Hazard Identification

Discussion Synopsis

Species/subspecies of free-ranging swine

- What constitutes a free-ranging swine species?
- *Sus scrofa* is the best known, has the widest distribution and is the key species in most regions.

Geographical global distribution

- Worldwide except for extremely dry or extremely cold regions;
- Expanding! In which regions and for what reasons?
- How much does the geographical distribution contribute to disease hazards?

Factors contribute to population growth and expansion

- General habitat suitability and extreme adaptability;
- Low mortality due to hunting, diseases, road kills, predators;
- Man-driven expansion and population growth: feeding & translocations;
- What about the political and social factors?

Diseases of wild swine are of most risk to livestock, wildlife, and humans

- What are the priority criteria for the list of diseases?
- ASF, CSF, TB
- AVD, swine brucellosis
- FMD
- Other diseases of zoonotic (HEV, E. coli, …), economic (Mycoplasma hyo) or conservation relevance

Aspects of diseases of greatest management concern

- Direct and indirect contacts between domestic pigs and free-ranging?
- Population size and density
- Hunting policy and the diversity in the authority for managing free-ranging pigs
- Political pressure and regional consideration.

Highest consequence events related to disease

- From a (current) EU perspective: re-emergence of a high impact disease such as ASF via wild suids (Poland, Baltic Countries)
- From a US perspective: risk of program diseases endemicity in growing/expanding feral pig populations, particularly in risk regions (Texas, Michigan)

Ecological or biological gaps in information

- Pathogenesis and epidemiology still have significant knowledge gaps, e.g. for ASF
- Suid population (abundance) monitoring is often limited to hunting bags.
  - This is insufficient and needs to be complemented with new, more accurate and harmonized methods

Ecological or biological gaps in information

- Inter-disciplinary approach is needed to understand the ecology of free-ranging swine populations
- Tools for intervention should be developed for all relevant diseases (e.g. CSF & TB vaccines, barriers, population control tools…)