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Climate change and animal disease: Vectors and vector borne pathogens in Croatia

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Definitions

- A **vector** is an organism that does not cause disease itself, but spreads infection by conveying pathogens from one host to the other (mechanical, biological)
- A **Vector Borne Disease** (VBD) is one in which the pathogenic micro-organism is transmitted from an infected individual to another individual by an **arthropod**

Arthropods

- Metazoan invertebrate animals
- More than 1 million species
- More than 80% of all living species
- 39 000 species – parasitizing humans, domestic and wildlife
- Able to transmitt pathogens



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Changes in epidemiology of diseases

- Globalisation, animal and vector movement and trade
- Climate and atmospheric changes
- Habitat changes
- Adaptation of vectors and vector competence
- Increasing population of domestic animals and
- Wild animal protection
- Development of insecticide and drug resistance

We live in a global village



36 hours-two farthest points

Global traffic and disease vector dispersal

Andrew J. Tatem^{*†‡}, Simon I. Hay^{*†}, and David J. Rogers^{*}

Rank	From	To	<i>Ae. albopictus</i> found?	<i>Ae. albopictus</i> established?
Shipping				
1	Chiba, Japan	New Orleans	Y	Y
2	Chiba, Japan	Genoa, Italy	Y	Y
3	Chiba, Japan	Fraser, Canada	N	?
4	Chiba, Japan	Brisbane, Australia	Y	?
5	Chiba, Japan	Auckland	Y	?
6	Chiba, Japan	South Louisiana	Y	Y
7	Yokohama, Japan	Fraser, Canada	N	?
8	Kobe, Japan	Fraser, Canada	N	?
9	Chiba, Japan	Miami	Y	Y
10	Yokohama, Japan	Genoa, Italy	Y	Y
Air				
1	Tokyo Narita, Japan	Honolulu	Y	Y
2	Osaka Kansai, Japan	Honolulu	Y	Y
3	Nagoya, Japan	Honolulu	Y	Y
4	Tokyo Narita, Japan	Seattle	Y	?
5	Tokyo Narita, Japan	Brisbane, Australia	Y	?
6	Fukuoka, Japan	Honolulu	Y	Y
7	Seoul, South Korea	Honolulu	Y	Y
8	Tokyo Hareda, Japan	Honolulu	Y	Y
9	Taipei Chang, Taiwan	Seattle	Y	?
10	Tokyo Narita, Japan	Portland, OR	Y	?

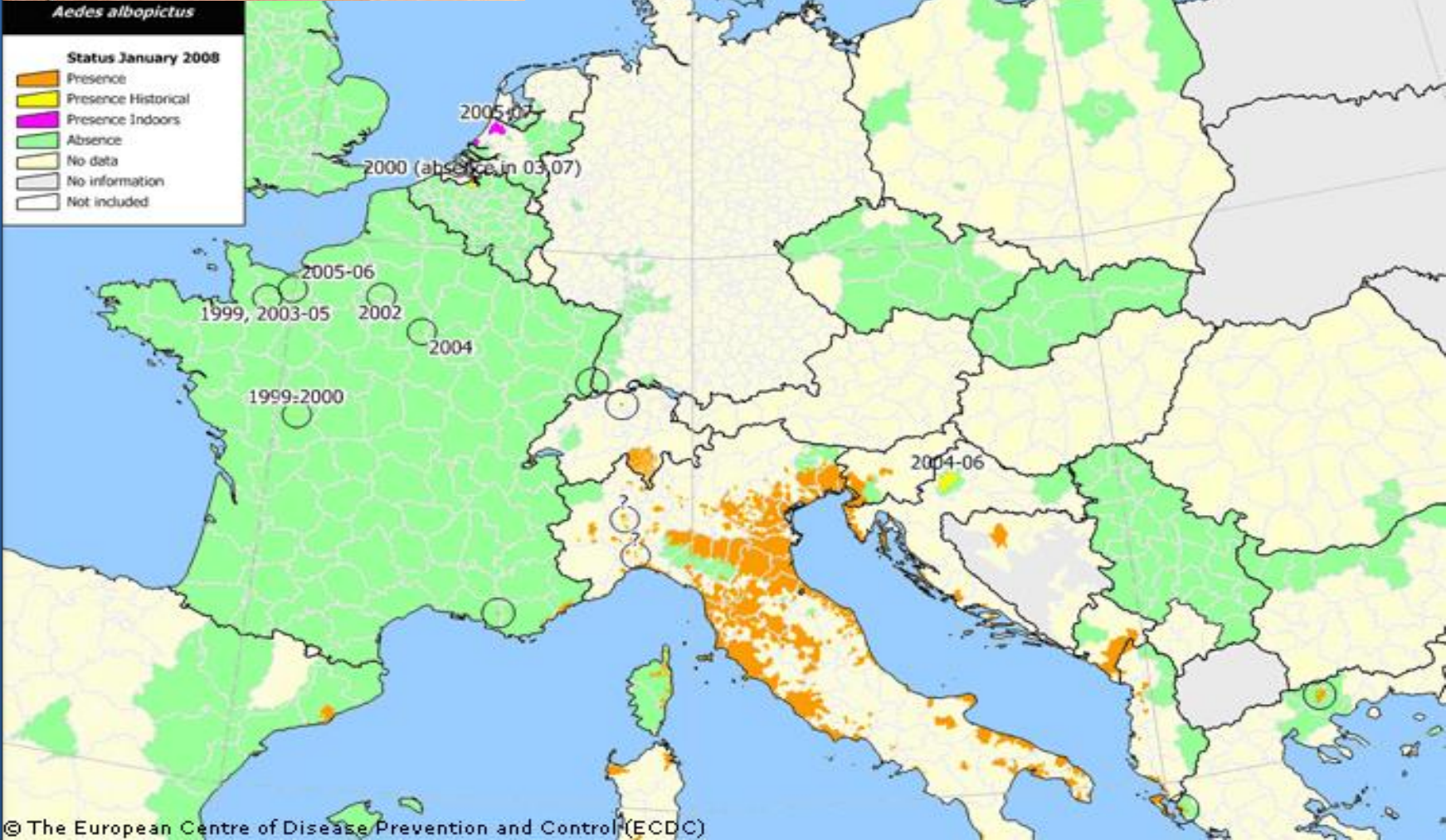
Air results are exclusive of short-haul routes to Hong Kong; Sapporo, Japan; and Pyongyang, North Korea.

