

# THE VOICE OF EUROPEAN HUNTERS

FACE Rue Belliard 205 B-1040 Brussels

+ 32 (0)2 732 6900 info@face.eu www.face.eu

# FACE recommendations for hunters in preparing for and dealing with African swine fever (ASF) in the field

# Hunters: Before an outbreak

#### Knowledge base:

- Consult information provided by your national hunting association and/or authorities:
  - Clinical signs and other ways to monitor for ASF in wild boar.
  - $\circ$   $\,$  On population management for ASF prevention.
  - On biosecurity measures, see also the <u>OIE handbook, chapter 4 and 5.</u>

### Communications:

- Ensure that other stakeholders in your hunting area are informed about the disease and engage with them on relevant actions:
  - Forestry: ASF can prevent hunting in areas where ungulates require management. (damages caused by game can increase due to this ban)
  - Farmers: the need for biosecurity measures.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Tourism: inform tourists on risks of ASF spreading.

### Wild boar populations:

- Organise monitoring efforts, together with other stakeholders and/or authorities.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Contact relevant authorities when there is a suspicion of ASF infected animals.
- Implement strategies in line with national and international recommendations to reduce wild boar populations.

### **Biosecurity:**

- Take the necessary biosecurity precautions when you are in contact with wild boar:
  - Do not visit a domestic pig farm within 48 hours.
  - Dressing area and all instruments used to dress animals are regularly cleaned (making use of approved cleaning products).
- When traveling to or from infected areas, take the necessary biosecurity measures.
  - Do not bring wild boar products (e.g. meat, trophies) with you.
  - Disinfect all the material that came in contact with the wild boar making use of an approved cleaning product).
- Adapt your hunting operation/area for an outbreak:
  - Prepare to implement guidance/rules from your national hunting association/authority.
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Make sure you have the necessary tools to implement biosecurity measures.



## Hunters: After an outbreak

Knowledge:

• Keep your knowledge on ASF up-to-date, share relevant experiences and lessons learned with others, especially with your national hunting association/authorities.

Communication:

- Continue informing stakeholders of the dangers of ASF and how to prevent ASF from spreading.
- Inform others about the measures that you are implementing and seek partnerships to strengthen the impact of those measures.

#### Wild boar population:

- Implement measures to reduce wild boar populations in non-infected areas and support other measures, where possible, in infected areas:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Ascertain which measures need to be implemented from the authorities.
- Ongoing monitoring is important and carcass removal is essential as ASF remains in the environment for a long time:
  - Offer support to authorities in carrying out these tasks.

#### **Biosecurity:**

- Make sure you have the necessary training and all equipment in place to implement biosecurity measures.
- When hunting, or undertaking any other activity that might form a risk to spread ASF, apply all necessary bio security measures and point it out to all involved stakeholders.

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