



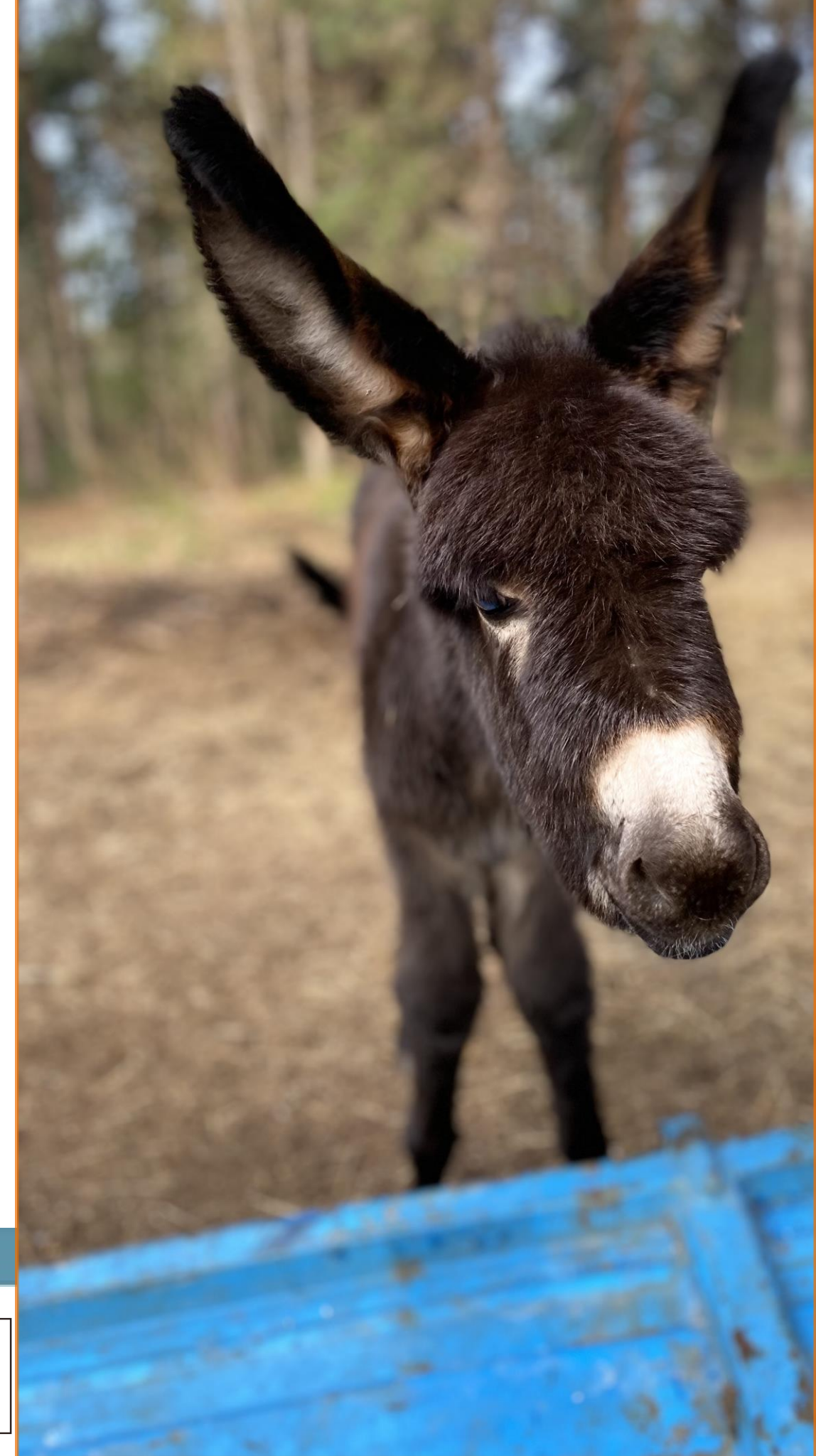
# CAN THE DONKEY BE A POSSIBLE PREY FOR GOLDEN JACKAL?