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Aedes albopictus



Aedes albopictus

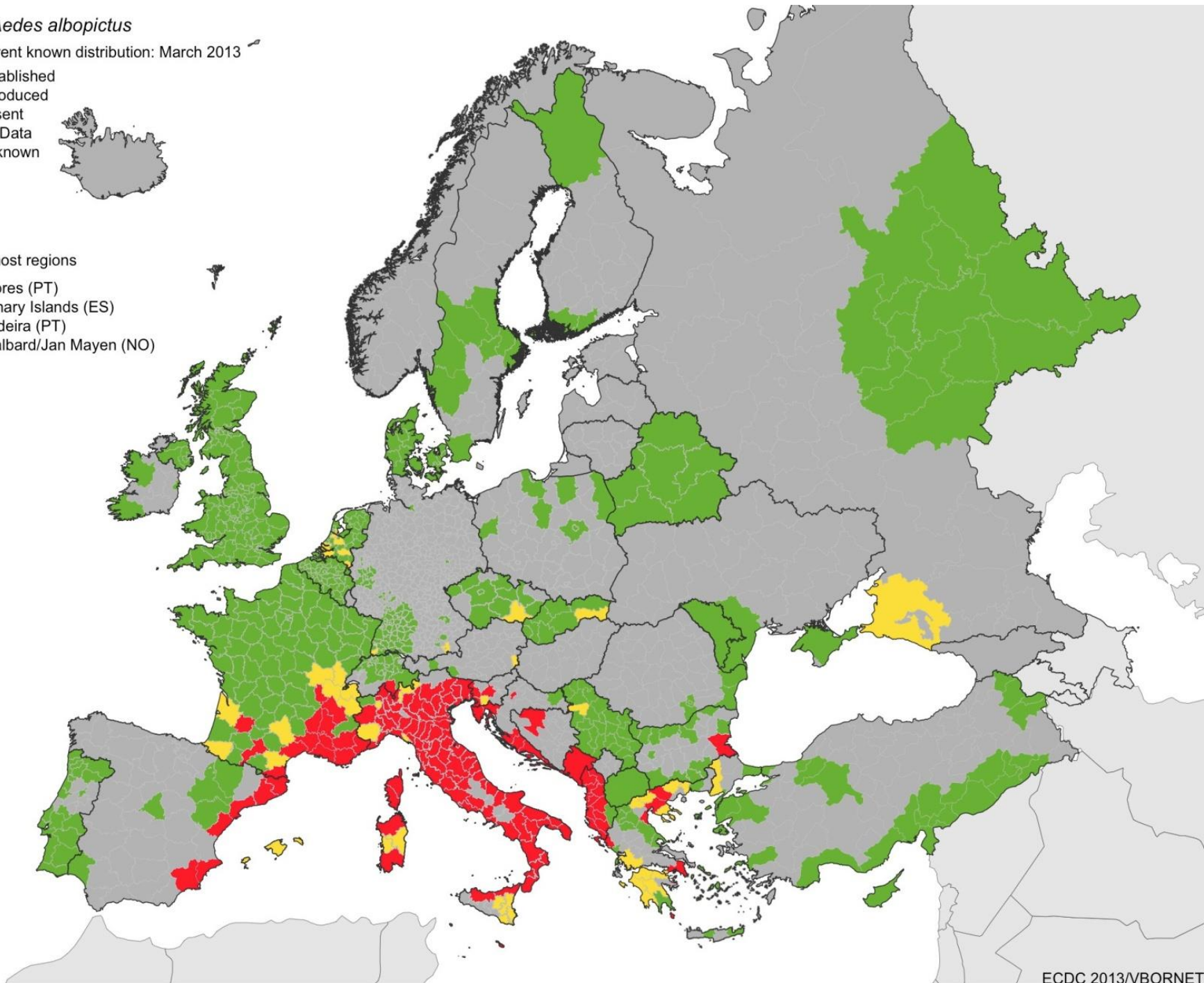
Current known distribution: March 2013

- Established
- Introduced
- Absent
- No Data
- Unknown



Outermost regions

- Azores (PT)
- Canary Islands (ES)
- Madeira (PT)
- Svalbard/Jan Mayen (NO)



Aedes albopictus

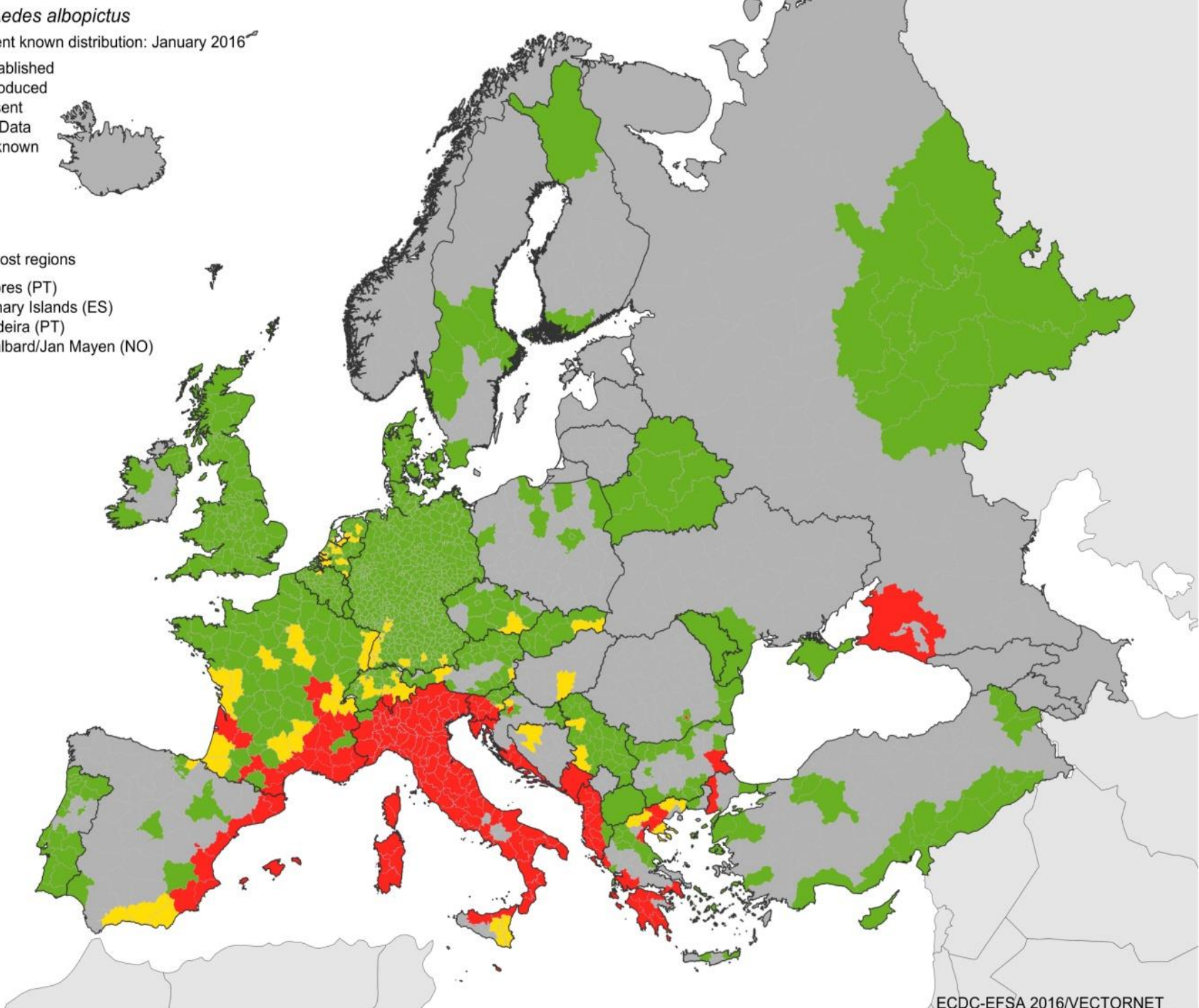
Current known distribution: January 2016

