Dr. Maciej Frant
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Feedback on XVIII ASF Inter-laboratory Comparison Test (ILCT) 2021

Dear Dr. Frant:

This is to confirm the participation of the **Swine Disesase Department of the NVRI-NRl for ASF, (laboratory designation code 23)** in the XVIII ILCT 2020-2021 for African Swine fever disease (ASF), organised by the European Union Reference Laboratory (EURL) for ASF with the support of DG SANTÉ. The panel of samples included 14 serum samples, coded as S1 to S14, and 6 tissue samples, coded as T1 to T6, which were distributed for testing the presence of ASF.

A detailed report about the analyses of your results is attached in the annexed *23-ASF$_{ILCT21}$ report.* Comments and recommendations for each test that your laboratory performed for the ASF ILCT 2021 are showed below:

1. **ASF antibody detection results:** your laboratory used two different commercial ELISAs: ®INGENASA-INGEZIM PPA COMPAC K3 and ID Screen AFS Indirect IDVet® for ASF antibody detection in serum samples plus the immunoblotting (IB) and the indirect immunoperoxidase test (EURL-IPT) as confirmatory techniques. **Your results were correct and 'as expected' in positive and negative serum samples indicating that the assay systems that you are using are 'fit for purpose' for the detection of antibodies against ASFV.**

2. **ASF virus detection results:** your laboratory used three real time PCR methods, i) the UPL-real time – PCR, ii) the commercial real time PCR "Virotype® ASFV PCR Kit Qiagen", and iii) the ID Gene™ African Swine Fever Duplex, IDVET GENETISC. Different extraction methods were assayed comprising the High Pure, QIAmp DNA Mini Kit and QIAcube HT extraction method. **Your results were correct and 'as expected' in serum and tissue samples indicating that the assay systems that you are using are 'fit for purpose' for the detection of the ASF virus.** Different results obtained in weak positive samples S13 and S14 have not been considered since the final diagnostic conclusion combining serological and virological techniques are correct.

The ASF final diagnostic conclusion provided in each of the samples included in the XVIII ASF ILCT 2021 has been correct and in line with our expectations. From these results the EU Reference Laboratory for ASF informs that the diagnostic procedures that you are using are 'fit for purpose' to give a correct diagnosis of ASF.

Please contact us if you feel the results for your laboratory have been incorrectly interpreted. Furthermore, also contact us if you require any further information or assistance regarding recommended follow-up and corrective actions arising from the ILCT.

In Valdeolmos, Madrid, Spain, at 31th March 2021

Yours sincerely,

GALLARDO FRONTAURA
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