



submitted for obtaining EU financial contribution

Annex I.c: Programme for the control and eradication of classical swine fever or African swine fever

Member States seeking an EU financial contribution for national programmes for eradication, control and surveillance of animal diseases and zoonosis shall submit online this document completely filled out by the 31 May of the year preceding its implementation (part 2.1 of Annex I to the Single Market Programme Regulation).

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Save this completed document on your computer for your record.
- 5) For simplification purposes you are invited to submit multi-annual programmes.
- 6) You are invited to submit your programmes in English.

Document version number: 2022 1.0

Member state : LATVIJA

Disease African Swine Fever

Species : Domestic pigs and wild boar

This program is multi annual :

Request of Union co-financing from beginning :

First year of implementation of the programme described in this document:

1. Contact data

Name	Phone
Email	Your job type within the CA :

Submission Date

Submission Number

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 22:21:46

1669839706221-18943



2. *Historical data on the epidemiological evolution of the disease*

Provide a concise description of the following indicators :

- *Number of serologically positive domestic pigs compared to previous year*
- *Number of virologically positive domestic pigs compared to previous year*
- *Number of serologically positive wild boar/feral pigs compared to previous year*
- *Number of virologically positive wild boar/feral pigs compared to previous year*
- *An assessment of the evolution of the indicators along the years is requested as well as obstacles and constraints identified that hamper the progress of eradication.*

(max. 32000 chars) :

Number of serologically positive domestic pigs: 0 in 2019, 20 in 2020 and 2 in 2021.

Number of virologically positive domestic pigs: 13 in 2019, 52 in 2020 and 13 in 2021.

Number of serologically positive (PCR negative) wild boar: 118 in 2019, 144 in 2020 and 245 in 2021.

Number of virologically positive wild boar: 312 in 2019, 237 in 2020 and 264 in 2021.

During the year 2021 ASF has been confirmed in one commercial pig farm and one small backyard farm. The total number of pigs involved in these two ASF outbreaks were 2114. Outbreaks have been confirmed in areas with previously confirmed ASF cases in wild boar.

Despite of the control measures implemented for wild boar population ASF continues to spread locally in wild boar population. In addition, ASF reintroduction of ASFV were observed along the Eastern border of Latvia since July 2021 (for details please see attached epid maps).

Biosecurity requirements during the hunting have been established in the national legislation and are controls are ensured by the competent authorities - State Forest Service and Food and Veterinary Service.

ASF has been in Latvia for 8 years. Hunters, farmers and the general public are tired of information about diseases and epidemics.

Clear and effective prevention and control measures are in place in relation to the domestic pig population. Control measures in the feral pig population are set out in the EU strategy, but their implementation has only been successful in cases where there has been a point infection (the example of Belgium and the Czech Republic).

However, the measures currently set in EU strategy do not work to stop the wave of the epidemic and in the situation of endemicity (the example of the Baltic countries, Poland and Germany). Most likely there are knowledge gaps on the ASF virus sustainability in wild boar population.

Moreover, ASF virus reintroduction from infected neighboring third countries (RF and Belarus) was detected in the eastern part of Latvia where ASFV was not detected for more than 18 months. Permanent threat from infected neighboring countries could be considered as one of the main constraints of the program.

In general, the public is well informed about ASF, therefore the scientific based information and measures should be presented to the society and stakeholders and new ways how to raise awareness and involve the public will be foreseen.

FVS frequently communicate with State Forest Service and hunters organizations and inform them about latest epidemiological data and available scientific information.

3. Description of the submitted programme

Provide a concise description of

- The programme with its main objective(s). In case of a long time strategy, interim objectives for each year should be specified.
- Target population
- Main measures : active/passive surveillance in holdings, active/passive surveillance in wild boar-feral pigs, vaccination in holdings, vaccination of wild boars-feral pigs, monitoring efficacy of vaccination, eradication measures
- Areas of implementation of the programme

(max. 32000 chars) :

The main objectives of the program are ASF control and eradication in wild boar and domestic pigs in Latvia. In ASF free areas and areas where ASFV has not been detected for some period, ASF early detection is the main objective.

The program will be implemented in the territory of whole country. Increased passive surveillance in wild boar population as well as in domestic pig holdings will be ensured in whole territory of Latvia. All sick or dead pigs for which other causes cannot be excluded on clinical grounds (suspected cases), will be investigated and undergo virological and serological tests.

Specific ASF control measures according to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 and Commission Implementation Regulation (EC) 2021/605 will be implemented in the case of suspicion or confirmation.

Domestic pig holdings.

Biosecurity measures are stipulated by the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 (20.08.2013.). All pig farms including backyard farms are obliged to implement biosecurity requirements. Also sanctions are foreseen by the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 for pig keepers in case of non compliance with rules.