- Established
- Introduced
- Absent
- No Data
- Unknown

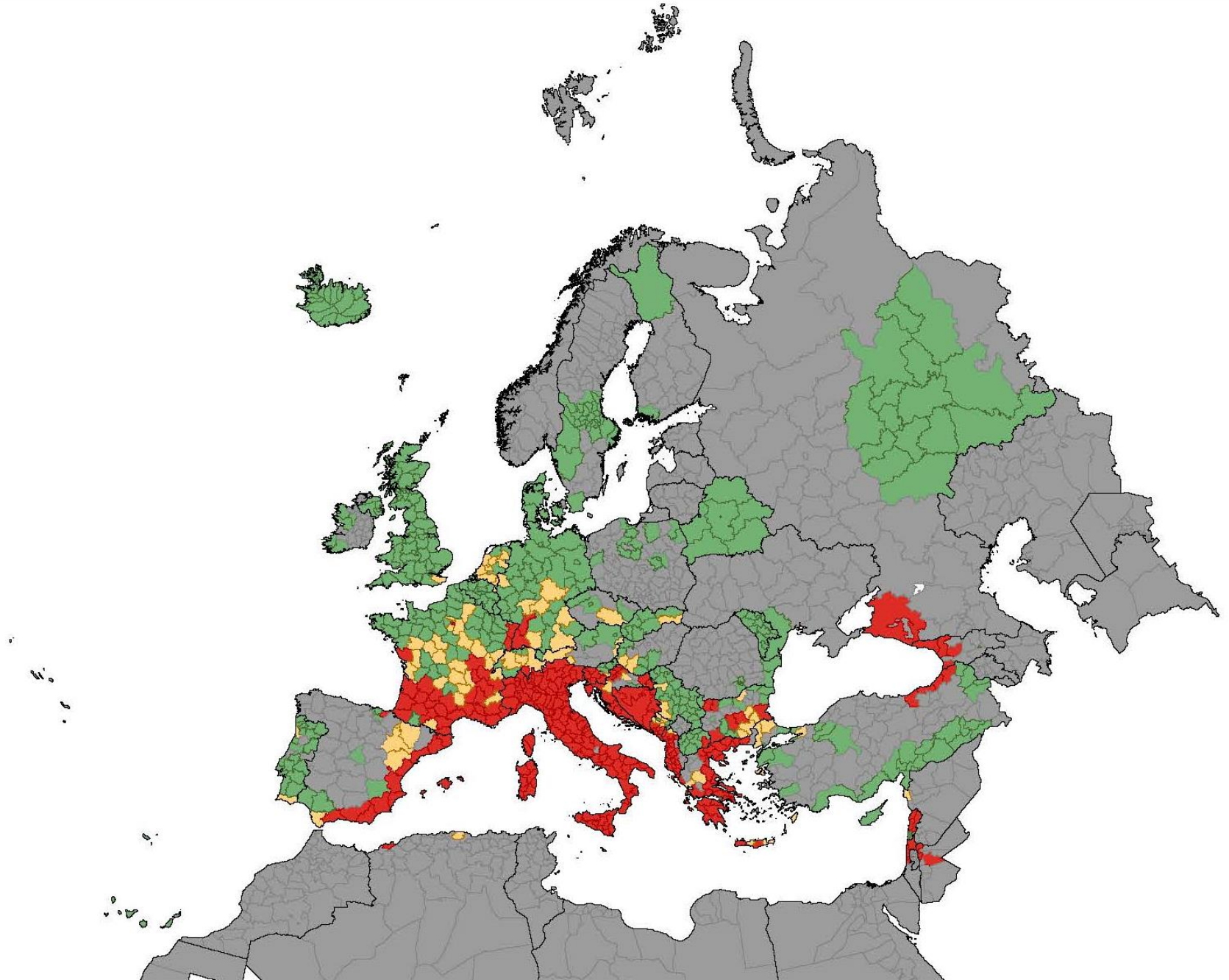


Outermost regions

- Azores (PT)
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Aedes albopictus - current known distribution: January 2018



Habitat changes









Mosquitoes

- Mostly viruses- West Nile Virus, encephalitis viruses; LSD?
- Nematodes- *Dirofilaria* spp. and *Setaria* spp.



Vector borne emerging diseases

- They occur in areas where they have not been present
- Moving from South to North
- Often defined as Tropical
- Last epidemics / epizootic
 - Lumpy skin disease
 - Blue tongue disease

Biting midges (BTD)

- *Culicoides* is a genus of in the family Ceratopogonidae
- There are over 1350 species in the genus
- At least 117 in Europe
- Blutongue virus, Schmalenberg







Morphology- experts

Culicoides obsoletus



Culicoides scoticus



Indistinguishable- Obsoletus complex

National park Brijuni and Sultanate of Oman



- On 4 March 2010, ten individual oryx antelopes from Romania



and before being transported to London in the United Kingdom. A veterinarian accompanying the animals tested for bluetongue virus. All the animals were serologically positive for bluetongue virus - 4 positive for serotype 1 and serotype 2.

