

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER MANAGEMENT: PRACTICAL EXPERIENCES AND IMPLICATIONS FOLLOWING THE INTRODUCTION IN WILD BOAR IN BELGIUM

Application of the EU ASF control and eradication in wild boar



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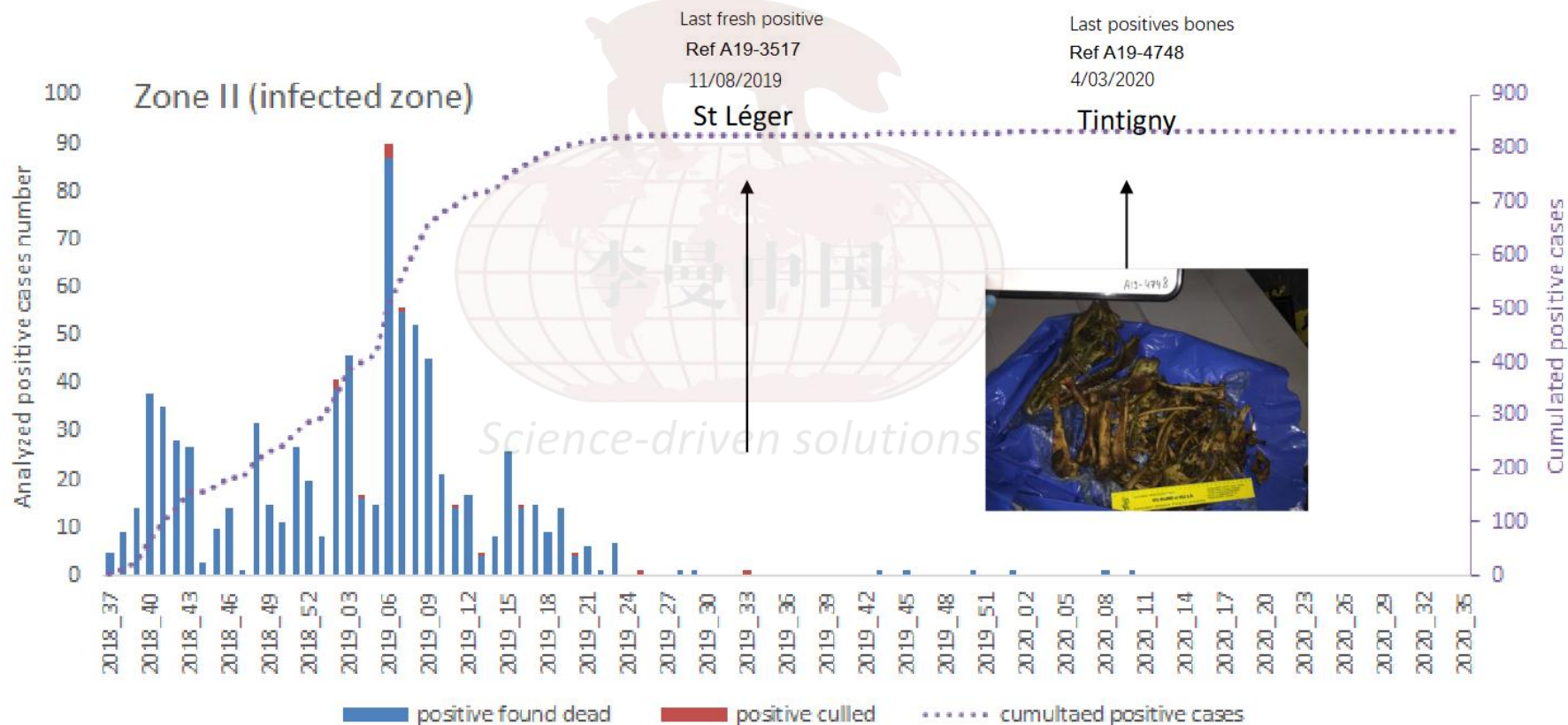
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In a nutshell

- In a small area in the South of the country
- No case among domestic pigs
- Disease found only in wild boars (883 cases)
- Eradication in a short time



Eradication strategy – Measures

Strategic board (CVO, official veterinarians, scientists, boar specialists etc.)

