

**AFRICAN SWINE FEVER** (hereinafter known as SAK) is highly contagious and an acutely progressive swine virus. Symptoms are high temperature, bleeding, inflammatory changes in the internal organs and death (up to 100%). Both domestic and wild swine are susceptible. As of the fall of 2014 SAK has appeared in Estonian wild boars. Currently Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russia and Byelorussia are experiencing a hyper acute strain that is causing sudden death without any other of the above mentioned symptoms.

**SAK** is a singularly swine disease and it is not a threat to other animals or humans, but they can be carriers of the disease.

**Disease is passed by:**

The disease is passed by direct contact with an infected animal or his secretions, it can also be passed by contact with an infected animal's carcass or body parts. The virus is a strong strain and can withstand outside elements, for example the virus has remained in frozen pork for several years, buried in the wild for 6 months and carcasses up to 2 months. Consequently swine can be infected from an infected animals contagious items.

**What should you do if you find a boars carcass?**

- If you find a dead boar in the woods, then fixate the location and pass on the information to the next control point referee or inform the exercise staff HQ
- The Competition staff HQ will inform the Pärnumaa county Veterinary Centre (mobile number: 526 9825, e-mail [hans.sibrits@vet.agri.ee](mailto:hans.sibrits@vet.agri.ee)).

**The main safety measure to prevent the spread of disease:**

- Avoid direct contact with the boar carcass.
- If contact with the boar carcass is unavoidable, then use disposable protective gloves as well as wash your hands after with soap. Also clean and wash footwear, clothes and other items that have been in contact with the carcass or its secretions.
- After contact with an infected carcass or its secretions avoid contact with any animal farms! If contact with a animal farm is unavoidable then use stringent biological security methods (wash thoroughly, use a sauna, change all clothes and footwear).

Further info on SAK is available online: [www.seakatk.ee](http://www.seakatk.ee)