Entomological survey of *Culicoides* biting midges

Insect samples were collected every second day until 5 April



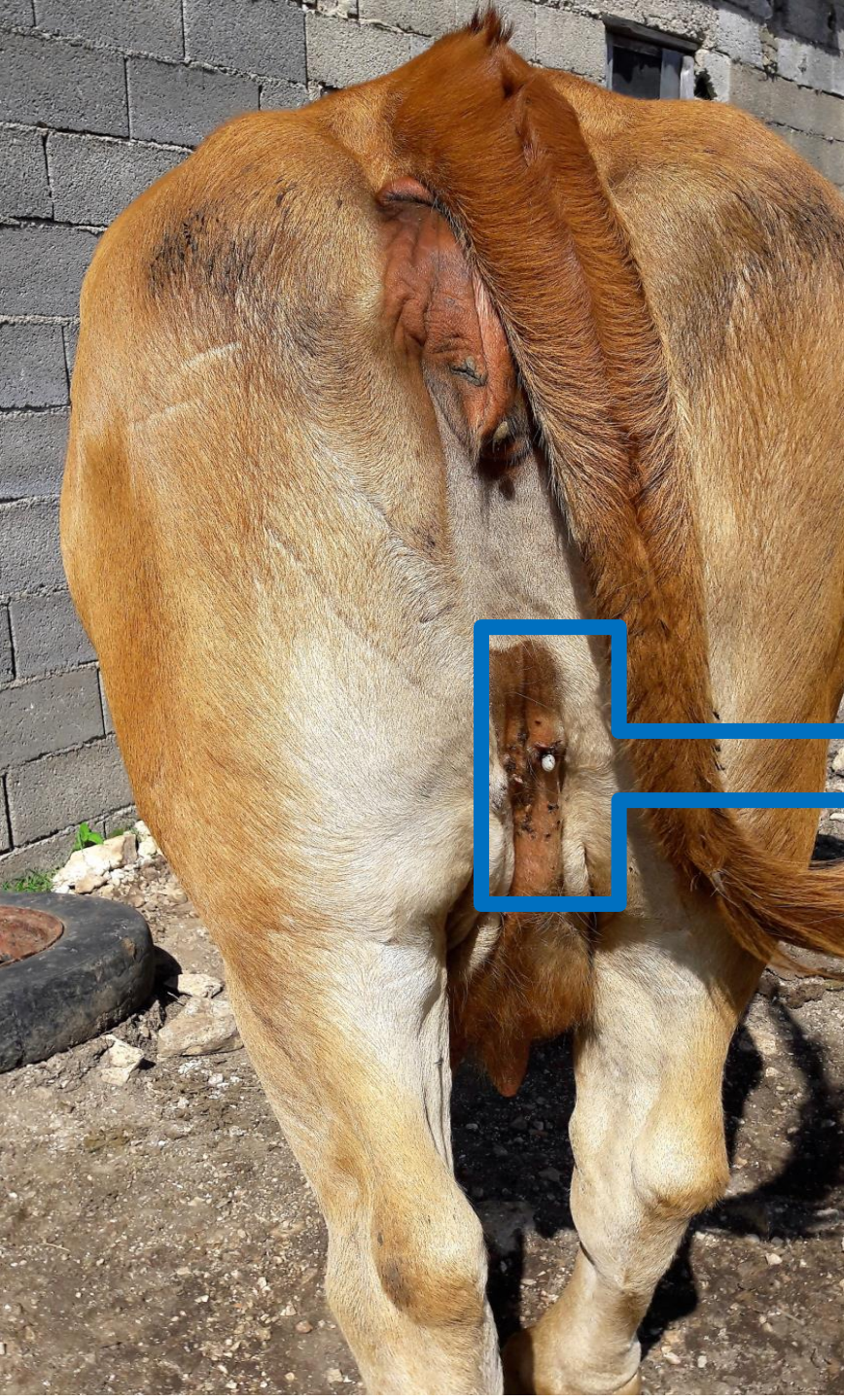
None of the samples included insects of the genus *Culicoides*



One of the catches collected near to the sheep stables was identified as a vector of the Obsoletus Complex.

End of the story

Animals were safely returned with
army airplane on the 5. April





Ticks and animals

- *Babesia canis canis*
- *Babesia canis vogeli*
- *Babesia gibsoni*
- *Babesia equi*
- *Babesia caballi*
- *Babesia microti*
- *Babesia sp. EU-1*
- *Babesia divergens*
- *Babesia crassa*
- *Theileria annae*
- *Theileria ovis*
- *Hepatozoon canis*
- *Acantocheilonema reconditum*
- *Borellia buradorferi s.s.*
- *Borellia garinii*
- *Borellia afzelii*
- *Anaplasma phagocytophilum*
- *Anaplasma platys*
- *Rickettsia conorii*
- *Rickettsia slovaca*
- *Rickettsia helvetica*
- *Rickettsia rhipicephali*
- *Rickettsia aeschlimannii*
- *Rickettsia raoulitii*
- *Rickettsia monacensis*
- *Rickettsia massilae*
- TBE virus

Rhipicephalus sp

- *Wolbachia sp.*
- *Midychloria mitohondri*
- *Anaplasma ovis*
- *Theileria ovis*
- *Babesia ovis*
- *Babesia sp. Angola izolat*
- *Rickettsia masillae*
- *Hepatozoon felis*
- *Hepatozoon canis*

