"African swine fever virus preliminary results of epidemiological investigations in Estonia."

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Abstract

The first confirmed ASF wild boar case in Estonia was 08.09.2014 in south part and the first confirmed ASF case in northern of Estonia was 18.09.2014. The first confirmed ASF domestic pig outbreak in Estonia was 02.09.2015. It took less than month that ASF spreaded from the south part of Estonia to the Noth part and almost one year to reach from the forest to the farms. In the Southern part the mortality of wild boars was high, a lot of cases were reported, where in one place more than one dead animal (up to 16), most of cases laboratory result were ASFV (PCR) positive and ASFV ab negative. In the Northeast mortality was low, no cases reported, where was more than one dead animal, most of cases laboratory results were ASFV (PCR) negative and ASFV ab positive. Roughly 10 % of ASF positive wild boars have been ab positive. Circulating ASFV is 100% homologous with the virus isolated from wild boars and domestic pigs in Latvia, Lithuania and Poland in 2014, and with the ASF virus isolated in Belarus in 2013 (Bel13/Grodno). Virus can remain in one pen or part of the building for 1-2 weeks or even more without being noticed. Not all pigs in affected pen will be infected. First symptoms can be very mild and unspecific like anorexia, unwillingness to stand, pigs of the affected pen are silent, no clear temperature reaction always. Severe disease was observed in ~50% of outbreaks. Often starts in sows (with piglets), low or very low morbidity and usually occurring during the summer (seasonality). Generally the main cause of outbreaks was biosecurity mistakes.