Regular inspections to pig holdings in free areas and areas defined as Part I, Part II and Part III will be carried out by official veterinarians in order to check biosecurity in the farms and sampling in case of suspicion. The areas and frequency of biosecurity checks in pig farms are established on following risks evaluation (farm categorisation and frequency of inspections described in attachment):

- Direct costs of the culling of pigs (costs);
- Collection, transportation and disposal of carcasses (costs);
- Compensation for animal owners;
- Indirect costs in case of appearance of the farm in quarantine zone;

During inspections the implementation of biosecurity requirements will be checked as the main objective.

In case of suspicion identified and notified by the farmer or veterinary practitioner, samples will be taken for laboratory testing to rule out the presence of ASF. In a case of the detection of clinical signs similar to ASF sampling will be performed for virological and serological testing.

In addition, in the commercial pig farms in a frame of enhanced passive surveillance program, every week samples from at least first two dead pigs from every epidemiological unit of the farm shall be sent to the NRL for laboratory testing to the presence of ASFV.

To reduce the laboratory costs, up to 3 blood samples, from one consignment of delivered domestic pig samples, will be pooled in the laboratory.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

In the backyard pig farms each death in pigs shall be notified to veterinarian and samples shall be sent to NRL for laboratory testing to the presence of ASFV.

Awareness campaigns before and during summer (ASF high risk period) will be performed to remind farmers to prevent ASF introduction in the farms.

Wild boar.

All found dead wild boar in the Latvia (infected areas and free zone) will be examined and sampled. The wild boar will be tested for the presence of ASF virus genome (RT-PCR).

To reduce the laboratory costs, up to 3 samples, from group of wild boar found dead in one place, will be pooled in the laboratory.

Incentives for reporting of found dead wild boar is . Phone hotline is in place to facilitate the transmission of messages. All society members can report and receive incentive.

Mechanism of disposal of found dead wild boar are established. Agreement between FVS and municipalities foreseen payment (for the delivered to ABP containers and for buried or burned in the spot) for disposal of wild boar carcass.

In the infected area (part 2 and part 3) all hunted wild boar will sampled and tested.

To reduce the laboratory costs, up to 3 blood samples of hunted wild boar will be pooled in the laboratory.

In addition, wild boar hunted in Part I in cases when hunter wants to move carcass to ASF free area, blood samples will be tested. Each wild boar will be tested to virus genome presence.

The following samples will be taken for laboratory investigations:

- Blood samples for virological tests (PCR),
- Tissue samples (tonsils, spleen, lymph nodes, bone marrow) for virological tests (PCR) - from dead and suspected animals.

Incentives for each delivered sample is . There is obligation for hunters to keep identified carcasses of hunted wild boar until results of laboratory testing are not received. All virus and sero positive carcasses are disposed. Hunters are compensated for loses in a case of ASF positive wild boar.

Information campaigns will also be enforced in order to increase hunter's awareness of the measures to be adopted in the framework of the ASF eradication plan and the requirements to be complied within order to avoid any spread of the disease.

The hunting clubs will be instructed and trained to recognize clinical symptoms of ASF and which measures firstly to apply to avoid the spread of the disease, to reduce the risk of transmission to the domestic pigs. During the training, specific attention will be paid to biosecurity requirements during the hunting.

The samples will be tested at the Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment - "BIOR" - National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for ASF in Latvia.

Disinfectants: During inspections of pig farms or hunting grounds and during other activities related with possible contamination with ASF virus, disinfection of the shoes, equipment or other surfaces are foreseen in the programme. The program includes 1000 l/kg/unit of disinfectant or disinfection wipes with an average price of l/kg/units. Until now, FVS has used such disinfectants as Germicidan APA, Germicidan F1, Ecocid S, etc.

The submitted price is the approximate average purchase price of one unit in the market.

4. Measures of the submitted programme

4.1 Organisation, supervision and role of all stakeholders involved in the programme

Describe

- The competent authorities (CA) involved in the implementation of the programme and their responsibilities
- Other stakeholders involved in the implementation of the programme, their role and their communication channels with the CA.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Food and Veterinary Service (FVS) of the Republic of Latvia is a state administrative institution headed by the CVO and supervised by the Ministry of Agriculture. The FVS consists of the central body placed in Riga and territorial structural units (the local level) - 11 regional offices and Border Inspection posts. The central body coordinates activities of the local level and ensure a unified implementation and surveillance of legislation. The local level carries out the official surveillance in accordance with the state surveillance programs and reports to the central body. The State authorized veterinarians report to the respective local veterinary office of FVS. State Forest Service (SFS) is in charge of the control of wild boar population, hunting activities and biosecurity measures to be implemented during the wild boar hunting. SFS has also regional offices (with forest rangers) covering whole territory of Latvia.