January 2017



Changes in ticks' seasonal activity





Anaplasmosis



Anaplasma

A. platys

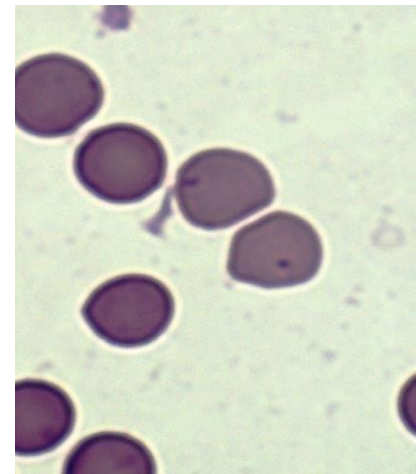
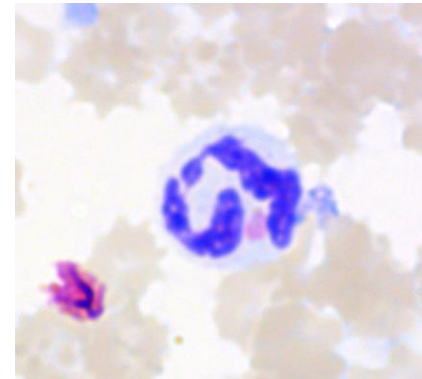
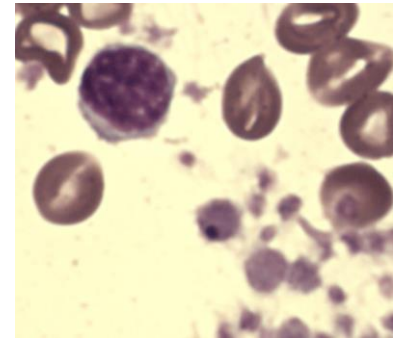
A. phagocytohilum

