

Increasing awareness of *Trichinella* spp. presence in Eurasian beaver (*Castor fiber*) used in food chain

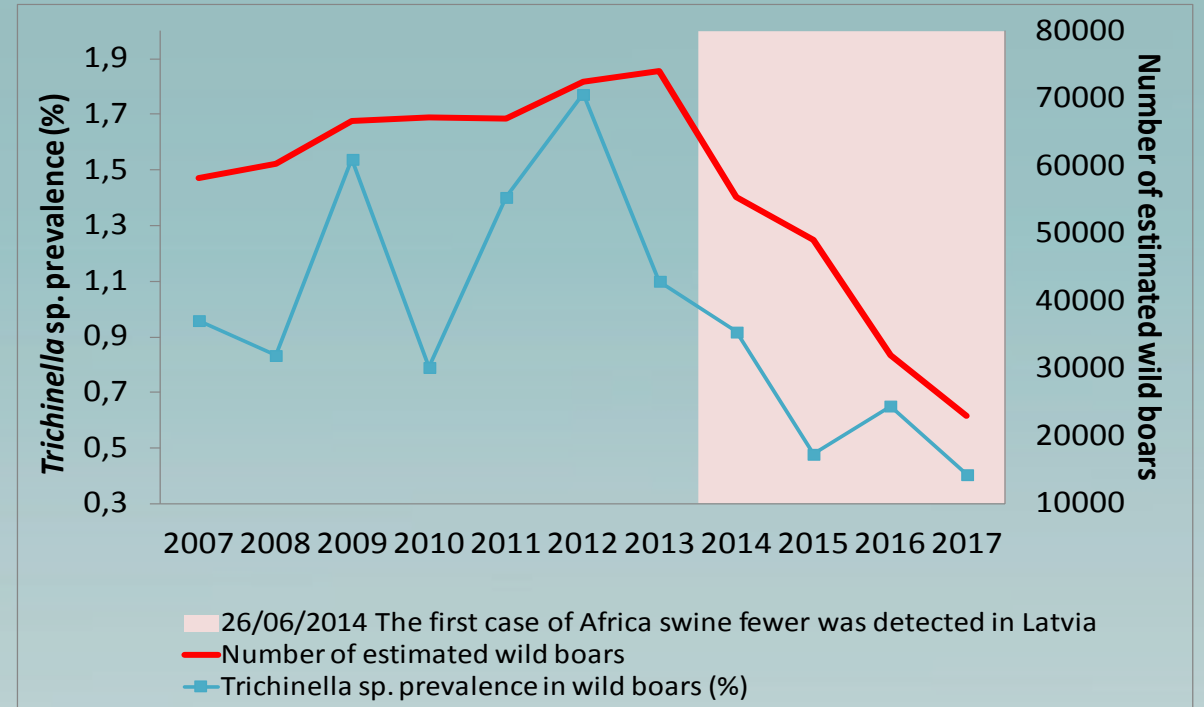
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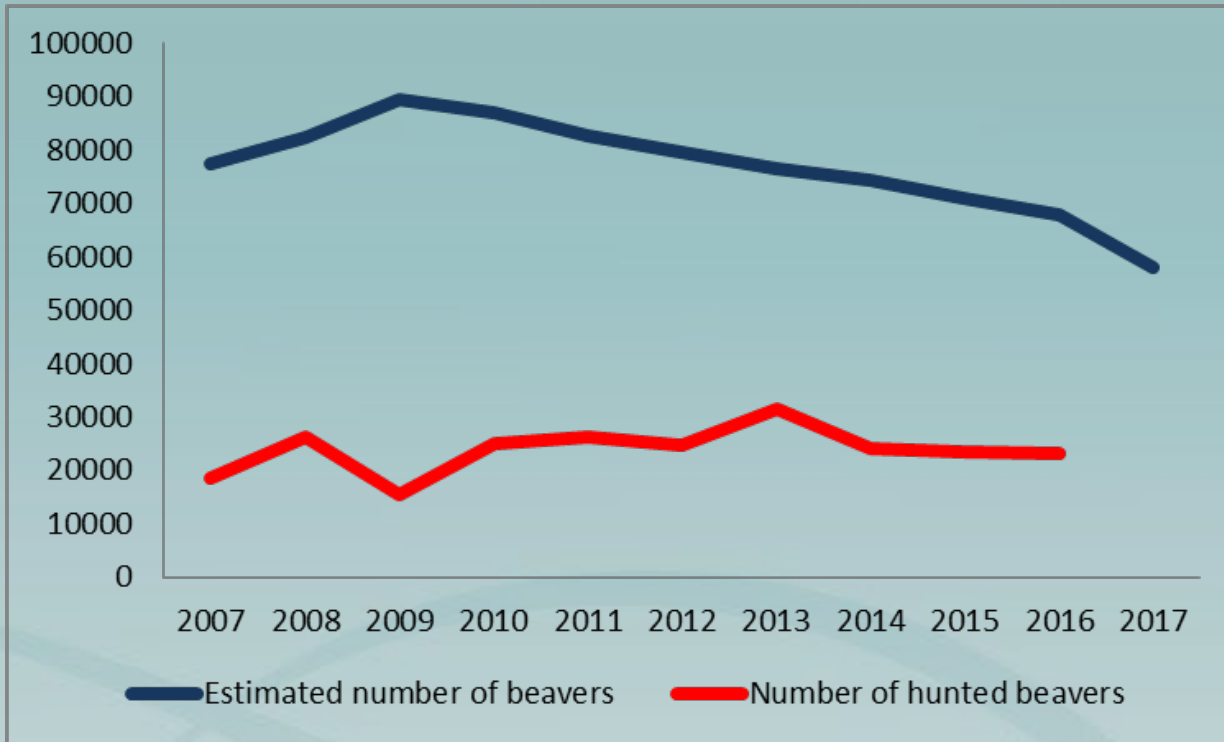
Current situation of *Trichinella* spp. in wild boars



