



# State Food And Veterinary Service

## African Swine Fever in Lithuania

[www.vmvt.lt](http://www.vmvt.lt)

September |  
2022

# The history of ASF in Lithuania



Two ASF-positive wild boars confirmed on 24 of January 2014.

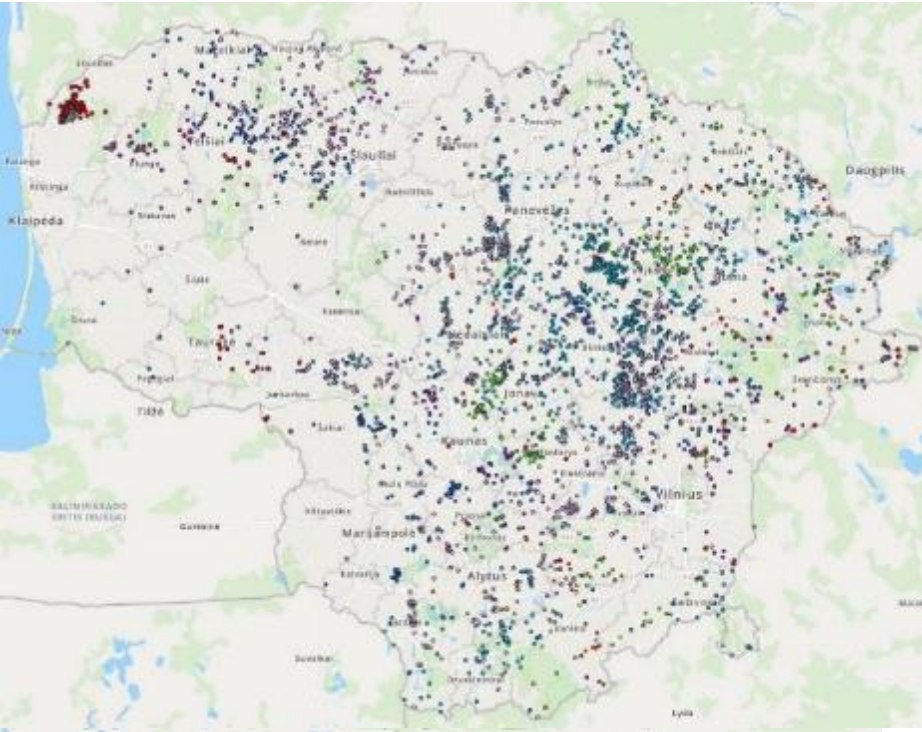
The 1st hunted 5 km from the border with Belarus.

The 2nd found dead about 40 km north from the border with Belarus.

The distance between the two cases was about 36 km.



# Evolution of ASF in Lithuania in WB



**8 Years**

## ASF 2014-2022

- 4,365 places with 8,061 wild boar
  - 6,406 found dead
  - 1,655 hunted



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# ASF strategy in WB

Wild boar management: long term strategy

Hunting all year round

Official control

Ban on feeding, baiting allowed

Active patrolling to find and destroy carcasses

Passive and active surveillance

Biosecurity in hunting clubs

Incentives for reporting (30 Eur.)





How to raise awareness on ASF & biosecurity further

## Biosecurity and Management of wild boars



OPEN/CLOSED FACILITIES

- Updated Veterinary and sanitary rules during a hunt (valid since January 2019):
  - ✓ Approval of the hunted animal dressing places and facilities,
  - ✓ offal storage in the pits,
  - ✓ Minimal biosecurity requirements.
- All 931 hunters clubs are inspected by official veterinarians.
- Regular trainings for hunters are provided.

PITS



# How to raise awareness on ASF & biosecurity further

## Key element: awareness

It takes long time to change hunters' philosophy especially in high-risk areas or in areas free of ASF

Clear message why & how cooperation can help hunters

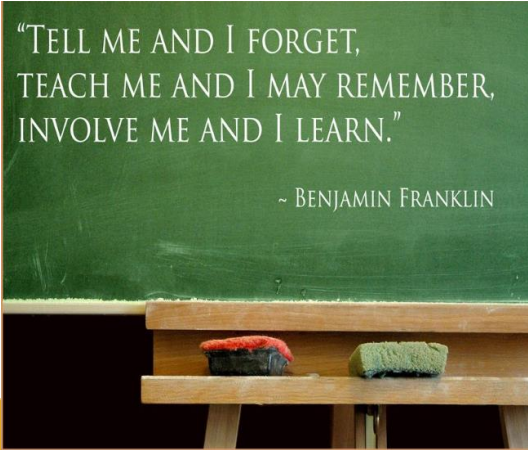
Regular trainings

The consequences of a confirmed ASF case in a hunting area

Theory + practice

Trainings in hunting clubs

Examples from an infected area



*Well-trained hunters can work as an early detection system.*



The involvement of hunters and their motivation to willingly cooperate is a success factor in ASF management in wild boar.