A. centrale

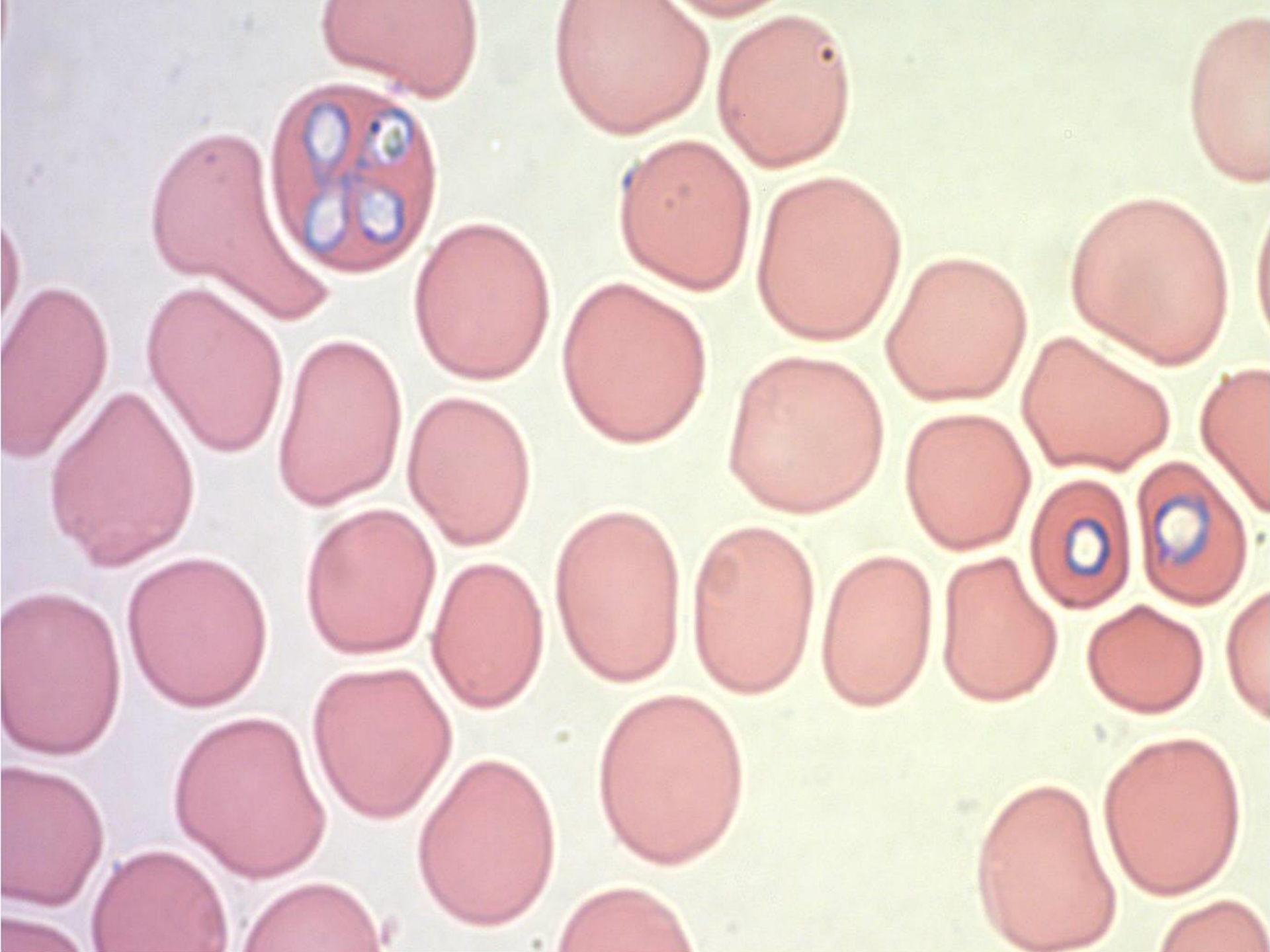
A. marginale

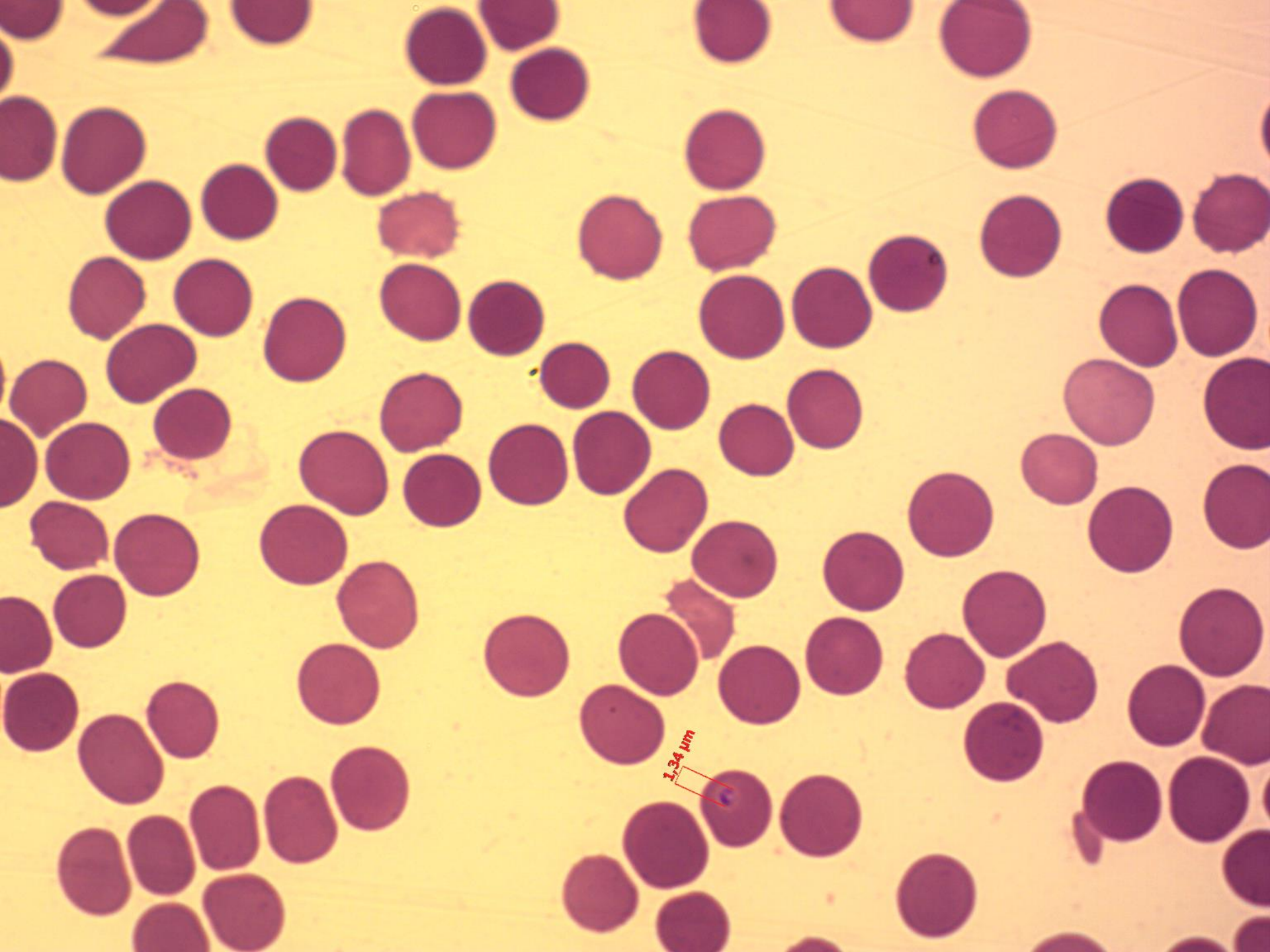
A. bovis

A. ovis

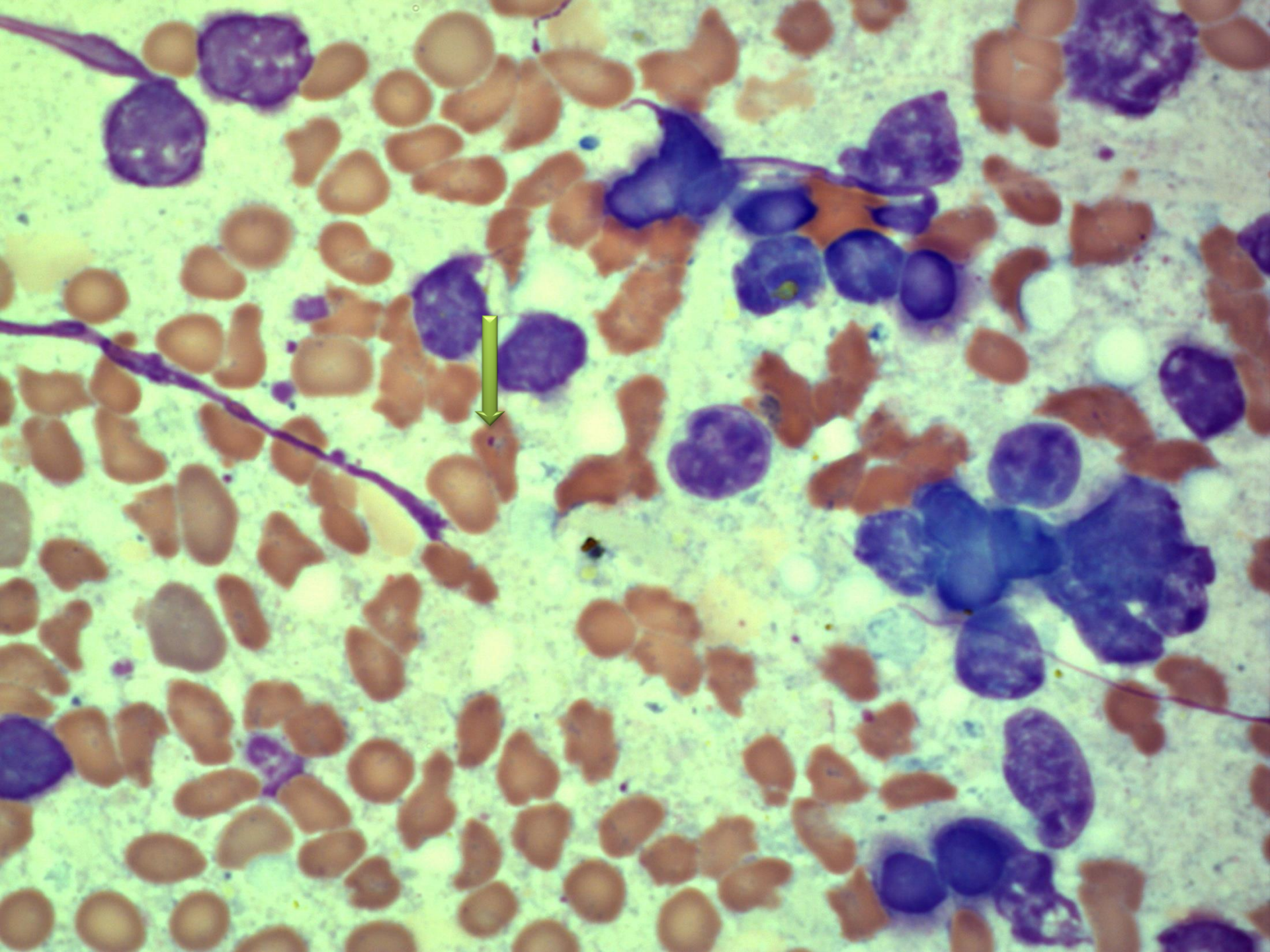








1.34 μm



Ixodes ricinus- Cres



Theileria cf. buffeti and Babesia sp. Angola Isolate

Ripicephalus sp. and *Haemaphysalis*



Babesia cf. crassa



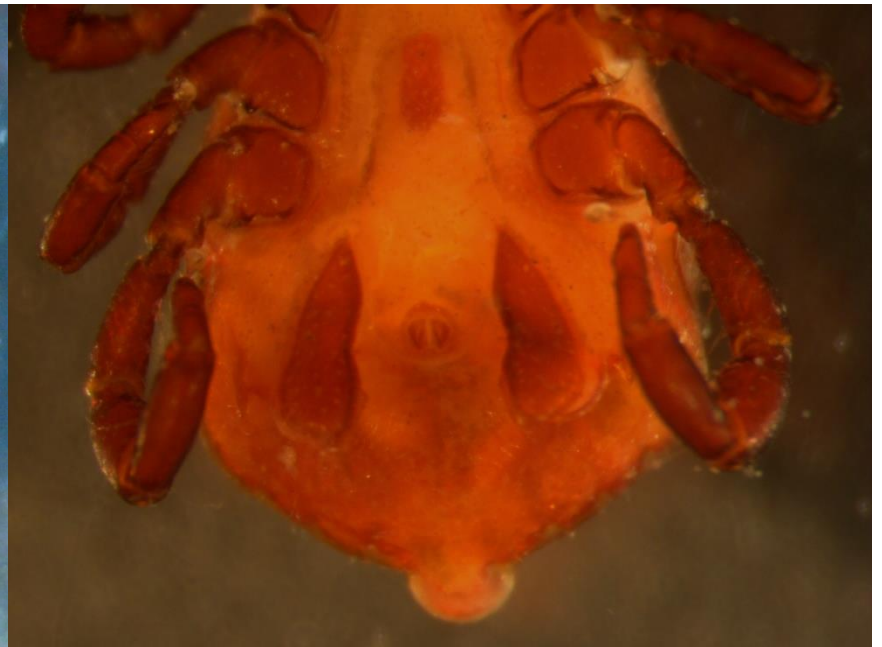
T. buffeti