Description of the predation strategy on multiple  
attacks

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# Diet of Jackal

The available literature mostly refer to data obtained from the analyses of stomach contents and/or reports about the impacts on livestock.



The golden jackal (*Canis aureus*) is an opportunistic carnivore, mainly showing a scavenging behaviour but also active predations.





# Diagnosis and compensation of damages

In Italy as in FVG the damages causing to wild carnivores (jackal, wolf, bear) are compensated by regional public authority

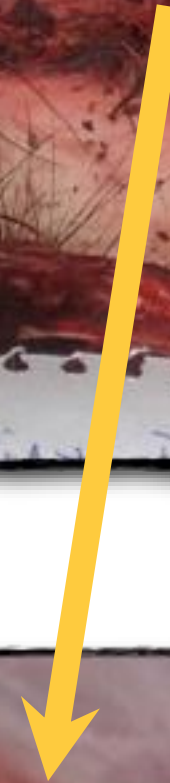
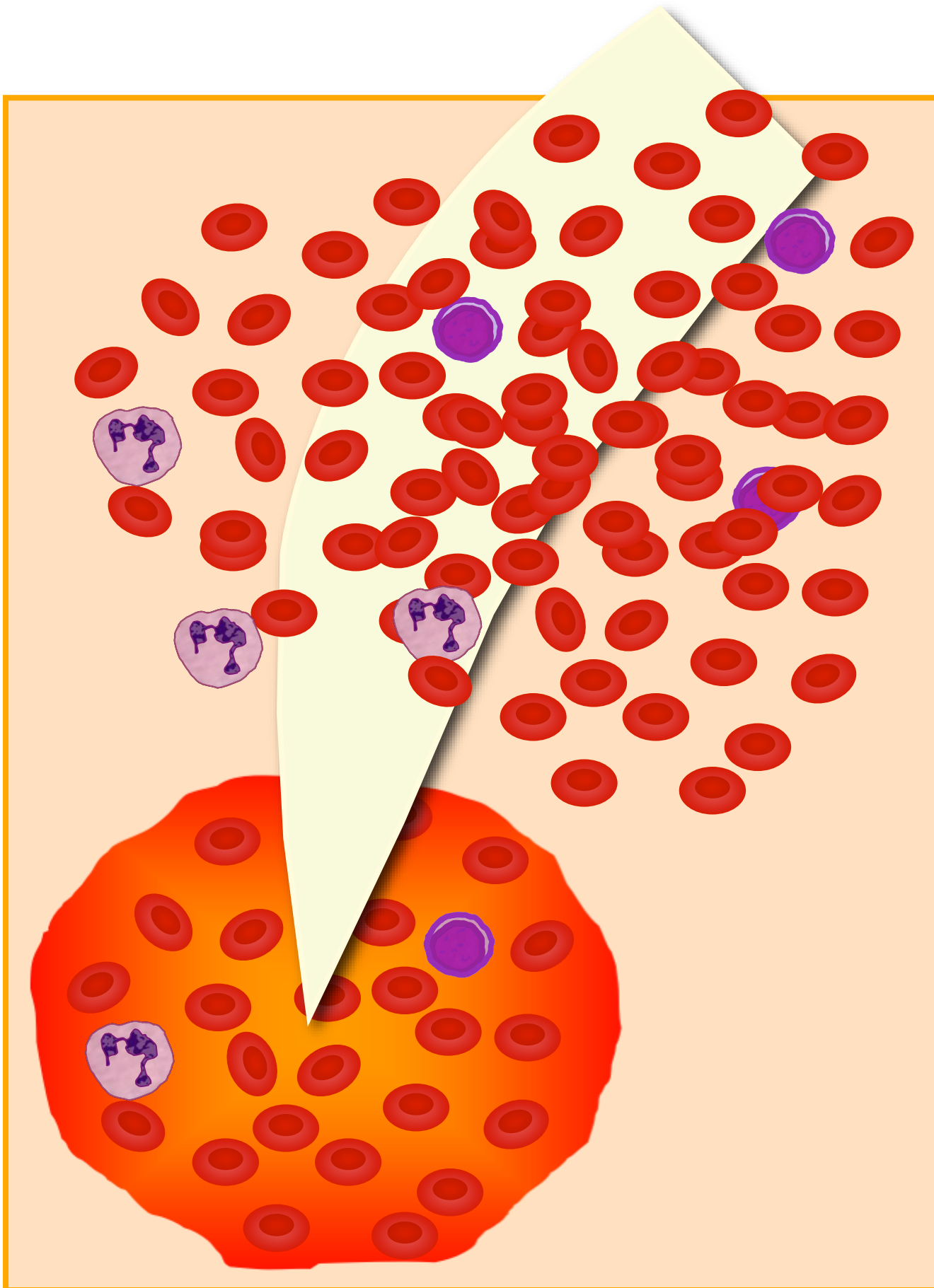
The assessment of predatory events are evaluated by regional forest in association with veterinarians (University of Udine or public veterinary authority)