# How to raise awareness on ASF & biosecurity further

## Awareness

Templates in cities



ASF information for drivers and public



Special TV shows



Real time trainings



VMV  
VALSTYBINIS MAISTO  
VETERINARIJOS tarnyba

Nugalėti afrikinį kiaulių  
marą gali padėti ir tu!  
Radai nugaišusį šerną?



Pranešk Valstybiniai maisto  
ir veterinarijos tarnybai

☎ 1879



www.vmvt.lt

\* Už kiekvieną surastą nugaišusį  
šerną mokama 30 Eur premija.



# Consequences of ASF in WB



High number of  
WB found dead

Population  
decreasing in  
infected areas

Additional work  
for hunters

- Searching carcasses
- Destroying WB





# Consequences of ASF in WB



Destruction of  
hunted positive  
wild boars

Waiting time  
before negative  
results are  
received.

Investments in  
biosecurity



## Challenges we are facing



The WB population  
has been increasing  
since 2020

The number of  
wild boar positive  
by PCR increasing –  
active circulation  
of virus again!

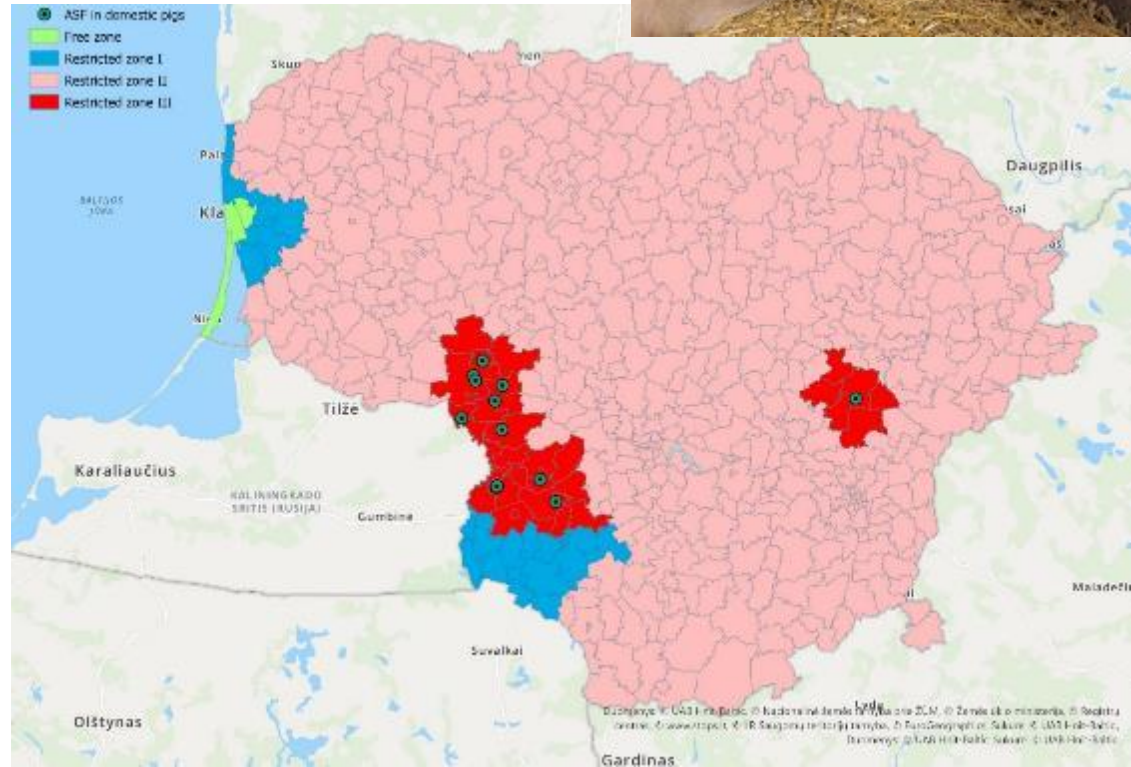
The hunters do not  
accept targeted  
hunting of females  
or regulation of  
the wild boar  
population

# Current situation in domestic pigs



07/07/2022: ASF was confirmed in a non-commercial farm, **almost after two years since the last confirmed outbreak.**

- 15 outbreaks
  - **12** non-commercial (46 pigs).
  - **3** commercial farms (2,202 pigs).





