Acceptability of African Swine Fever control measures among pig farmers - a participatory approach

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Background:

ASF introduction and transmission to the pig sector can be prevented by compliance with control measures that are designed to eliminate the disease. The quality of their implementation may depend upon the stakeholders' acceptability of various ASF control measures.

Aim:

To study acceptance of ASF control measures by pig keepers in Estonia.

Materials & Methods:







Participatory epidemiology tools

(Structured interview protocol, proportional piling, smiley face scale)



Data collection

(10 focus group discussions)



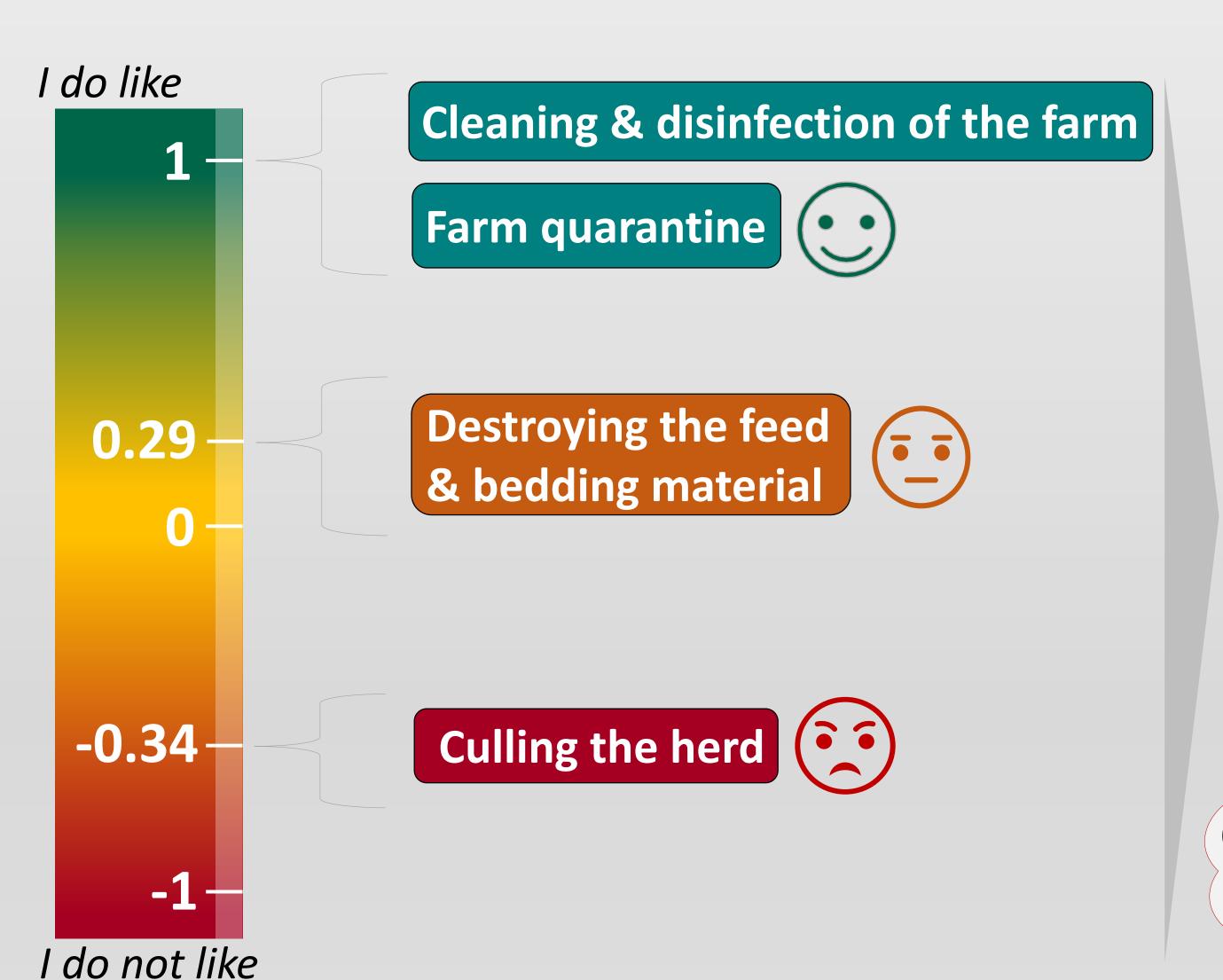
Data analysis

(Semi-quantitative analysis)

Results:



Acceptability of farm-level ASF control measures

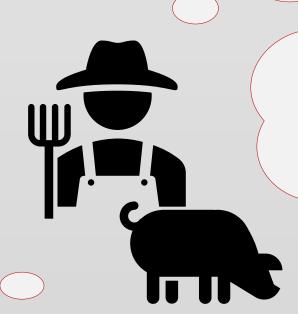


Why not to use the feed for other animals like cattle?

am skeptical. Is the feed really contaminated?

The bedding must be destroyed but why the feed?

For the animal breeder, culling is both emotionally and physically tough!



Domestic pigs tolerate
ASF virus better than
the wild boar

Culling is inevitable but do all animals must be culled?
Healthy pigs could be used for food...



Acceptability of farm consequences due to regional restrictions

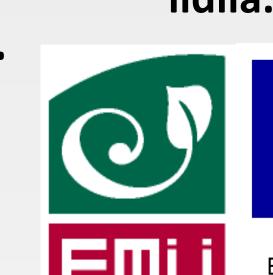
Consequences mentioned by the participants and rated by the weighted sum of their impact on farmers:

Economic Restrictions in **Restrictions in Stress for** Additional controls Lower People moving animals including paperwork meat price lose jobs meat trade loss people 32.41 6.82 62.05 9.95 8.95 66.05 55.45

Conclusion:

- ✓ Certain control measures implied in outbreak herds and regionally are not acceptable by farmers.
- ✓ For the least acceptable control measures more explaining and communication are required.
- ✓ Targeted economic support from the government to compensate losses due to ASF would increase the acceptability of control measures.

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