- **Ultimate: Eradication of the disease**

- **Short term**

- Prevent introduction of ASF in domestic pigs
- Prevent spread of disease among wild boars

- **Long term**

- Eradication of disease
- Eradication of wild boars in affected areas
- Significant reduction of wild boars population elsewhere

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Belgium, Federal State

Competences

Federal

- Safety Food chain
- Sanitary aspect of agriculture (animal/plant health)
- Exports (sanitary aspects - SPS)
- EU and third country relations
- CVO - OIE delegate



Regions



- Management of wild life, including animal health
- Hunting, nature and forest management, tourism
- Agriculture other than sanitary (economy, subventions)
- Animal welfare



Chronology – Delimitation of zones

- ✓ 9/09/2018: 3 adult boars found dead in the town of Etalle
- ✓ 10/09: sick young boar slaughtered in the town of Etalle

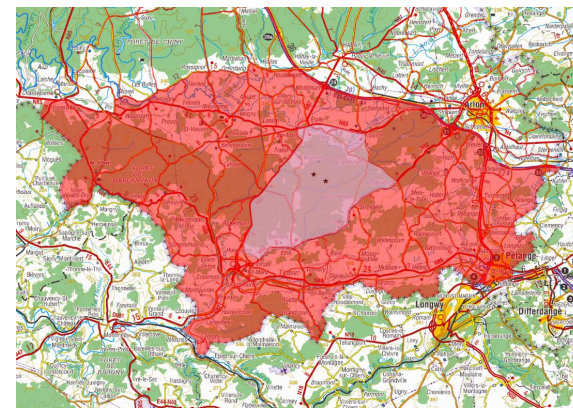
"Passive surveillance"
=> Wild fauna surveillance
service – LAB

- ✓ 12/09 in the evening
 - Info by LNR (Sciensano) to CVO, FAFSC and Region: PCR PPA positive => confirmation tests scheduled for the next day
 - Internal info, Ministers, EU Commission, neighbouring countries etc.

- ✓ 13/09 at 9.30 a.m.: crisis meeting of FAFSC-Region, in touch with the EU Commission and Ministers
 - ⇒ Delineation of **"infected zone"** (63,000 hectares)

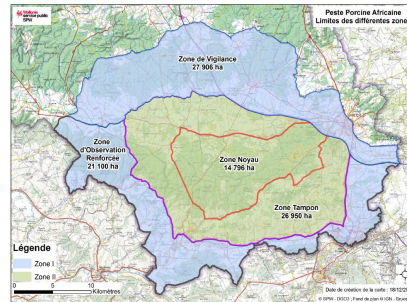
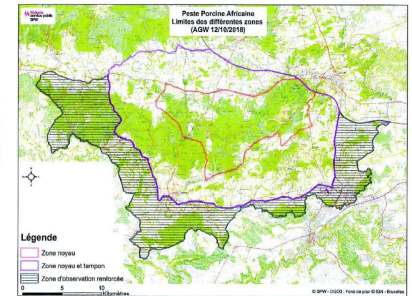
(Provisional => 30/11/18 + Formalised by EU Decision)

- ✓ 13/09 at 4 p.m.: Confirmation by Sciensano



Chronology – Delimitation of zones

- ✓ 26/09 - 03/10/18: slaughter of pigs in the infected zone
- ✓ 12/10/18: delineation by the Walloon Region of 3 "operational" zones within the infected zone, with a view to the management of wild boars
 - kernel zone
 - buffer zone
 - reinforced observation zone
- ✓ 23/11/18: Adaptation European zoning
2018年11月23日:
 - Delineation of zone I (buffer) and zone II (infected)
 - Region: delineation of a vigilance zone