4.2 Description and demarcation of the geographical and administrative areas in which the programme is to be implemented

Describe the name and surface of the areas where the following activities are implemented (if administrative units are not used, describe the natural or artificial boundaries used to determine the geographical areas) :

- 1) Surveillance in holdings/wild boar
- 2) Vaccination in holdings/wild boar and monitoring the efficacy of the vaccination
- 3) Describe risk areas if they have been defined
- 4) Describe WAMTA (ASF programme)

Add maps.

(max. 32000 chars) :

The program will be implemented in the whole territory of Latvia.

4.3 Description of the measures of the programme

4.3.1 Notification of the disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to the Veterinary Medicine Law and Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 83, 17 February, 2004 "African swine fever prevention and threat prevention procedure" an animal owner is obligated to inform private or official veterinarian if pigs get sick or dead – causing suspects of infectious disease. ASF is immediately and compulsory notifiable disease in Latvia.

If the disease is suspected the official veterinarian shall visit the suspected holding to confirm or rule out the presence of disease. The official veterinarian shall check production and health records of the holding. As well he should inspect each sub-unit of the holding and carry out clinical examination of pigs. The clinical examination includes the measurement of body temperature of the following pigs: sick or anorexic pigs, pigs recently recovered from disease, pigs recently introduced to the pig herd, pigs kept in sub-units recently visited by external visitors, pigs already sampled and serologically tested for infectious diseases. In the suspected holdings the official veterinarian shall carry out further examinations of pigs in order to ensure that blood samples for laboratory tests are taken from the pigs in the holding in question. The clinical examination at the holding in question is carried out on pigs selected at random in the sub-units for which a risk of introduction of disease has been identified or is suspected or could be sampled from different pig holding groups, according to the epidemiological situation.

There are obligations for hunters to inform the veterinarian or official veterinarian of the regional Food and Veterinary Service about any found dead animal or suspected case in wild boar population.

4.3.2 Target animals and animal population

Describe

- The pig industry, type and number of farms
- Feral pigs-wild boar distribution in the country
- Target population
 - for surveillance and or vaccination in holdings
 - for surveillance and or vaccination in feral pigs/wild boar

(max. 32000 chars) :

According to the national legislation pig farms are not divided into commercial and backyard farms. Also, holdings are not categorized according to bio-security level in place. Differentiation between commercial and backyard farms is carried out based of such criteria as the number of pigs, the presence of breeding animals and the movement from the holding (according the EU strategy). The data base doesn't maintain numbers of farms per type.

There are around 4000 pig farms (number fluctuating during the year) with 312 000 domestic pigs in Latvia. From the total number of pig farms approximately 90% are backyard pig farms keeping up to 10 pigs.

Biosecurity inspection regime in pig farms is based on risk approach. Pig farms are divided in 4 categories (please find description in attachment) with the following inspection frequency:

1. Farms with number of pigs >100 - 1x year
2. All pig farms 10 km radius around pig farms with more than 1000 pigs
3. Farms with pig number of pigs <100 - 30% from all farms.

Number of pigs and farms per category and FVS territorial units (regions) are included in the attachment.

Target animals for the programme are domestic pigs and wild boars.

Estimated wild boar population (on 1st April 2022) is around 26 000 wild boars with the growing tendency (see annex on WB population density).

4.3.3 *Identification of animals and registration of holding including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease*

(max. 32000 chars) :

Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No 393, 15 July, 2014 "Order of registration of animals, herds and holdings and identification of animals" determines procedures of identification of pigs. All domestic pigs should be identified by ear tag. Movement of animals, realization of meat products are allowed if the herd and the holding is registered, animals are identified accordingly requirements of Regulation. Pigs must be identified individually before movement.

4.3.4 *Rules of the movement of animals including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease*

(max. 32000 chars) :

National legislation: Regulation No 134 the of Cabinet of Ministers of 26 March 2019 on registration of farmed animals and aquacultures, herds and holdings, and identification of farmed animals. All incoming and outgoing movements of porcine animals shall be notified to the computer database within 7 days. (Delegated regulation 2019/2035 Article 56; Implementing regulation 2021/520 Article 3 > Regulation No 134, point 29). The following information shall be included in the movement declaration: the identification number of the establishment; the name and identification of the operator; the number of the animals moved; the identification number of the establishment of destination and the name and identification of the next operator; data concerning the means of transport; the date and time of departure and arrival. (Delegated regulation 2019/2035 Article 57 > Regulation No 134, point 29). The information on movements shall be registered and kept on each establishment (in paper or electronic form) as well. (Delegated regulation 2019/2035 Article 22; 23 > Regulation No 134, point 15). As regards the specific rules on ASF - pig movements are organized and controlled in line with requirements set in the Commission Implementation Regulation (EC) 2021/605.

