

**SOCIETY FOR VETERINARY EPIDEMIOLOGY
AND PREVENTIVE MEDICINE**

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**London, United Kingdom
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**Edited by L.P. Carmo & T. Vergne
and the SVEPM Executive Committee**

Title: Biosecurity in Practice: A Serbian Stakeholder Assessment of Challenges, Effectiveness, and Future Priorities

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Abstract: Biosecurity remains the primary defence against transmissible diseases, yet its implementation often falters at the farm level due to regional socio-economic complexities. This study utilizes a participatory approach to assess the biosecurity landscape in the Vojvodina region of Serbia, a high-density livestock area dominated by small-scale pig and poultry production. A workshop was conducted in October 2025 in Novi Sad, engaging 37 stakeholders, including veterinarians, researchers, and government inspectors.

Results indicate that while stakeholders overwhelmingly recognize biosecurity as a "necessary investment" (48%) for profitable production, significant barriers persist. The primary challenges identified include the management of small-scale holdings, inadequate carcass disposal, and insufficient movement control. Participants prioritized "Farmer Education and Awareness" (25 votes) as the most critical future action. Furthermore, "Quick Win" strategies emphasized practical training (9 votes) over complex technological solutions. This assessment highlights the need for the newly established Biosecurity Knowledge Hub to focus on tailored, low-cost protocols and enhanced law enforcement to bridge the gap between legislation and practice in the Balkan region.

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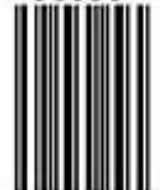
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