

Talkshop

Biosecurity – Sus scrofa

It goes without saying that the knock on effect of war has carried more implications than any of us could have initially thought. Whilst listening to a podcast this week one of the incidental findings discussed due to the war in Ukraine focused on wildlife and that in the current situation there is again winners and losers. Whilst Dolphins appear to be the biggest losers, wild boar populations appear to be increasing in Ukraine for a number of reasons. Ukraine is a country with confirmed cases of African Swine Fever (ASF) and it is thought due to the increased numbers of wild boar there could also become an increase in ASF cases. As wild boar are a great reservoir for disease and great at spreading it ... The point being and the tenuous link here, is that if you have noticed wild boar in your area these could be an important vector for disease transmission to your pigs and other livestock on your farm. Whilst the UK does not currently have ASF it is still important to remind you all of your external biosecurity and that sometimes the vector of disease could be an unexpected visitor and may be entering your farm when you aren't looking. So if you suspect a *Sus scrofa*, it might be a wild boar.

For more information on African Swine Fever:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/african-swine-fever#current-situation>

SAVE THE DATE - Pig Fair

We are delighted to announce that we have secured a date for our 2024 Pig Fair, and welcome you all to save the date. We thought Taunton worked really well last year and we had another great event. Please put this date in your diary and join us for an afternoon of knowledge sharing and hopefully.. Pasties!

All are welcome and our 'theme' will be decided closer to the time. In 2023 we focused on internal projects from within the GVG and had some really positive feedback as well as stimulating healthy debate. Please let us know if there are any topics that you would like to hear discussed and we will try to accommodate.

Date: Tuesday 15th October

Location: Taunton Rugby Club



Pig Fair 2023 – 'Behind closed doors'

PHS up-coming dates

A quick reminder to all members of the GVG Pig Health Scheme if you would like your pigs assessed these are our next assessment dates at the relevant abattoirs.

Westerleigh: 14th March, 25th March, 11th April, 30th April, 15th May and 31st May.

Gills: 4th April and 20th May.

If you have not yet joined the scheme and would like to, and market your pigs to either Westerleigh or F.A. Gill please email PHS@georgevetgroup.co.uk or call the office on 01666823355.

Tom Hill BVSc MRCVS

