

Feral Hogs (*Sus scrofa*)

- Wild boar/escaped domesticated
- High Fecundity
- Released/Escaped from hog operations
- Found in 35 states



Illinois

- Found in Illinois in 1990s
- Released/Escaped from hog operations
- Reports in 23 counties
- Populations in 4 counties



Current Management

- USDA wildlife services
 - Trap and destroy
 - Sharpshooting
- Landowner control
- 3 management tracks



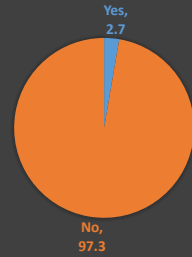
Methods

- Mail survey
- 45 counties
 - 34 southern
 - 10 western
 - 1 east central
- 5320 land owners
- 57% response rate



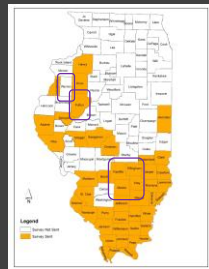
Experiences

- Hogs on land
 - I have observed hogs
 - I have seen evidence of hogs
 - Others have observed hogs
 - Crop damage

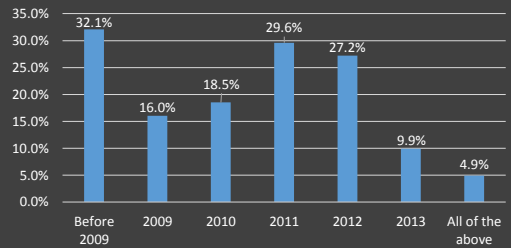


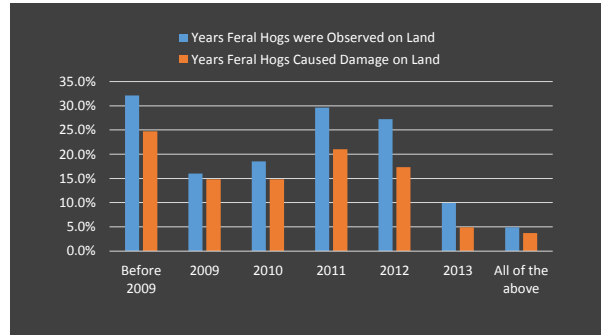
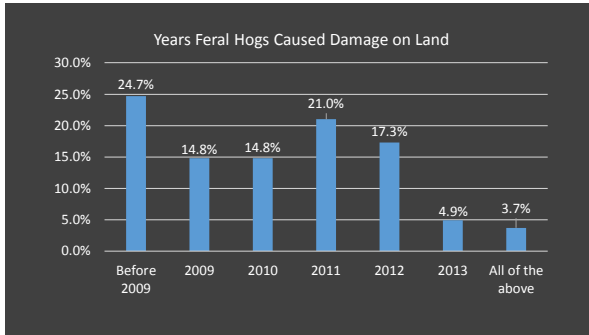
Illinois

- Warren County
- Fulton county
- Fayette/Marion/Clay
- Rest of the state



Years Feral Hogs were Observed on Land





Feral Hogs (*Sus scrofa*)

	% Disagree	% Unsure	% Agree
I enjoy seeing feral hogs around my property	93	5	3
People should learn to live with feral hogs near their homes or farms	91	4	5
Feral hogs are an important part of the environment	88	8	4
Feral hogs are common where I live	82	13	5
Feral hogs are not a threat to the safety of people	77	11	12
Feral hogs are a source of disease	8	20	73
I worry about problems feral hogs might cause to my property	16	6	78
Feral hogs destroy native wildlife	9	12	79
Feral hogs should be eliminated wherever possible	8	8	84

Opinion of affect on...

	% No Threat	% Threat
Ground-nesting birds	1	99
Tree regeneration	2	98
Disease transmission to livestock	2	98
Wildlife habitat	2	98
Native Wildlife populations	2	98
Causing damage to my property	3	97
Injuring or killing pets	5	95
Available food for turkeys	6	94
Available food for deer	8	92
Disease transmission to humans	10	90

Concern for Damage

	% No Concern	% Concern
Feral Hogs	14	86
Deer	18	82
Coyotes	21	79
Raccoons	25	75
Beavers	33	67
Canada Geese	45	55
Wild Turkeys	45	55
Opossums	51	49
Other Mammals	54	46
Foxes	59	41
Other Birds	64	36

Management options

Land Owner County	% Unacceptable	% Unsure	% Acceptable
Targeted sharpshooting	11	8	81
Trap and Remove	13	9	78
Capture and removal	18	15	67
Aerial control	22	18	60

Land Owner Property	% Unacceptable	% Unsure	% Acceptable
Targeted sharpshooting	14	9	77
Trap and Remove	15	10	75
Capture and removal	22	14	63
Aerial control	25	17	58

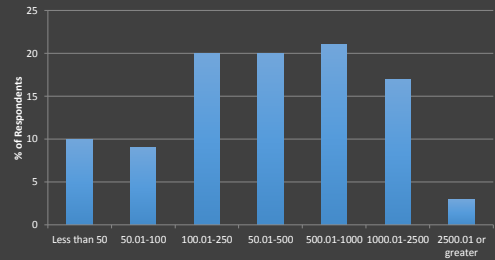
Land use

Targeted Sharpshooting	$\chi^2 = 45.431$	$p < .001$	$V = .093$	% Unacceptable	% Unsure	% Acceptable
Personally farm land				12	8	80
Someone else farms land				18	13	69
Land is not farmed				29	11	61

Capture and Removal with Dogs	$\chi^2 = 4.459$	$p = .347$	$V = .030$	% Unacceptable	% Unsure	% Acceptable
Personally farm land				22	14	64
Someone else farms land				24	17	60
Land is not farmed				22	18	61

Aerial Control	$\chi^2 = 9.744$	$p = .045$	$V = .045$	% Unacceptable	% Unsure	% Acceptable
Personally farm land				25	16	59
Someone else farms land				23	20	57
Land is not farmed				37	18	46

Acres Farmed



Sharpshooting

Acres Farmed	$\chi^2 = 54.849$ $p < .001$ $V = .112$	Unacceptable %	Unsure %	Acceptable %
Less than 50		21	11	68
50.01-100		19	10	71
100.01-250		15	10	74
250.01-500		10	8	82
500.01-1000		11	7	82
1000.01-2500		7	6	87
2500.01 or greater		10	5	85

Aerial Control by Helicopter on your land
 $\chi^2 = 33.393$ $p = .001$ $V = .090$

Types of Farming

	%
Row Crops	47
Row and Forage Crops and Livestock	19
Row Crops and Livestock	12
None	9
Row and Forage Crops	5

Sharpshooting

Types of Farming	$\chi^2 = 36.350$ $p < .001$ $V = .085$	Unacceptable %	Unsure %	Acceptable %
Row Crop		14	11	76
Row and Forage Crop		12	8	80
Row Crop and Livestock		12	8	80
Row and Forage Crop and Livestock		10	6	84
None		23	10	67

Further Analysis

- Conservation set-aside programs
- County of Residence
- Multinomial Logistic Regression



Conclusions

- People do NOT like feral hogs
- Sightings have decreased
- Any management necessary



Future Research

- Past Georgia study
- Nationwide
- International



Acknowledgments

- Illinois Natural History Survey
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources

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Questions?