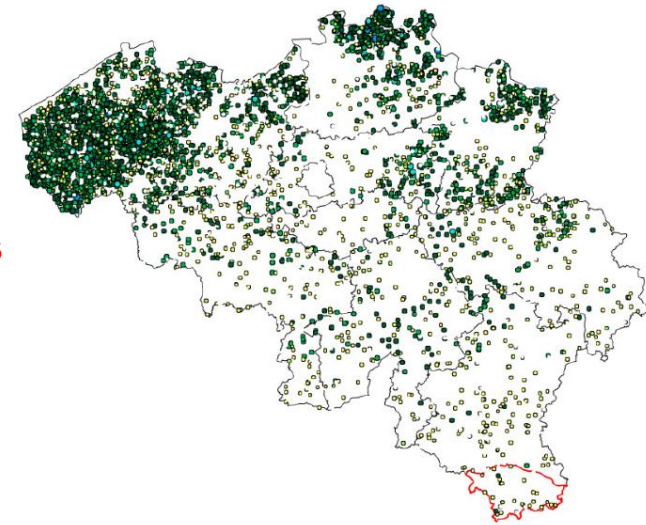


A photograph of a large group of domestic pigs in a muddy field. In the foreground, a pig is standing in a muddy puddle, looking towards the camera. Behind it, many other pigs are scattered across the field, some standing and some lying down. The field is muddy with many puddles. In the background, there is a line of bare trees and a cloudy sky. A wire fence is visible on the right side of the image.

APPROACH IN DOMESTIC PIGS



Pigs: Preventive measures



NB: At all times: Mandatory registration of all pig farms

- Number of pig farms in Belgium: +- 7,200
- Number of pigs in BE: 6.2 million (94% in Flanders)
- Number of pigs slaughtered per year: 11 million
- Turnover from exports: €1.3 billion (~ 90% intracommunity, 10% to third countries)
- Direct jobs: 15,000

In the initial infected zone (before general culling)

- 67 farms
- +- 5,000 pigs
- The majority of these farms (+- 60) are individual owners raising pigs perfectly legally for their private use, and owning fewer than 10 pigs.

Avoiding infection of pigs – remaining free from ASF in domestic pigs and captive wild pigs, in line with article 15.1.3 of the OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code



Pigs: Preventive measures in the “infected zone”

27/09/2018 *(date of elimination of all pigs in the infested zone)*

- Inventory of number of pigs
 - within 72h, to be sent to FASFC
 - including the observations of the VT concerning biosecurity
- Check of all farms (Biosecurity, etc.) & info
- In particular, checking on separation of pigs – boars
 - if external trajectory - enclose or double fence (electric)
 - place all equipment, food, straw etc. out of reach of boars
 - special attention to the equipment used on the fields!
- Entry/exit of pigs
 - forbidden, except with FASFC authorization (=> slaughterhouse)
 - no EIC live pigs, sperm, embryos, ova
- Strengthen biosecurity
- Examine all illness/mortality
- Ban of repopulation

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.be Pigs: Measures applied in the zones I and II

Application of the EU rules (restrictions-prohibitions) defined in Implementing Decision 2014/709/EU: measures to prevent the infection of domestic pigs and to assure safe trade of pigs and pig products.



Pigs: Preventive measures on the entire territory

At all times

- Prohibition to access pigs holding for persons that have been in contact with wildlife in the prior 72 hours
- Prohibition to introduce wild boars or (part of) carcasses thereof in pig holdings
- Strict biosecurity measures (limited access, disinfection baths at the entry of the stables, dedicated clothing, etc.)
- No outdoor access allowed for pigs, except if an effective double fencing not allowing contact with wild boar is in place around the outdoor area
- Prohibition of movement during the 4 weeks following the introduction of pigs into a holding, except if the pigs are moved for immediate slaughter or when using a quarantine facility on the holding
- Prohibition of feeding kitchen waste to pigs
- Mandatory cleaning and disinfection of vehicles dedicated to the transport of pigs, after each transport
- Mandatory additional cleaning and disinfection of vehicles dedicated to the transport of pigs that are entering Belgium and originate from third countries or risk areas within the EU
- Mandatory notification to the FASFC of clinical signs in pigs suspected of having been caused by ASF.



Pigs: Preventive measures on the entire territory

Extra preventive measures since the outbreak

- Assembly of pigs prohibited
- Access to holdings limited to those persons that are really indispensable for the good management of the holding
- **Enhanced passive surveillance: in case of sickness of pigs, 3 pigs have to be sampled and analyzed regardless the clinical symptoms**

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A photograph of a pig in a muddy field. The pig is in the foreground, looking towards the camera. It is standing in a muddy area with a small pool of water to its left. In the background, there is a herd of other pigs grazing in a green field. A wire fence is visible on the right side of the image. The sky is cloudy.

APPROACH IN WILD BOAR



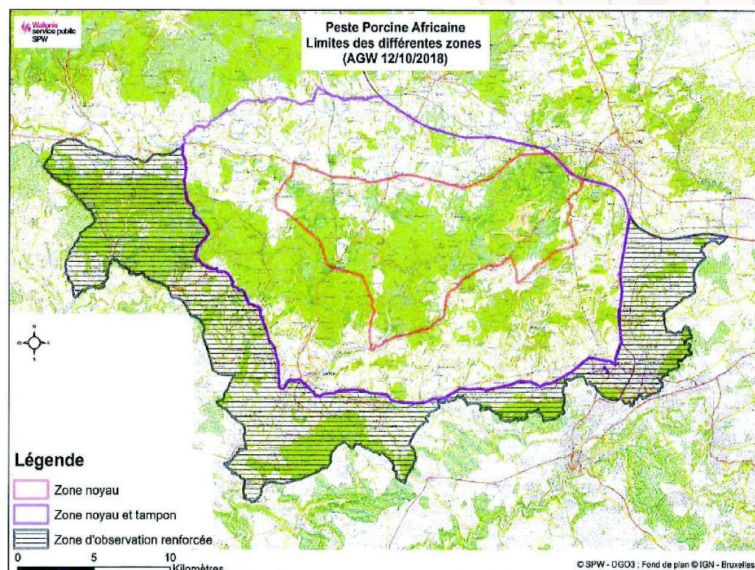
Wild Boars: Measures in the "infected zone"




Phase I (13/09 – 15/10) – in the entire zone

- Searching for carcasses => monitoring => knowledge of the true situation (extent of the disease)
- Ban on feeding wild boars in order to limit contacts between groups of boars.
- Total ban on activities in forests (hikers, forestry works, hunting etc.) => not to disturb the boars (= limiting contamination among them and the geographical spread of the contamination via movement)



Phase II (15 October 2019) – EU "infected zone" divided into 3 separate operational zones: 1/ Kernel – 2/ Buffer – 3/ Reinforced Observation Zone (ROZ)

