradication in the Union and for the principles and criteria for geographically defining ASF regionalization in the EU.

<https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/C/2023/1504/oj>

Online interactive map:

<https://santegis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=45cdd657542a437c84bfc9cf1846ae8c>

EU regionalization measures for ASF

Regionalisation has been an effective tool in the EU for managing ASF in domestic pigs and wild boar

Key aspects :

Containment and control: Regionalisation helps **containing ASF spread within the EU** by enabling rapid and targeted responses. When ASF outbreaks occur, the affected zone is quickly identified, and **strict control and biosecurity measures are implemented**. This has prevented the fast and widespread dissemination of the disease across the EU.

Trade and economic stability: By limiting the restrictions to specific zones, **regionalisation helps preserve trade and economic activities** in unaffected areas thus minimizing economic disruptions.

Compliance with WOAH International Standards: The EU regionalisation strategy aligns with the WOAH standards. This improve the EU credibility in international trade negotiations and ensures that the **measures are scientifically justified**.

International (cross-borders) cooperation – GF-TADs SGE on ASF in Europe

The first GFTADs SGE on ASF was set up in Europe in 2014

- 22 meetings so far (23rd in Ohrid, North Macedonia 18-19 September ongoing) to build closer cooperation among CVOs of affected countries and addressing the control measures in an harmonized and science-based manner in Europe
- **Rich history of ASF in Europe** allowed European experts to accumulate field experience: **17 field visits** by ASF experts (Belarus, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Moldova, the Czech Republic, Romania, Bulgaria, Belgium, Serbia, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Albania).

Trust – transparency – awareness – technical guidance – improved preparedness and control capacity of countries,
sharing best practises & success stories, sharing knowledge and exchange with other regions worldwide

Conclusions

The European Commission has demonstrated a strong commitment to managing the ASF epidemic by fostering enhanced cross-border cooperation within the EU, across Europe, and globally.

Key elements are:

Harmonized – science based – Legislation and Enforcement (in line with WOAH international standards): A cornerstone of the EU success in managing ASF is its comprehensive and harmonized legislation. EU legislation, provides clear guidelines on ASF management, regionalization, and movements of pigs, wild boar and related products.

Enhanced Cooperation (at EU level at Regional level): close collaboration between EU member states and neighboring countries. The success of regionalization measures within the EU, is an example of how coordinated efforts can prevent widespread and fast ASF dissemination.

International Partnerships: Cooperation extends **beyond the EU**, with the sharing of best practices and technical guidance through international frameworks like GF-TADs. This collaboration enhances ASF **awareness**, **preparedness** and **control** across borders, benefiting from the experience accumulated in Europe.

SGE on ASF – **ASF Global Coordination Committee:** inter-regional collaboration. Each region has key strategic priorities, but the GCC allows cross-regional mutual engagement and collaboration.

Thank you



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