- ❖ Decrease of number of observed (from 74,107 to 23,000) wild boars during previous five years
- ❖ Number of officially analyzed wild boars are continuously decreasing and all wild boars were analyzed only in Institute “BIOR”
- ❖ Prevalence of *Trichinella* spp. is decreasing from 1.1% (95% CI 0.8-1.4%) in 2013 to 0.4% (95%CI 0.2-0.6%) in 2017.



Increasing awareness of *Trichinella* spp. in beavers



❖ Currently there is an increasing interest from hunters and food producers to use beaver meat in food chain

❖ In 2017 overall 15 beavers were analyzed and one of them was infected with low infection of *T. britovi* (0.02 lpg)

❖ Overall, *Trichinella* spp. prevalence in beavers reached 5.5% (n=18; 95% CI 0.3-24.5%)

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SHORT COMMUNICATION

New finding of *Trichinella britovi* in a European beaver (*Castor fiber*) in Latvia

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Raising question.....

- 1) Because beavers are not “carnivorous mammals (including marine mammals)”, does Eurasian beaver is included in EU regulation 1375/2015 as “other meat that could contain *Trichinella* parasites”?
- 2) What would be the appropriate number of tested and found positive beavers to state that beavers used for human consumption should be tested on regular bases?
- 3) What would be the appropriate predilection sites for sampling to be tested for *Trichinella* presence in beavers?
- 4) Considering that previously detected low number of *Trichinella* larvae in beaver muscle, would it be appropriate to test these animals in pool samples?
- 5) Is it safe to use beaver meat in food production?

EU Regulation 1375/2015:
other than wild boar, such as
bears, carnivorous mammals
(including marine mammals)
and reptiles,

Beavers diet

Primary Diet: herbivore (leaves, roots and tubers, wood, bark, or stems, fruit, flowers), coprophage

Currently **n = ~ 200**

Predilection site:

- diaphragm, masseter muscle and tongue
- Foreleg
- Other

Thank you for your attention!