4.3.5 *Surveillance and inspection regime*

Describe

- *The test used, when are to be used and in which animals*
- *Sampling schemes at holding level and at animal level and the criteria to include an animal or a holding in the sampling scheme*
- *Sampling scheme in wild populations*
- *Inspection regime in farms (commercial and backyards)*

(max. 32000 chars) :

The program will be implemented in the territory of whole country. Increased passive surveillance in wild boar population as well as in domestic pig holdings will be ensured in whole territory of Latvia. All sick or dead pigs for which other causes cannot be excluded on clinical grounds (suspected cases), will be investigated and undergo virological and serological tests.

Specific ASF control measures according to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2020/687 and Commission Implementation Regulation (EC) 2021/605 will be implemented in the case of suspicion or confirmation.

Domestic pig holdings.

Biosecurity measures are stipulated by the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 (20.08.2013.). All pig farms including backyard farms are obliged to implement biosecurity requirements. Also sanctions are foreseen by the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 for pig keepers in case of non compliance with rules.

Regular inspections to pig holdings in free areas and areas defined as Part I, Part II and Part III will be carried out by official veterinarians in order to check biosecurity in the farms and sampling in case of suspicion. The areas and frequency of biosecurity checks in pig farms are established on following risks evaluation (farm categorisation and frequency of inspections described in attachment):

- Direct costs of the culling of pigs (costs);
- Collection, transportation and disposal of carcasses (costs);
- Compensation for animal owners;
- Indirect costs in case of appearance of the farm in quarantine zone;

During inspections the implementation of biosecurity requirements will be checked as the main objective.

In case of suspicion identified and notified by the farmer or veterinary practitioner, samples will be taken for laboratory testing to rule out the presence of ASF. In a case of the detection of clinical signs similar to ASF sampling will be performed for virological and serological testing.

In addition, in the commercial pig farms in a frame of enhanced passive surveillance program, every week samples from at least first two dead pigs from every epidemiological unit of the farm shall be sent to the NRL for laboratory testing to the presence of ASFV.

In the backyard pig farms each death in pigs shall be notified to veterinarian and samples shall be sent to NRL for laboratory testing to the presence of ASFV.

Awareness campaigns before and during summer (ASF high risk period) will be performed to remind farmers to prevent ASF introduction in the farms.

Wild boar.

All found dead wild boar in the Latvia (infected areas and free zone) will be examined and sampled. The wild boar will be tested for the presence of ASF virus genome (RT-PCR). Incentives for reporting of found dead wild boar is 30 EUR. Phone hotline is in place to facilitate the transmission of messages. All society members can report and receive incentive.

Mechanism of disposal of found dead wild boar are established. Agreement between FVS and municipalities foreseen payment (R for the delivered to ABP containers and for buried or burned in the spot) for disposal of wild boar carcass.

In the infected area (part 2 and part 3) all hunted wild boar will sampled and tested. In addition, wild boar hunted in Part I in cases when hunter wants to move carcass to ASF free area, blood samples will be tested. Each wild boar will be tested to virus genome presence.

The following samples will be taken for laboratory investigations:

- Blood samples for virological tests (PCR),
- Tissue samples (tonsils, spleen, lymph nodes, bone marrow) for virological tests (PCR) - from dead and suspected animals.

Incentives for each delivered sample is . There is obligation for hunters to keep identified carcasses of hunted wild boar until results of laboratory testing are not received. All virus positive carcasses are disposed. Hunters are compensated for loses in a case of ASF positive wild boar.

Information campaigns will also be enforced in order to increase hunter's awareness of the measures to be adopted in the framework of the ASF eradication plan and the requirements to be complied within order to avoid any spread of the disease.

The hunting clubs will be instructed and trained to recognize clinical symptoms of ASF and which measures firstly to apply to avoid the spread of the disease, to reduce the risk of transmission to the domestic pigs. During the training, specific attention will be paid to biosecurity requirements during the hunting.

The samples will be tested at the Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment - "BIOR" - National Reference Laboratory (NRL) for ASF in Latvia.

4.3.6 Vaccines used and vaccination schemes including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

Describe

- Vaccines to be used in the programme
- In case of feral pigs, type of holdings to be vaccinated
- In case of feral pig-wild boar, bait density to be achieved in each area of the programme
- Sampling scheme and tests used to verify the efficacy of the vaccination

(max. 32000 chars) :

Vaccine is not available against ASF.

