



## **Standing Group of Experts on African swine fever in the Baltic and Eastern Europe region**

under the GF-TADs umbrella

**Sixth meeting (SGE ASF6)  
Vilnius, Lithuania, 28-29 November 2016**

### **Recommendations (final)**

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#### **Implementation of GF-TADs recommendations**

1. Best practices were identified. Given the not homogenous situation, efforts in implementing previous GF-TADs recommendations should continue.
2. More capacity building activities and awareness campaigns should be organised keeping in mind the multi sectorial approach, notably by involving hunting associations and forest management bodies.
3. Targeted information campaigns should be organised in order to further increase awareness of travellers, notably pig owners/workers and hunters, on the risk of spread of ASF by pig products.

#### **Hunting biosecurity and carcass disposal (wild boar)**

4. Regional and/or local trainings and awareness campaigns be provided to hunting community, forestry and environment agencies and Veterinary Services (public and private components) should be organised with the support of experts as soon as possible, to ensure that common disease prevention, biosecurity and eradication goals are understood and shared.
5. Hunting methods should minimise movements of wild boar. Increased hunting pressure by non-trained personnel ("Kalashnikov killing") is counterproductive in terms of ASF eradication.
6. Hunted wild boar should remain in the premises of the hunting ground until tested; only negative carcasses must be released. The carcasses should be individually identified.
7. Unless a specific hygienic removal protocol is in place, offal from hunted wild boar should not be removed from the animal in the field, which should be brought to dedicated authorised dressing facilities in the hunting ground equipped with water, waste collection equipment and freezers. Transport of hunted animals to the dressing facility should be carried out using only properly equipped vehicles. Dressing rooms should have sufficient effective disinfectants available.
8. Given that ASF is not dependent on wild boar density and that the objective should be to reduce the viral load in the environment, removal of carcasses of dead wild boar should be a priority.

Carcasses should be disposed off and offal should be stored in disposal pits (at least 1.5 m deep) or dedicated containers allowing for regular by-products collection and treatment. These facilities should be in a secured area. As an alternative, carcasses and offal can also be burnt on the spot provided it is done according to best practices and can be enforced and controlled.

9. Hunting suits, including boots/shoes should be kept in specific bags. Boots and apron used for dressing shall be cleaned and disinfected after each use.
10. OIE, FAO and the EU should cooperate in preparing a technical practical document with detailed information about hunting biosecurity and wild boar carcass disposal.

#### **Stamping out and carcass disposal principles (domestic pigs)**

11. Sections of a Contingency Plan covering the stamping out procedures should contain appropriate information concerning: legal provisions for stamping out; disease investigation and confirmation; biosecurity measures; killing methods with regard to animal welfare requirements and logistic operational requirements; carcass disposal; cleansing and disinfection.
12. OIE, FAO and the EU should cooperate in preparing a technical document with detailed information about procedures and equipment to be used during epidemics where large livestock units are being infected and worst case scenario may be possible.

#### **Cleaning and Disinfection**

13. Disinfection techniques should comprise thorough soaking of bedding and litter as well as faecal matter with the disinfectant; washing and cleaning by careful brushing and scrubbing of the ground, floors and walls; then further washing with the disinfectant; washing and disinfecting the outside of vehicles.
14. The choice of disinfectants and of procedures for disinfection should be made taking into account the causal agents of infection and the nature of the premises, vehicles and objects which are to be treated. Specific precautions should be taken in case of freezing temperatures. For ASF virus inactivation, recommended disinfectants are listed in the [OIE technical disease Card](#).

#### **Review of the pool of experts for SGE on ASF**

15. Drs Ago Partel, Edvīns Oļševskis and Marius Masiulis should be included in the existing team of experts on ASF for enabling more flexibility in organising missions in the field. The Secretariat could explore the identification of further experts to be possibly included as well.

#### **Next meeting (SGE ASF7 and ASF8)**

16. The next SGE meeting (SGE ASF7) should be held in the margins of the OIE 85<sup>th</sup> General Session (May 2017, Paris) followed by a SGE technical meeting (SGE ASF8) in Moldova in September 2017. The topic will be risk communication and laboratory diagnostics and capability.