The bite and claw produce lacerated bruised wounds as a result of the compression and traction action exerted by the predator's mouth and head by means of the teeth. (Canids, Bear, Lynx)

The cut has an elongated shape, with sharp edges, acute extremes and with walls with clear and regular edges. (Bear, Lynx)

# Diagnosis and compensation of damages





# Predation on livestock in FVG



- Prey: Sheep (Istrian sheep or medium-small breeds)
- Age: juvenile, adult
- BDS: various
- Localization: different areas of FVG
- Period: (April-August)

## Lesions



Fig 1 Multiple cutaneous laceration in neck caused by bites



Fig. 2 Subcutaneous and muscles hemorrhages in mandibular and neck districts



Fig. 3 Cutaneous lacerations in abdominal area caused by bites



# Consumption



Fig. 1 Consumption of thoracic muscles



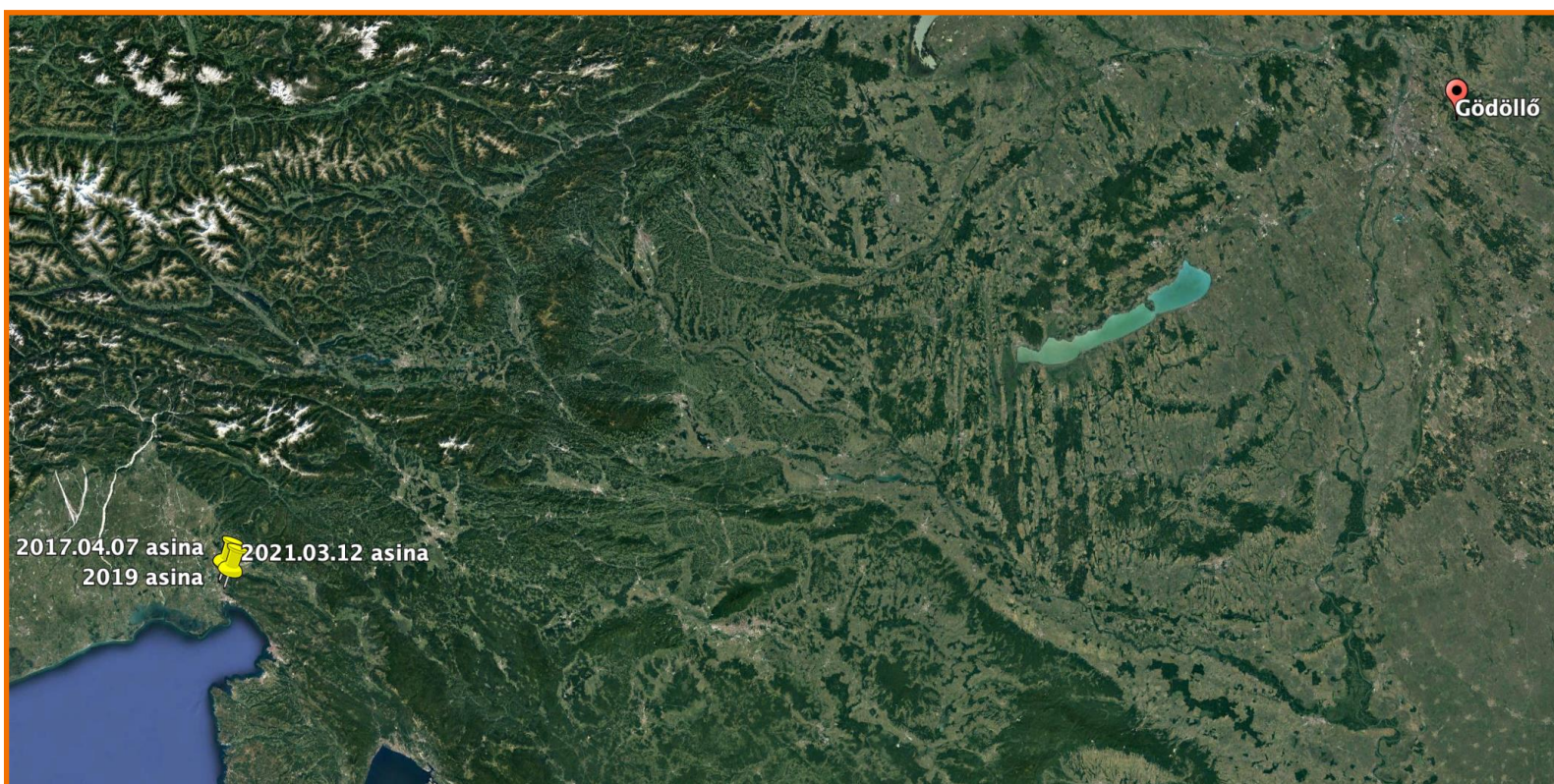
Fig. 2 Consumption of thoracic organs, abdominal wall and some part of limb muscles



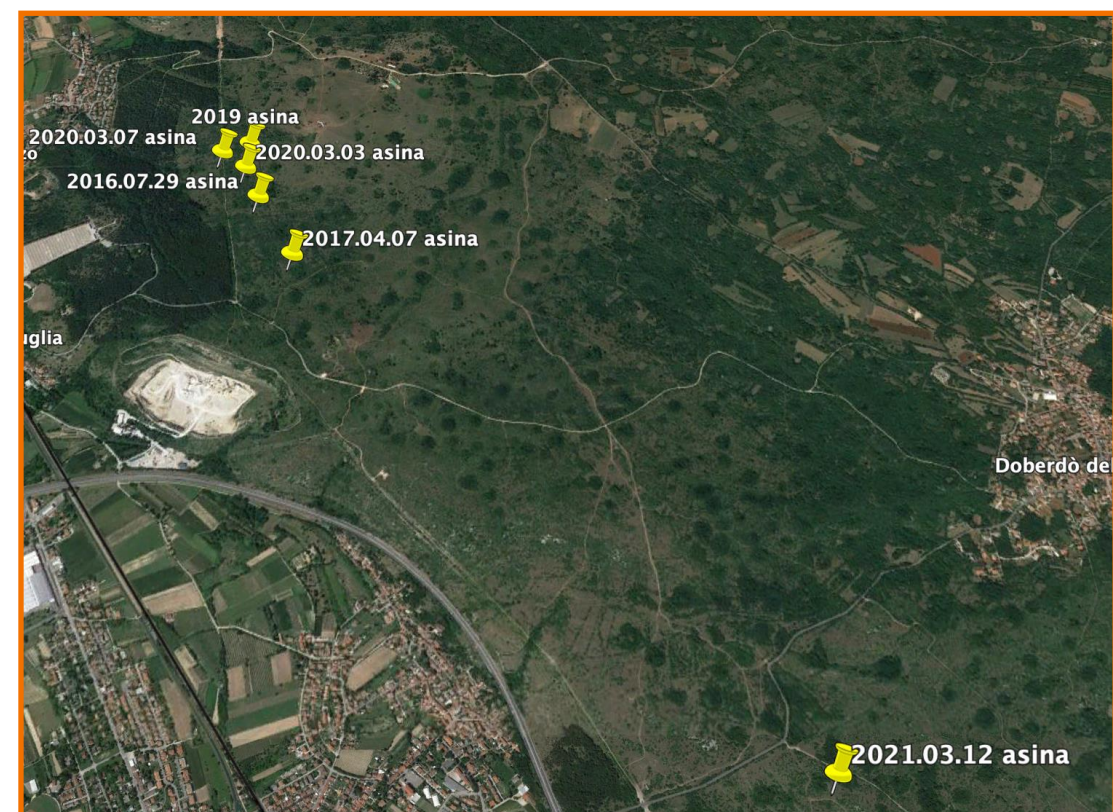
Fig. 3 Dislocation of GE tract (forestomachs and intestine)