# ASF in domestic pigs

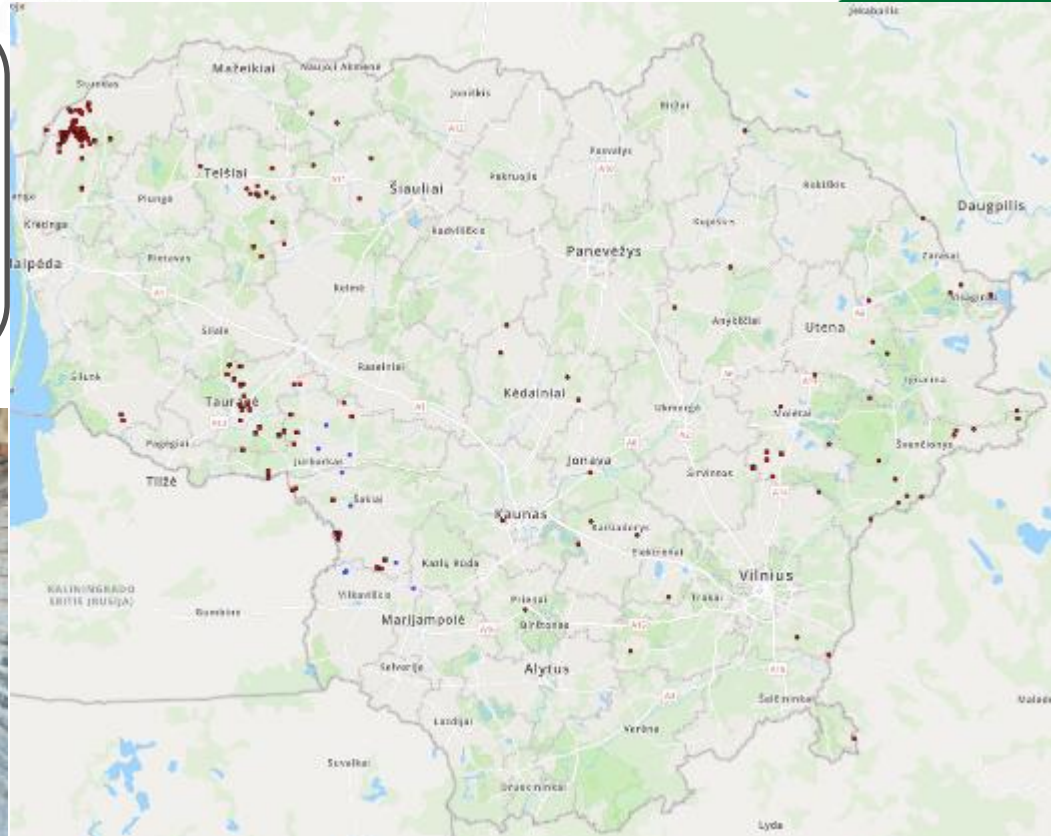
Outbreaks connection with WB:

Red spots - ASF in WB

Blue spots - ASF in DP

- Virus pressure from environment
- Indirect contact with WB
- Close relationships between pig keepers
- Lack of biosecurity:
  - ✓ Feeding fresh grass
  - ✓ Uncontrolled visitors
  - ✓ Use of fresh bedding
  - ✓ Lack of disinfection barriers

Summary of epidemiological investigations:



# ASF in domestic pigs

Control & preventive measures in domestic pigs

Inspection is performed by official veterinarians.

Passive surveillance in DP commercial and non-commercial farms.

Strict biosecurity measures should be implemented and controlled.

Same criteria for commercial pig farms as for non-commercial farms with. Additionally, the following criteria:

- Fencing of holdings, registration of all visitors, production area must be separated from the rest of the holding area, etc.
- **The biosecurity plan and farm contingency plan needs to be approved by veterinary services according to the profile of a farm and national legislation.** This biosecurity plan should include detailed procedures on disinfection and hygiene of the personnel.

Trainings for official veterinarians and pig keepers.

Pig movements via Traces system inside the country – to other farms as well as to slaughterhouses.



# ASF perspectives in Lithuania



## In wild boar

- To eradicate ASF, not to live with a disease
- Continue communication with hunters
- Unscheduled inspections on hunting grounds in cooperation with environment protection services
- National action plan on the management of wild porcine animals in the context of ASF prevention & eradication

## In domestic pigs

- Stay focused on official control
  - More efforts to train biosecurity inspectors
  - Implementation of biosecurity on farms
  - Keep high awareness
  - Trainings and simulation exercise
  - Transmission of the ASF virus into pig farms is not fully clear and further research is needed.





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# Thank you for your attention

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