Ripicephalus sanguineus sensu lato

R. sanguineus

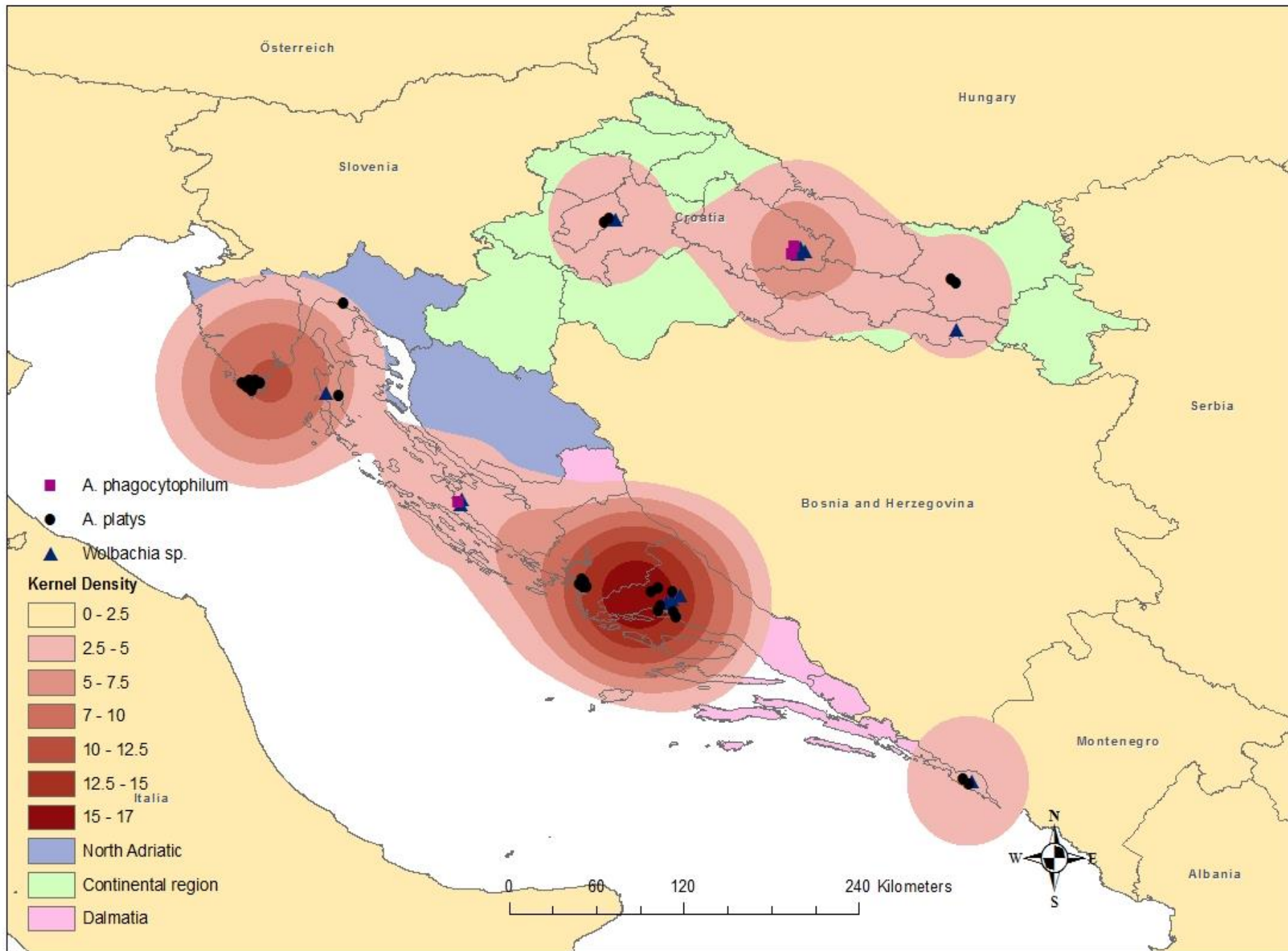


R. turanicus



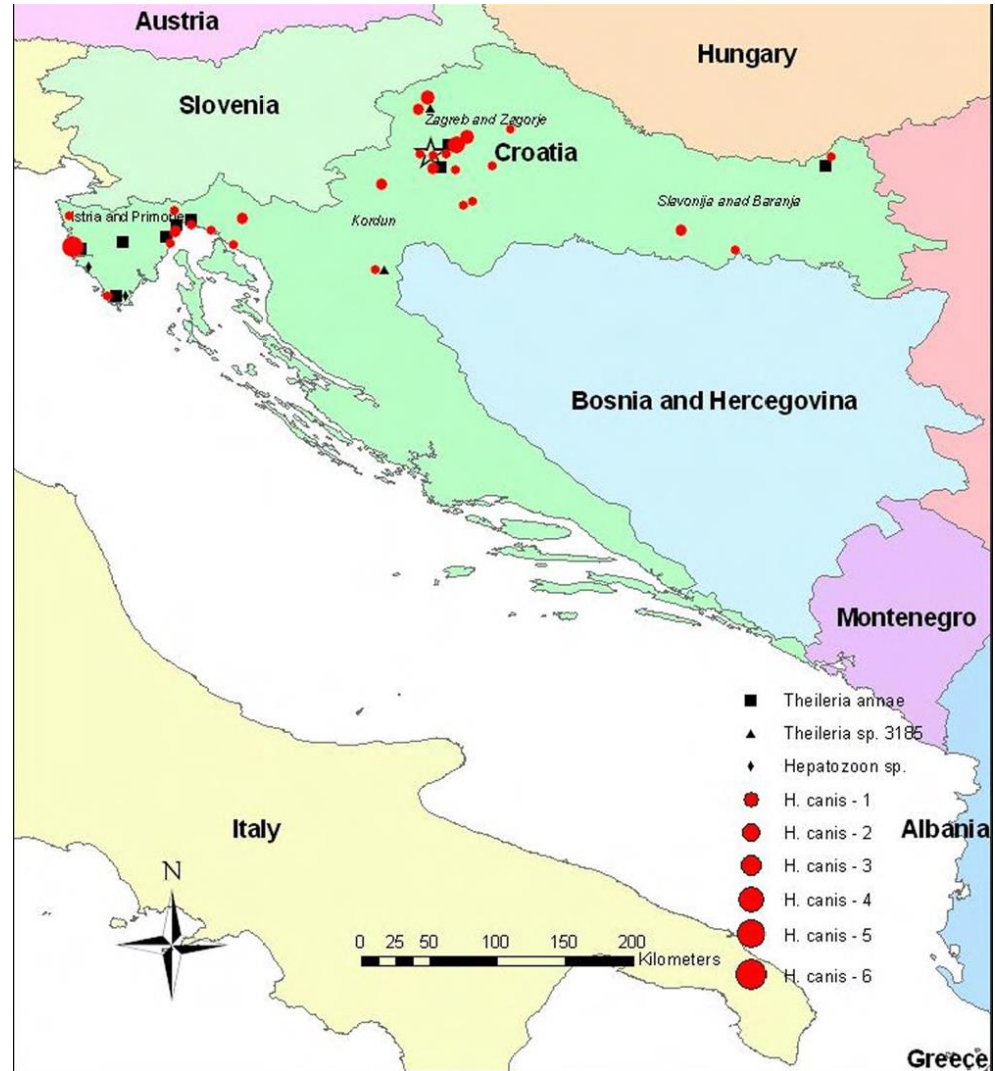
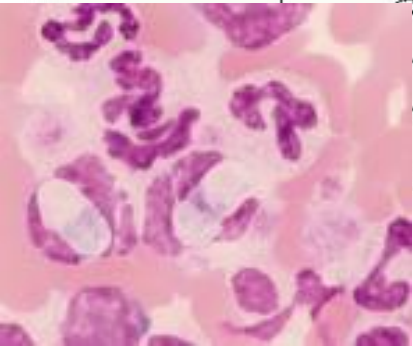
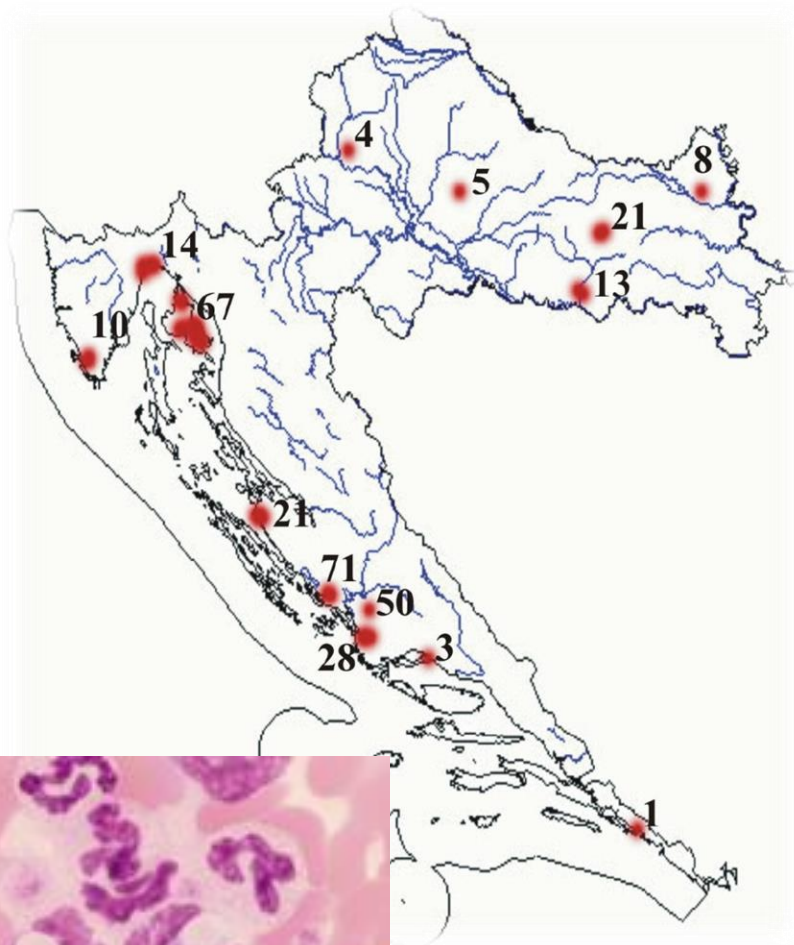
17 species within group





Hepatozoon canis- 11% of dogs in Croatia (PCR)

Hepatozoon canis- in foxes (40%)



To conclude

- Climate changes have influence on habitat change and vector spreading together with pathogens
- New vectors- new pathogens
- EU- lack of control between “borders”
- To expect new pathogens and their spreading
- Activity is not seasonal
- Free raising animals





- Continuous arthropod monitoring and control of vector populations remain essential for surveying and preventing VBD



Thank you for listening!