4.3.7 Biosecurity requirements applicable to farms (commercial and backyards) and to hunting grounds.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Biosecurity measures are stipulated by Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 (20.08.2013.)

Biosecurity requirements for non-commercial farms:

- No swill feeding.
- No contact between the pig(s) of the NCF and susceptible animals (indoor keeping).
- No contact to any part of feral pig (hunted or dead wild boar/meat/by-products).
- The owner (respectively the person in charge of the pigs) should change clothes on entering the stable and leaving the stable having disinfection at the entrance of holding (stable).
- No unauthorized persons are allowed to enter the pig holding (stable).
- No sows and/or boar for reproduction are allowed on farm.

Biosecurity requirements for commercial farms:

No swill feeding.

- No contact between the pigs of the non-commercial farms and susceptible animals (indoor keeping).
- No contact to any part of feral pig (hunted or dead wild boar/meat/by-products).
- The owner (respectively the person in charge of the pigs) should change clothes on entering the stable

and leaving the stable having disinfection at the entrance of holding (stable).

- No unauthorized persons are allowed to enter the pig holding (stable).
- Slaughtering only under veterinary supervision in slaughterhouses.
- Biosecurity plan approved by FVS according to Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621.

Also sanctions are foreseen by the Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No.621 for pig keepers in case of non compliance with rules.

Regular inspections to pig holdings in areas defined as Part I, Part II and Part III will be carried out by official veterinarians in order to check health status of the pigs and sampling in case of suspects. The areas and frequency of biosecurity checks in pig farms will be risk based. During inspections the implementation of biosecurity requirements will be checked as the main objective.

Biosecurity measures during hunting is stipulated in Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 226 "Regulation on the complex of biosecurity during hunting" (published 19 April, 2018).

State Forests service (SFS) performs biosecurity controls during the hunting process and Food and Veterinary Service supervises:

- compliance with biosafety requirements at game processing sites;
- storage inspections of hunted wild boar;
- and carries out the withdrawal and disposal of the body, all parts thereof and offal of a wild boar that have been confirmed positive by means of laboratory methods.

The procedure (methodological guidelines) has been designed to establish joint procedures of state supervision assessment, completion of the inspection report and the procedures of data recording. According inspection plan biosecurity requirements inspection is performed at least 10% from all users of hunting rights.

Disinfectants will be used during the pig farm and hunting ground visits, sampling of the found dead wild boar for the decontamination of the equipment, boots, car (if necessary) or area.

4.3.8 Measures in case of a positive result including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

A description is provided of the measures as regards positive animals and detailed reference to the Union legislation provisions (slaughter, destination of carcasses, use or treatment of animal products, the destruction of all products which could transmit the disease or the treatment of such products to avoid any possible contamination, a procedure for the disinfection of infected holdings, the therapeutic or preventive treatment chosen, a procedure for the restocking with healthy animals of holdings which have been depopulated by slaughter and the creation of a surveillance zone around infected holding). A definition of a suspicion and of a confirmation should be provided, with detailed measures implemented in both situation and how the herd is requalified as free after a positive result.

(max. 32000 chars) :

In case of suspicion or confirmation of ASF all measures according to Commission Delegated Regulation (EC) 2020/687 , ASF Contingency Plan and Commission Implementation Regulation 2021/605 will be implemented immediately.

In the case of ASF suspicion of outbreak in domestic pigs:

- 1) Restricted ban on movement of live animals and products from suspected holding.
- 2) Epidemiological investigation of possible introduction of virus and spreading of disease.

In the case of ASF confirmation of outbreak in domestic pigs:

- 1) Establishing of protection zones (surveillance and protection zones)
- 2) Restrictions of life animal, pig meat product, semen, ova and embryos movement in certain protection zones.

- 3) Sampling and monitoring of the pigs in holdings within zones.
- 4) Tracing back and forward of possible source of infection.
- 5) Immediate killing of infected and susceptible animals in affected holding.
- 6) Disposal of affected pig carcasses and by-products.
- 7) Cleaning and disinfection of affected pig holding (costs for disinfectant and/or disinfection will be included in the Emergency measures cofinancing request).

4.3.9 Description of the slaughtering policy (in ASF programmes). Describe under which circumstances a farm will be slaughtered/culled and, if any, types of preventive slaughtering/culling regimes applied.

(max. 32000 chars) :

Preventive slaughtering is not foreseen in the Contingency plan.
In the case of ASF outbreak culling of all susceptible animals will be performed in the particular epidemiological unit (farm).

4.3.10 Compensation scheme for owners of slaughtered and killed animals

(max. 32000 chars) :

Compensation scheme is in place in Latvia for domestic pigs in a case of epizootics.
The rules for compensation and fixed amounts for various categories of animals are determined by Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No.199 (1 April , 2021).

