ASF IN EUROPE: LATEST DEVELOPMENTS

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African swine fever in Caucasus and Eastern Europe: reintroduction in 2007 and further spreading through the region.
African swine fever in Caucasus and Eastern Europe: reintroduction in 2007 and further spreading through the region
Routes of transmission

Transmission

Direct

Indirect

Nasal discharge

Saliva

Genital discharge

Urine

Semen

Conjunctival exudate

Faeces

BLOOD!
• Inadequate control program:
  • Movement of animals and products WITHOUT CONTROL
  • Swill feeding. Difficult to changes mentality
  • Not establish the control and surveillance area
  • Delayed compensation + lack of resources

• Pig production system:
  • Pig density
  • Farming practices (backyard, swill feeding!!)

• Presence of wild boars and contact with domestic pigs
OIE, EU and FAO established a Standing Group of Experts for ASF (SGE) on GT-TADs:

- the SGE meets every month or two months depending on the evolution of the ASF epidemiological situation in the region;
- meetings take place in the countries concerned, on a rotating basis.
The experts should perform on the spot visits in order to gather data and be in a position to formulate recommendations on disease management.

The experts should work with the Veterinary Services in order to determine the following aspects:

• If African swine fever (ASF) is occurring in domestic pigs (both in commercial sector and the so called back yard sector) and extent of the areas of occurrence.
• If ASF is occurring in wild boar and geographical distribution of ASF in wild boar.
• Formulate hypothesis on the drivers of ASF occurrence for domestic pigs and back yards.
• Propose measures intended for the control and eradication of ASF under local conditions, in line with the OIE International Standards.
• Cooperation relies on trust based on full transparency.
• ASF eradication in the interface between wild boars/pigs should be based on science based on evidence and not on the exceptions or on non-proved hypothesis.
• Management of wild boars should be clearly defined depending on the ecological, environmental and social situation in the region.
• Feeding of wild boars should in general be avoided or limited stringently.
• Management of biosecurity and backyards farms is a key topic that deserves specific attention.
• It is essential to ensure transparency and full compliance with reporting to OIE.
• The Standing Group reiterates that trust and cooperation can only be built when full access to the relevant information is provided;
• Biosecurity is of crucial importance to prevent the entry and spread of ASF in pig holdings, both in the commercial and so called backyard pig sectors.
STANDING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS
SGE2, Talin

- Setting an expert team composed (Dr Bellini, Depner, Gruzdev, Guberti, Khomenko);
- With the following order of visits to LT, BY, PL, RF, LV, UA, EE;
- Starting in March and due to the end of May, 2016.
- Measures to minimize the risk of ASF introduction into a pig holding:
  - No swill feeding;
  - Pigs should be introduced from trusted and certified sources;
  - Visitors should be discouraged to enter the pig holdings, specially the commercial ones;
  - Personnel should be well trained/informed and contacts with other pigs or wild boar forbidden;
  - Perimeter fencing preventing contact with feral pigs (double fences) should be install on a pig holding in outdoor farms;
MEASURES TO MINIMIZE THE RISK OF ASF INTRODUCTION INTO A PIG HOLDING (SGE2)

• Measures to minimize the risk of ASF introduction into a pig holding:
  • Carcasses, discarded parts from slaughtered pigs and food waste should be disposed off in an appropriate manner;
  • No part of any feral pig, whether shot or found dead should be brought into a pig holding;
  • Sharing of equipment and tools between the holdings should be avoided;
  • Appropriate means for cleaning and disinfection have to be placed at the entrance of the holdings.
  • Appropriate hygiene measures have to be applied by all persons entering into contact
# TIME TABLE OF THE ASF SGE MISSIONS
(INCLUDING EXPERTS)

<table>
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<th>Countries</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>30 March - 3 April</td>
<td>Dr S. Bellini*; Dr V. Guberti; Dr K. Gruzdev</td>
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<td>Belarus</td>
<td>12 – 17 April</td>
<td>Dr Klaus Depner*; Dr S. Bellini; Dr K; Gruzdev</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
<td>18-21 May</td>
<td>Dr S. Bellini*; Dr K. Depner; Dr K; Gruzdev; Dr V. Guberti; Dr S. Khomenko</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
<td>13-17 July</td>
<td>Dr Klaus Depner*; Dr S. Bellini; Dr K; Gruzdev; Dr V. Guberti</td>
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<td>Ukraine</td>
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<td>Dr Klaus Depner*; Dr S. Bellini; Dr S. Khomenko; Dr V. Guberti</td>
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<td>Estonia</td>
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<td>Dr K. Depner*; Dr K; Gruzdev; Dr V. Guberti; Dr S. Khomenko</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
<td>12 – 16 October</td>
<td>Dr S. Bellini*; Dr K; Gruzdev; Dr S. Khomenko</td>
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* Mission Team Leader
Wild boar management:

- Wild boar management is a sophisticated necessary collective activity that has to be adapted to local conditions and practices and that cannot be left only to hunters (or any other player) to decide and Veterinary Services have to be involved at several stages;
- Biosecurity during hunting in infected areas is of paramount importance for protecting both wild boar and domestic pigs; specific measures be developed and implemented;
- ASF is not directly and merely related to wild boar density and eradication cannot be reached simply through a reduction of the wild boar population;
WILD BOAR MANAGEMENT (SGE3):

• In conjunction with other measures, wild boar population reduction can be used to facilitate eradication but a threshold density for wild boar allowing the fading out of ASF has not been identified. This tool should be used in combination with other control measures within the framework of a wild boar management strategy;

• Wild boar population density estimates are not standardised across the SGE countries and comparing this data could be misleading.
• Training has to be provided to veterinarians and other relevant professionals in order to address surveillance, biosecurity and wild boar management practices (including hunting); in particular, national workshops gathering the hunting community, forestry and environment agencies and Veterinary Services.
All participants of the SGE3 meeting agreed on a remarkable role of SGE visits in progressing current ASF control efforts in the region, assessing the situation in the Countries.

The SGE is a very important objective in the region to identify the best practices on the national level that could be relevant (useful) for neighbouring counties for ASF control.

It was agreed to prepare a comprehensive capacity building programme, that will make it possible to address the identified gaps during the next ASF SGE mission.
CONCLUSIONS

• The standing Group of Experts on ASF for Eastern Europe and Baltic region continue to support affected countries, using CVO/OIE Delegate level meetings, expert missions and tailored capacity building activities at national and regional level;

• One key underlying principle for success is the provision of fully transparent information by countries and the fulfillment of their reporting obligations to the OIE.
A very special gratitude for the cooperation and qualitative work to:

Mr. Bernard van Goethem, GF- TADs president for Europe Steering Committee,

Ms. Nadege Lebouq, Head of Gf-TADs Secretariat OIE Sub-regional representation Brussels,

All CVOs and experts.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION