**African swine fever in wildlife: lessons learned**

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On 24th of January in 2014 Lithuania notified two primary cases of African swine fever (ASF) in wild boars. From this period Lithuania notified more than 3000 cases of ASF in wild fauna for hunted and found dead wild boars.

The wild boar inhabits a diverse array of habitats from boreal taigas to deserts. The main habitats favored by boars in Europe are deciduous and mixed forests, with the most favorable areas consisting of forest composed of oak and beech enclosing marshes and meadows. How much do we know about the wild boars? In our days there are more questions than answers about how far wild boar can move? Also there are a lot of risk factors to spread the disease in wild boars population. The virus can be transmitted by direct and indirect contacts. The rate of infection also depends of wild boars population size and density.

Based on the practice of 4 years it can be stated that passive surveillance is the golden key do not delay the diagnosis of ASF in free areas. According to risk assessment in high risk areas all found dead wild boars must be tested. Compensation mechanism for reporting of found dead or killed in road incidents wild boars should be foreseen.

The implementation of high biosecurity measures for hunters is one of the main requirements to prevent disease spreading from one area to another. Close cooperation between hunters and competent authorities is crucial. The hunters are our eyes and ears so we need to provide trainings for hunters about biosecurity, explain them the epidemiological role played by wild boars and the major risk linked with hunting activities.

To fight with ASF is quite hard, but then you are well prepared the ASF does not seem so scary.