# Cases Report of this Study



- Prey: donkeys
- Age: juvenile, adult
- BDS: various
- Period: March-July from 2016 to 2021
- Localization: in the restricted area of the Italian Karstland
- Area of events: 39 ha (3,31ha)





## Animals

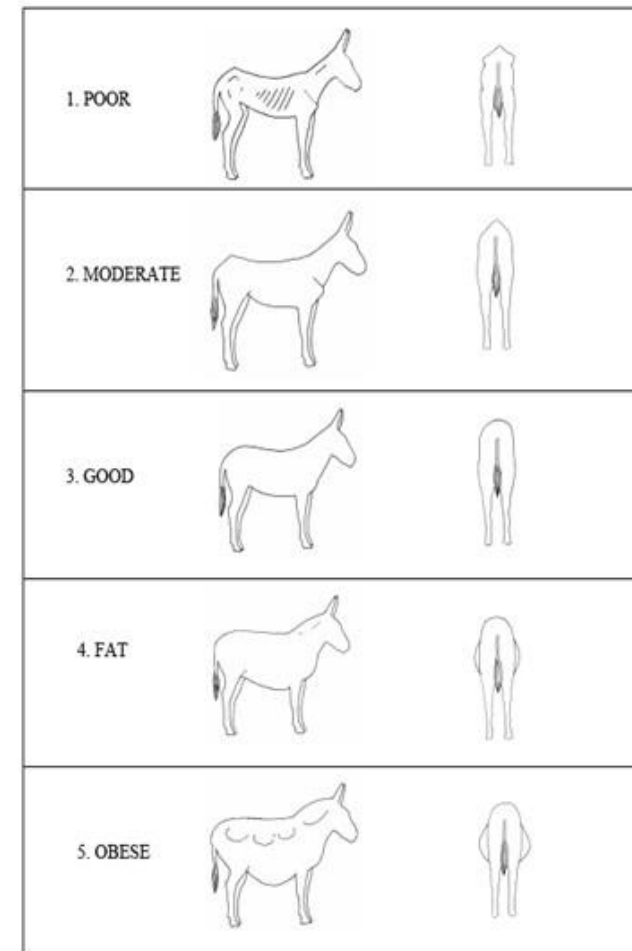
N°	Date	Gender	Age
1	2016.07.29	F	Adult
2	2017.04.07	F	Adult
3	2019.03.05	F (1 year)	Juv
4	2020.03.03	F	Adult
5	2020.03.07	F (pregnant)	Adult
6	2021.03.12	F	Adult