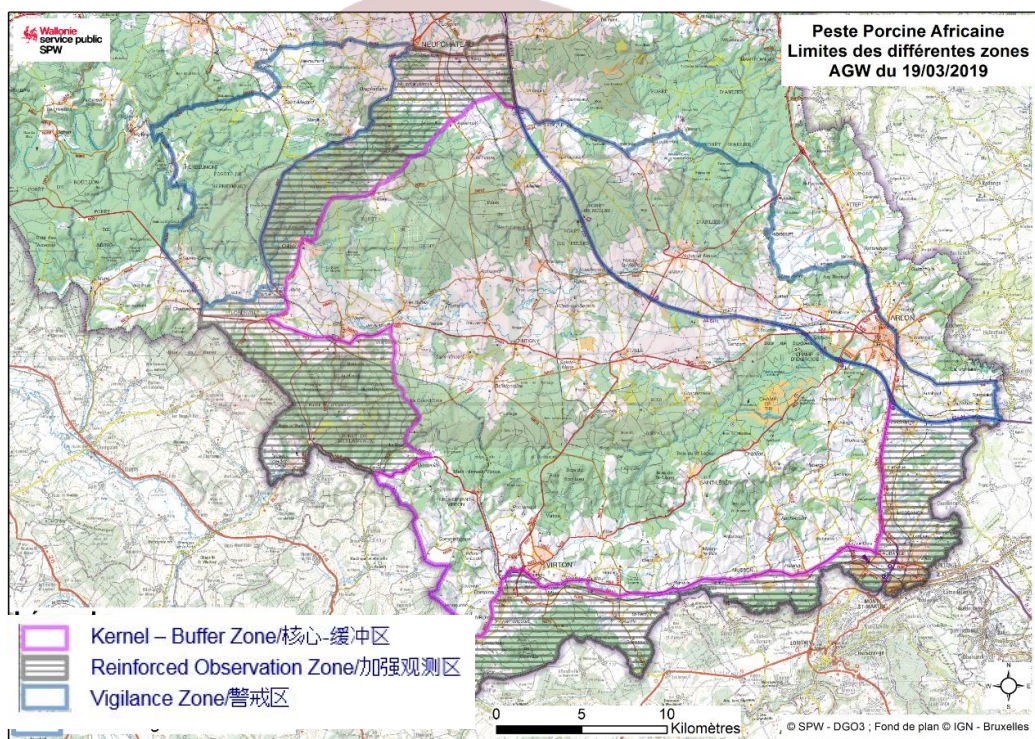


-  Kernel Zone
-  Kernel – Buffer Zone
-  Reinforced Observation Zone

Wild Boars: Measures in zones I and II

Phase III: 23 November 2019 – "zones I and II" divided into 4 distinct operational zones:

1/ Kernel – 2/ Buffer – 3/ Reinforced Observation Zone (ROZ) – 4/ Vigilance



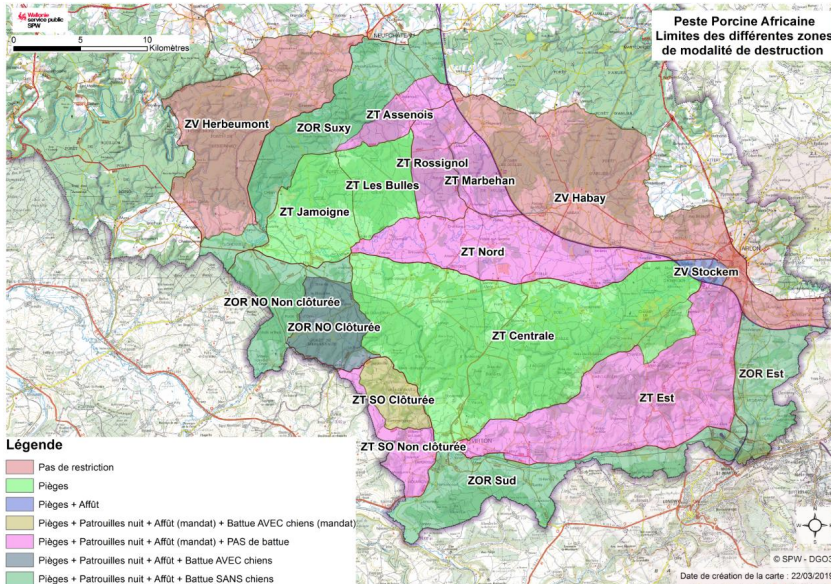
Destruction objective: 0 wild boars = "depopulation zone"

