National Feral Swine Damage Management Program

African Swine Fever Symposium
May 1, 2019
Feral Swine – Why Do We Care?

“World’s Worst Invasive Alien Species.”
Feral Swine - Background

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of States</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1982</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>28</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>36</td>
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Distribution of Feral Swine Over Time

- 1982
- 2004
- 2012
Feral Swine - Background

How fast are they spreading?

Probably, about 80 to 120 kph!
National Feral Swine Damage Management Program

- APHIS serves as the lead federal agency in a cooperative effort with other federal, state, tribal, and local entities that share a common interest in reducing or eliminating problems caused by feral swine.

- Overall objective of the program is to minimize damage inflicted by feral swine:
  - APHIS implements activities to reduce problems associated with feral swine in most states where they are present.
  - In states where feral swine are emerging or populations are low, APHIS cooperates with local and state agencies to implement strategies to eliminate them.
National Feral Swine Damage Management Program

Program components

- Field operations (WS)
- Disease and Population Monitoring (VS, WS, IS)
- Research (WS, VS)
- Planning, Evaluation, and Monitoring (WS, PPD)
- Communication and Outreach (LPA, WS)
- Regulatory Actions (VS, WS)
Domestic Swine Production and Feral Swine Populations
Feral Swine Interactions with Domestic Livestock
Ornithodoros Ticks in the United States

Four species of Ornithodoros are present in North America

Mitigations of Transmission Between Feral Swine and Domestic Swine

- Minimize feral swine presence near domestic facilities

- Surveillance in domestic and wild swine

- Biosecurity practices
  - Fencing
    - Double fencing
  - Confinement of domestic pigs
  - Bio-secure storage of pig feed
Feral Swine Management in Event of an ASFV Incursion

- ASF surveillance in feral swine – morbidity and mortality
  - Cooperation with Wildlife Services (WS) field personnel and Veterinary Services AVIC; federal, state, and local partners too
- Response capabilities
  - Document outlining WS response capabilities
  - Traps, aerial, sharpshooting, snares

- Response radius
  - Immediate culling: at least 4km to remove all pigs
  - Population reduction: at least 10km radius
  - Culling buffers should be re-evaluated and adjusted based on disease findings in feral swine
Challenges if ASF is Detected in Feral Swine

- Delays in detection of ASF in feral swine
- Legal and illegal human movement of feral swine
- Unknown potential of North American Ornithodoros ticks to be involved in transmission
- Potential of persistent transmission if established in feral swine – especially of ticks are involved
- Intelligent and adaptable wild species
Questions

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