N°	Date	BCS
1	2016.07.29	1 Poor
2	2017.04.07	2 Moderate
3	2019.03.05	3 Good
4	2020.03.03	3 Good
5	2020.03.07	3 Good
6	2021.03.12	3 Good

## Physical conditions



Weight estimation  
60-200 kg





# Medical aspects

N°	Consumption	Lesions	Outocome
1	Abundant of cutis/subcutis and mucosa of external genitalia, anal sphincters, mm pelvic limb	Severe laceration of: cutis, muscles, anus, external genitalia	Died
2	Cutis/subcutis and mucosa of external genitalia, anal sphincters	Laceration of cutis, muscles, anus, external genitalia	Died
3	Absence	Lacerations of cutis of perineal region	Alived
4	Cutis/subcutis and mucosa of external genitalia, anal sphincters	Lacerations of cutis, muscles, anus, external genitalia	Died
5	Cutis/subcutis and mucosa of external genitalia, anal sphincters	Lacerations of cutis, muscles, anus, external genitalia	Euthanized
6	Absence	Lacerations of cutis and subcutis of perineal region and tail	Alived





# Anatomopathological aspect



Fig. 1 Skin scar in the tail



Fig. 2 Cicatrization process with granulation tissue and hemorrhagic scar in perianal area



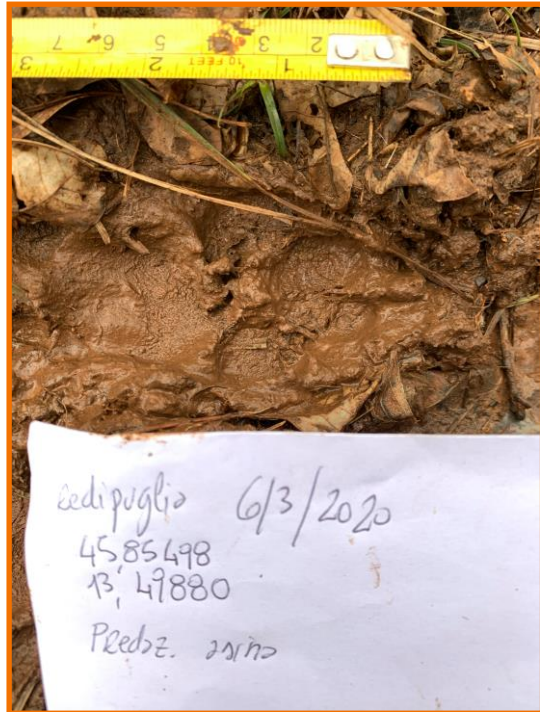
Fig. 3 Abundant consumption of perineal area and mm. of pelvic limb: hamstring, semitendinosus, semimebranosus



Fig. 4 Lesions and consumption of perineal area Anal sprinter and external female genitalia



# Attribution of predator



## Signs of presence:

scat,  
footprint,  
jackal howl

## Anatomopathological investigation:

Trained and experienced staff

## Camera trapping:

video  
photo



## Attribution of predator

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# Attribution of predator





# Conclusions

- These findings represent the first documented cases of attacks towards donkeys.
- Despite rare, these events prove the capacity of the jackal to attack big prey (more than 10 times larger).
- The choice of the perineal region can be interpreted as an attempt to induce severe injuries due to the high vascularized and thinness skin that can induce the death even if not immediately or the induction of abortion in donkey birth period or can be correlated by other reasons..
- Probably this predatory events can be associated with one specific pack or individual and can be correlated to the high density of jackals in the study area, as well as to the improper management of donkeys.
- Our findings contribute to enrich the scanty information available about the impact that golden jackals may have on livestock





Thanks to:



REGIONE AUTONOMA  
FRIULI VENEZIA GIULIA

Stazione Forestale di Attimis

MATE



3RD INTERNATIONAL JACKAL  
SYMPOSIUM  
02-04. NOVEMBER 2022  
GÖDÖLLŐ, HUNGARY

Thank you for attention



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