+Intensive search & Removal of carcasses

Wild Boars: Measures in zones I and II

Updated on 15/3/2019 2019年3月15日更新	Kernel and buffer zone 核心区和缓冲区	ROZ (reinforced observation zone) / 强化观测区	vigilance 警戒区
Feeding 饲喂	Prohibited / 禁止	Prohibited / 禁止	Prohibited / 禁止
Traffic 交通	Prohibited (except services of general interest and derogations) 禁止（除大众利益类型的服务和销毁）	free / 自由	free / 自由
Forest holdings 森林企业	Spruces infested with bark beetles have been marked since 15 January; since 1 February it has been possible to take out the spruces infested with bark beetles, upon request to the DNF and following a preliminary search for fresh carcasses 1月15日对爬满小蠹虫的云杉做了标记，向自然森 林部DNF提出请求，并在完成对野猪尸体初步搜寻 后，可以从2月1日起砍伐爬满小蠹虫的云杉	free / 自由	free / 自由
Search 搜寻	Intensive / 密集	Intensive in addition to the hunting programme / 密集，除狩猎计划外	Active / 主动
Hunting 狩猎	Prohibited / 禁止	All game except wild boars, which are destroyed 所有活动，除被销毁的野猪外	All game except wild boars, which are destroyed 所有活动，除被销毁的野猪外
Destruction of wild boars 销毁野猪	All means (under the supervision of the authorities) 尽一切办法（监管当局的监督下）	All means 尽一切办法	All means 尽一切办法

Wild Boars: Measures in zones I and II



Wild boar culling according to the zone

03/04/2019
77

Zone	Biosecurity	Culling by	Dogs	Destruction methods	Subsidies for carcass management and transport
Forested Kernel-buffer	High	Authorities	no	traps	
Kernel-buffer	High	Authorities or hunter with mandate	no	Traps, Night shot , High seat + baiting	100 €
Fenced Kernel-buffer	High	Authorities or hunter with mandate	Small ones	Traps, Night shot , High seat + baiting, Driven hunts	100 €
Reinforced Observation	High	Hunters with support of Authorities	no	Traps, Night shot , High seat + baiting, Driven hunts	100 €
Fenced Reinforced Observation	High	Hunters with support of Authorities	Small ones	Traps, Night shot , High seat + baiting, Driven hunts	100 €
Vigilance	Medium	Hunters	yes	Every	50 €

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Methods used to destruct wild boars in function of the sub-zone and the risk of spreading the disease : No restriction – Traps - Hunting on the lookout - Hunting in battue with or without dogs