4.3.11 Control on the implementation of the programme and reporting including detailed reference to relevant Union legislation and its implementation in the Member State for this disease

(max. 32000 chars) :

The Food and Veterinary Service is responsible for implementation and control of the ASF control and prevention in Latvia. The State Forest Service is the competent authority for wild boar population management and control of hunting activities. FVS will coordinate involvement of other institutions in the activities related with ASF control. FVS will provide EC and other EU Member States with actual information on the development of epidemiological situation and progress achieved by the programme.

4.3.12 Measures implemented in wild boar (in ASF programmes).

Describe

- *how sustained feeding is avoided.*
- *average amount of food distributed in hunting grounds per month and km²*
- *sampling, collection / delivery and removal of dead wild boar and compensation scheme applied*

(max. 32000 chars):

The supplementary feeding in whole territory of Latvia is banned to avoid the increase of wild boar population and density. Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No.745 (2 December, 2014).

Restrictions on wild boar feeding are established in the national regulation. Restrictions concern to the amount of feed and accessibility to the wild boar. Wild boar feeding restriction (only baiting) strategy increase hunting success – fixing wild boar to the particular baiting place, avoid moving and migration of wild boar and reduce damages to agriculture.

1. Feed must be stored in tanks and distributed only by dosimeter. (No feed on the ground).

Feed must be stored in tanks and distributed only by dosimeter. Capacity of the tanks is restricted to 400 litres for the 1000 hectares of the hunting ground per winter period (5 months). Or 8 litres (~kg) per 1 km²/month.

Active surveillance in wild boar will be implemented in ASF affected areas (Part II, III) meaning that all hunted wild boar have been subjected to laboratory testing to ASF virus genome using RT-PCR. Compensation will be paid to hunters for delivery of samples (blood). The carcasses of hunted wild boar shall be stored until laboratory results are available.. Official veterinarians randomly will visit hunting grounds and will make sure that the hunted wild boar carcasses are stored until the lab results are received.

In a case of positive results carcasses will be destroyed under the supervision of an official veterinarian and compensation will be paid to hunter. The estimated wild boar population in the country is about 26 000 animals (before the birth of the piglets).

In Part I sampling strategy will be based strictly on passive surveillance. All discovered sick, dead and killed in the road incident wild boar will be examined by official veterinarian, tissue samples will be taken and tested in accordance with diagnostic manual for the presence of ASFV using RT-PCR. Hunted wild boar will be tested only in case the hunter wants to move carcass outside the Part I.

The sampling will be conducted by official, authorized veterinarians or trained hunters. An epidemiological inquiry within the infected area performed by the FVS will be carried out on each wild boar found dead or hunted. This inquiry will include the completing of an epidemiological report form, which provides detailed information on each wild boar found dead or shot (including GIS coordinates). Passive surveillance in wild boar population will be implemented in whole territory of the country (including part 1 and free areas). In addition, the passive surveillance will be strengthened and enforced.

In this regard, incentives of _____ will be paid to every person who notifies the exact location of wild boar carcass (dead wild boar). Hunters and gamekeepers will be instructed to continue reporting all the discovered dead wild boars to the FVS including those discovered dead and killed in the road incidents. The aim of hunting within the infected and restricted area besides sampling is to reduce the wild boar population. The winter feeding in whole territory of Latvia is banned to avoid the increase of wild boar population and density.

The set of strict biosecurity requirements to be followed by hunters during the hunting are established in national legislation.

Information campaigns will also be enforced in order to increase hunter's awareness of the measures to be adopted in the framework of the ASF eradication plan and the requirements to be complied within order to avoid any spread of the disease.

The hunting clubs will be instructed and trained to recognize clinical symptoms of ASF and which measures firstly to apply to avoid the spread of the disease, to reduce the risk of transmission to the domestic pigs. During the training, specific attention will be paid to biosecurity requirements during the hunting.

Mechanism of disposal of found dead wild boar are established. Agreement between FVS and the Union

of municipalities foresees the payment (for the delivered to ABP containers and for buried or burned in the spot) for disposal of each wild boar carcase.

The collection and disposal of the contents of ABP containers is organized by a by-product processing company authorized according to Regulation (EC) No. 1069/2009.

Disposal of carcasses on site, performed usually by burring at the place where the wild boar is found or at the nearest possible place. The

All the process (sampling, biosecurity etc.) during disposal of disposal, will be supervised by FVS inspectors.

In the framework of ASF awareness campaigns it is planned to include education seminars for hunters - the main priority is population reduction and reporting and disposal of found dead wild boars.

Payment of incentives for hunted wild boar females (selective hunting) was performed until 2020.

