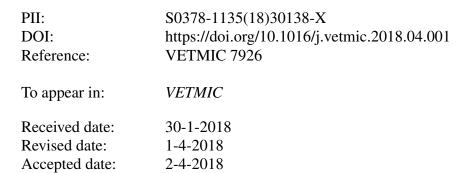
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ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

Evolution in Europe of African swine fever genotype II viruses from highly to moderately virulent

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HIGHLIGHTS

- Presence of genotype II African swine fever viruses of moderate virulence in the EU.
- Survivor animals protected against a subsequent homologous virus challenge.
- Lack of viremia and specific clinical signs in survivor animals.
- Serology provides a reliable method for disease surveillance in affected areas.

ABSTRACT

Since its arrival in the Caucasus and Russia in 2007, African swine fever virus (ASFV) has spread widely and has now affected the EU countries of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and, more recently, the Czech Republic and Romania. The ever-increasing evidence of seropositive wild boar in certain areas suggests that some animals may be surviving for some time or could even be

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