Traps



Enclos de 0.3 à 1 ha



Piège INBO démontable 3x3



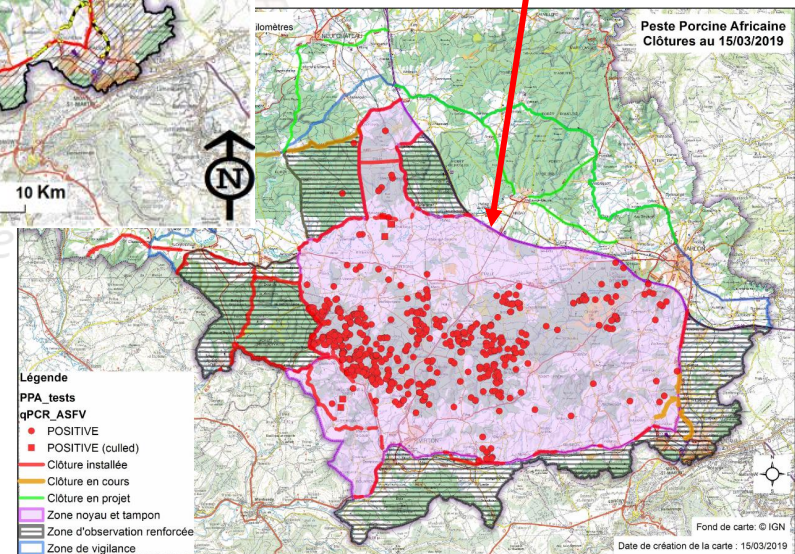
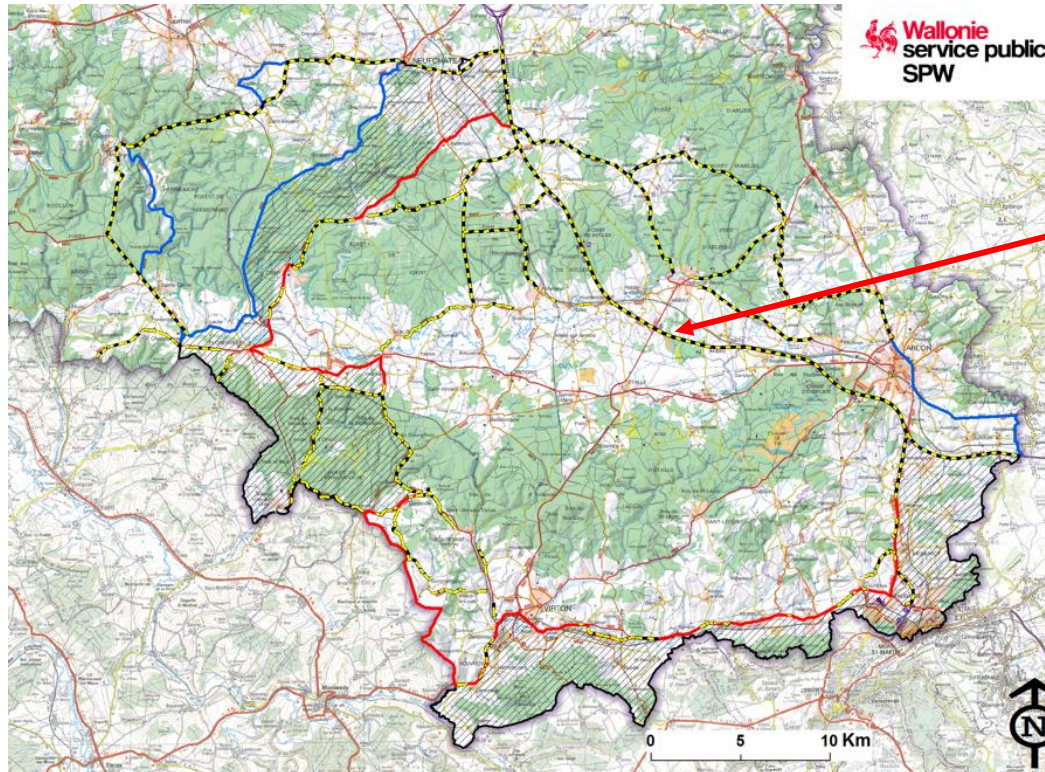
Piège coral



Traps



Fences



Different fence networks put in place (also French one) as a tool to slow down the spread of the disease

Fences



Collection of the dead wild boars

A partnership established among the Public Service of Wallonia, the Federal Civil Protection and the faculty of Veterinary medicine at the University of Liège:

- Active search by the agents of Public Service Wallonia, the army and the hunters
- Collection of the dead wild boars by the Civil Protection -> collection centre
- ASF sampling by the approved veterinarians of University of Liège
- Samples are sent to NRL Sciensano
- All wild boars carcasses are sent to Rendac for destruction
-



Collection of the dead wild boars



Wild Boars: Measures **in the rest of Belgium**

Active surveillance + reduction of the wild boar population

Preparation in case of new outbreaks



A photograph of a pig farm. In the foreground, a large, light-colored pig stands in a muddy, water-filled area, looking towards the camera. Behind it, a group of other pigs is gathered in a similar muddy area. The background shows a green field, a line of bare trees, and a cloudy sky. The word "CONCLUSIONS" is overlaid in large, white, bold capital letters across the center of the image.

CONCLUSIONS



CONCLUSIONS / 结论

- No African swine fever among domestic pigs
家猪中无一起非洲猪瘟病例
- Effective use of Regionalization / Zoning (OIE & EU rules)
有效实施“区域化” / 区划（OIE及欧盟规定）
- African swine fever among wild boars is contained: Fences and depopulation zone
野猪的非洲猪瘟疫情得到控制：加设围栏，并形成“绝命空间”
- Enhanced vigilance throughout the country
在全国加强警戒
- Intense cooperation with neighbouring countries and the European Commission
与邻国及欧委会紧密合作





Federal Agency for the Safety of the Food Chain

比利时联邦食品链安全总局 (FASFC)

Thank you for your attention 感谢您的聆听！



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