4.3.13 Describe the raising awareness actions to be implemented.

(max. 32000 chars) :

ASF awareness campaigns will be planned and performed in close collaboration with the pig farmer`s and hunters` associations. In the framework of ASF awareness campaigns it is planned to include education seminars for hunters - the main priority is population reduction and reporting and disposal of found dead wild boars.

Interactive ASF map on Food and Veterinary Service web page (pvd.lvm.lv) will be maintained to supply all involved stake holders with newest information on epidemiological situation and restricted areas. Other forms of awareness incl. social media are also planned, especially in areas where ASFV was re-introduced in 2021.

Additionally, informative materials like leaflets and posters, video clip etc., will be prepared in close collaboration with pig farmer association and hunter association.

Tentative breakdown of the cost per awareness activity:

purchase of services to print leaflets and posters –

purchase of service to maintain interactive map (broadcasting in the Internet spot) with ASF epidemiological (wild boar cases, domestic pig outbreaks, restricted area etc.) information -

purchase of production and broadcasting of radio, television and internet spots – information about ASF prophylactic and eradication measures in domestic pig and wild boar population for pig farmers and hunters. –

purchase of services for organising awareness raising meetings for stakeholders (veterinarians, pig farmers, hunters) –

5. Benefits of the programme

A description is provided of the benefits of the programme on the economical and animal health points of view.

Describe

- progress expected compared to the situation of the disease in the previous years, in line with the objectives and expected results
- cost efficiency of the programme including management costs

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

(max. 32000 chars) :

The effective implementation of the program will ensure early detection of new ASF outbreaks/cases in Latvian domestic pig farms and wild boar population. Controls on the implementation of biosecurity rules performed by the FVS will improve biosecurity level in pig farms and prevent new introductions of ASF virus.

Enhanced passive surveillance will contribute to early detection of ASF cases in pig farms. In case of positive findings measures will be applied to eradicate the disease and to take all necessary measures in accordance with EU and national legislation to reduce the risk of spreading the virus and to compensate losses for animal keepers.

The awareness campaigns will be implemented in the whole territory of Latvia and targeted information campaign will cover animal keepers, veterinarians, hunters and general public related to ASF control and preventive measures. These campaigns will improve the public awareness on ASF.

As a result of ASF control measures implemented in Latvia during previous years, significant progress has been achieved in both wild boar population and domestic pigs. In the eastern part of Latvia very few virus positive cases in wild boar have been detected compared to western part of Latvia where active ASF infection is ongoing. Regarding the domestic pigs - biosecurity level of pig farms has been constantly improved and thus just few ASF outbreaks are detected in Latvia - usually during the summer season.

Implementation of enhanced passive surveillance system and ensuring permanent strict controls on the implementation of biosecurity requirements in pig farms facilitate the safe movement of pigs as well as products of porcine origin.

The introduction of incentives for public for the found dead wild boar, will facilitate passive surveillance, improve epidemiological information on virus circulation in the population and alert domestic pig owners to potential risks.

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B. Targets

B.1 Disease surveillance in domestic pigs to be carried out

Targets for year : **2023**

Country	Region	Type of farms	Total number of farms	Number of farms to be sampled	Number of animals to be sampled	Expected number of farms with serologically positive result	Expected number of farms with active infection detected	
LATVIJA	whole country	Commercial	400	400	5 000	0	1	X
LATVIJA	whole country	Backyard	3 600	20	50	1	1	X
Totals : 4 000				420	5 050	1	2	
Total number of animals to be sampled in MS (blood)						Add a new row		
						5050		

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

B.2 Disease surveillance in feral pigs/wild boar to be carried out

Targets for year : **2023**

Country	Region	Estimation of the population	Method of estimation used	Species	Type surveillance	Number of animals to be tested	Expected animals positive	
LATVIJA	ASF infected area	24 000	hunting bag	wild boar	Active	24000	400	X
LATVIJA	ASF infected area	2 000	hunting bag	wild boar	Passive	1000	500	X
Totals :		26 000				25 000	900	
						Add a new row		
Animals sampled Active in MS						24000		
Animals sampled Passive in MS						1000		

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

Animals sampled - Total in MS	25000
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B.3 *Feral pigs/wild boar oral vaccination to be carried out*

B.4 *Stratified data on diagnostic test and results*

Targets for year : **2023**

Country	Region	Animal population	Laboratory tests used	Type of sample	Number of animals to be tested	Number of tests to be carried out	Expected number of positive results	Comments	
LATVIJA	all country	Domestic pigs	PCR	blood an organs	5 050	4000	10	all animals in the case of sus	X
LATVIJA	all country	Domestic pigs	ELISA ab	Sera	200	200	50	all animals in the case of sus	X
LATVIJA	all country	Domestic pigs	IPT	Sera	50	50	4	ELISA confirmation	X
LATVIJA	all country	Domestic pigs	Virus sequencing	Blood	10	10	2	new outbreaks	X
LATVIJA	all country	Wild boar	PCR	Blood	25 000	15000	700	all hunted in infected are or	X
LATVIJA	all country	Wild boar	Virus sequencing	blood an organs	3	3	3	newly infected or reinfected	X
Totals :					30 313	19 263	769		
					Add a new row				
					Total tests ELISA in MS				
					200				
					Total tests PCR in MS				
					19 000				
					Total tests Virus isolation/virological test in MS				
					0				

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

Total tests IPT in MS	50	
Total tests (Other) in MS	13	

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

C.2. Financial informaton

1. Identification of the implementing entities - financial circuits/flows

Identify and describe the entities which will be in charge of implementing the eligible measures planned in this programme which costs will constitute the reimbursement/payment claim to the EU. Describe the financial flows/circuits followed.

Each of the following paragraphs (from a to e) shall be filled out if EU cofinancing is requested for the related measure.

a) Implementing entities - **sampling**: who performs the official sampling? Who pays?
(e.g. authorised private vets perform the sampling and are paid by the regional veterinary services (state budget); sampling equipment is provided by the private laboratory testing the samples which includes the price in the invoice which is paid by the local state veterinary services (state budget))

(max. 32000 chars):

Domestic pigs sampling will be performed by official vets and authorized veterinarians.
Wild boar sampling will be performed by official vets, authorized veterinarians and hunters.
All costs will be covered from state budget.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

b) Implementing entities - **testing**: who performs the testing of the official samples? Who pays?
(e.g. regional public laboratories perform the testing of official samples and costs related to this testing are entirely paid by the state budget)

(max. 32000 chars):

Institute of Food Safety, Animal Health and Environment - "BIOR" performs the National Reference Laboratory functions in respect of animal infectious diseases diagnostics.

c) Implementing entities - **compensation**: who performs the compensation? Who pays?
(e.g. compensation is paid by the central level of the state veterinary services,
or compensation is paid by an insurance fund fed by compulsory farmers contribution)

(max. 32000 chars):

Compensations will be paid from state budget. The rules for compensation and fixed amounts for various categories of animals are determined by Regulation of Cabinet of Ministers No.199 (1 April, 2021).

d) Implementing entities - **vaccination**: who provides the vaccine and who performs the vaccination? Who pays the vaccine? Who pays the vaccinator?
(e.g. farmers buy their vaccine to the private vets, send the paid invoices to the local state veterinary services which reimburse the farmers of the full amount and the vaccinator is paid by the regional state veterinary services)

(max. 32000 chars):

Vaccine is not available

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

e) Implementing entities - **other essential measures**: who implements this measure? Who provides the equipment/service? Who pays?

(max. 32000 chars):

The Food and Veterinary Service is responsible for implementation and control of the ASF control and prevention in Latvia. FVS will coordinate involvement of other institutions in the activities related with ASF control. All costs regarding to prophylactic and eradication measures will be covered by state budget.

2. Source of funding of eligible measures

All eligible measures for which cofinancing is requested and reimbursement will be claimed are financed by public funds.

yes

no

3. Additional measures in exceptional and justified cases

In the "*Guidelines for the Union co-funded veterinary programmes*", it is indicated that in exceptional and duly justified cases, additional necessary measures can be proposed by the Member States in their application.

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

If you introduced these type of measures in this programme, for each of them, please provide detailed technical justification and also justification of their cost:

N/A

Standard requirements for the submission of programme for eradication, control and surveillance

Attachments

IMPORTANT :

- 1) The more files you attach, the longer it takes to upload them .
- 2) This attachment files should have one of the format listed here : jpg, jpeg, tiff, tif, xls, xlsx, doc, docx, ppt, pptx, bmp, pna, pdf.
- 3) The total file size of the attached files should not exceed 2 500Kb (+- 2.5 Mb). You will receive a message while attaching when you try to load too much.
- 4) IT CAN TAKE **SEVERAL MINUTES TO UPLOAD** ALL THE ATTACHED FILES. Don't interrupt the uploading by closing the pdf and wait until you have received a Submission Number!
- 5) Only use letters from a-z and numbers from 1-10 in the attachment names, otherwise the submission of the data will not work.

List of all attachments

	Attachment name	File will be saved as (only a-z and 0-9 and -_):	File size
	18943_14652.pdf	18943_14652.pdf	559 kb
	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	ERAFUNDSPESTFUNDS_PPD.pdf	288 kb
		Total size of attachments :	847 kb