

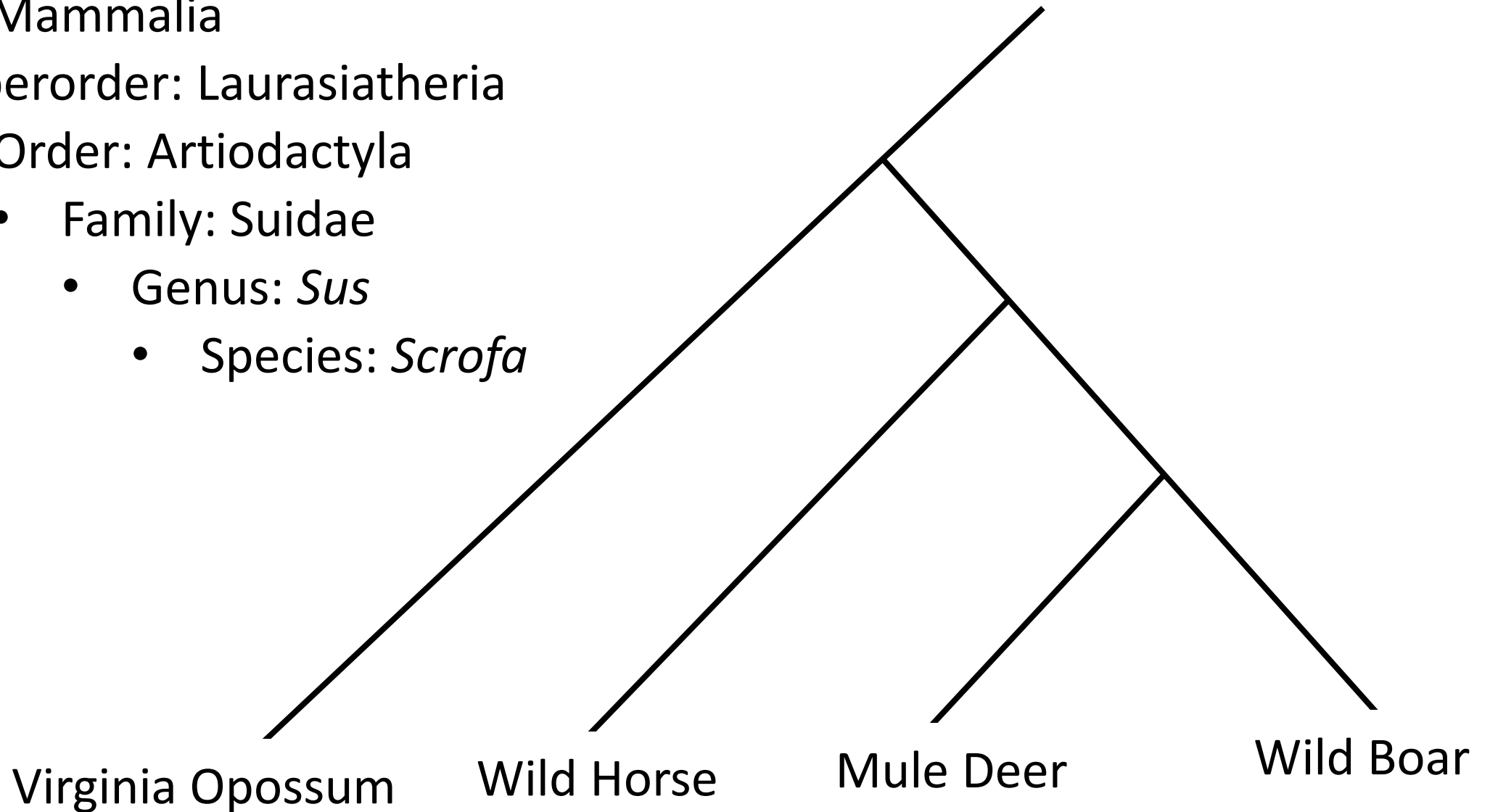
# Wild Boar (*Sus scrofa*): Taxonomy, Physiology, Ecology, Range, and Management



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NRES 476 – Mammalogy  
Species Presentation

# Taxonomy

- Class: Mammalia
  - Superorder: Laurasiatheria
    - Order: Artiodactyla
      - Family: Suidae
        - Genus: *Sus*
          - Species: *Scrofa*





# Unique Physiology

- Two physiological features that make wild boar unique are:
  - Tusks (elongated canine teeth)
  - Dorsal hump above neck (stores fat)





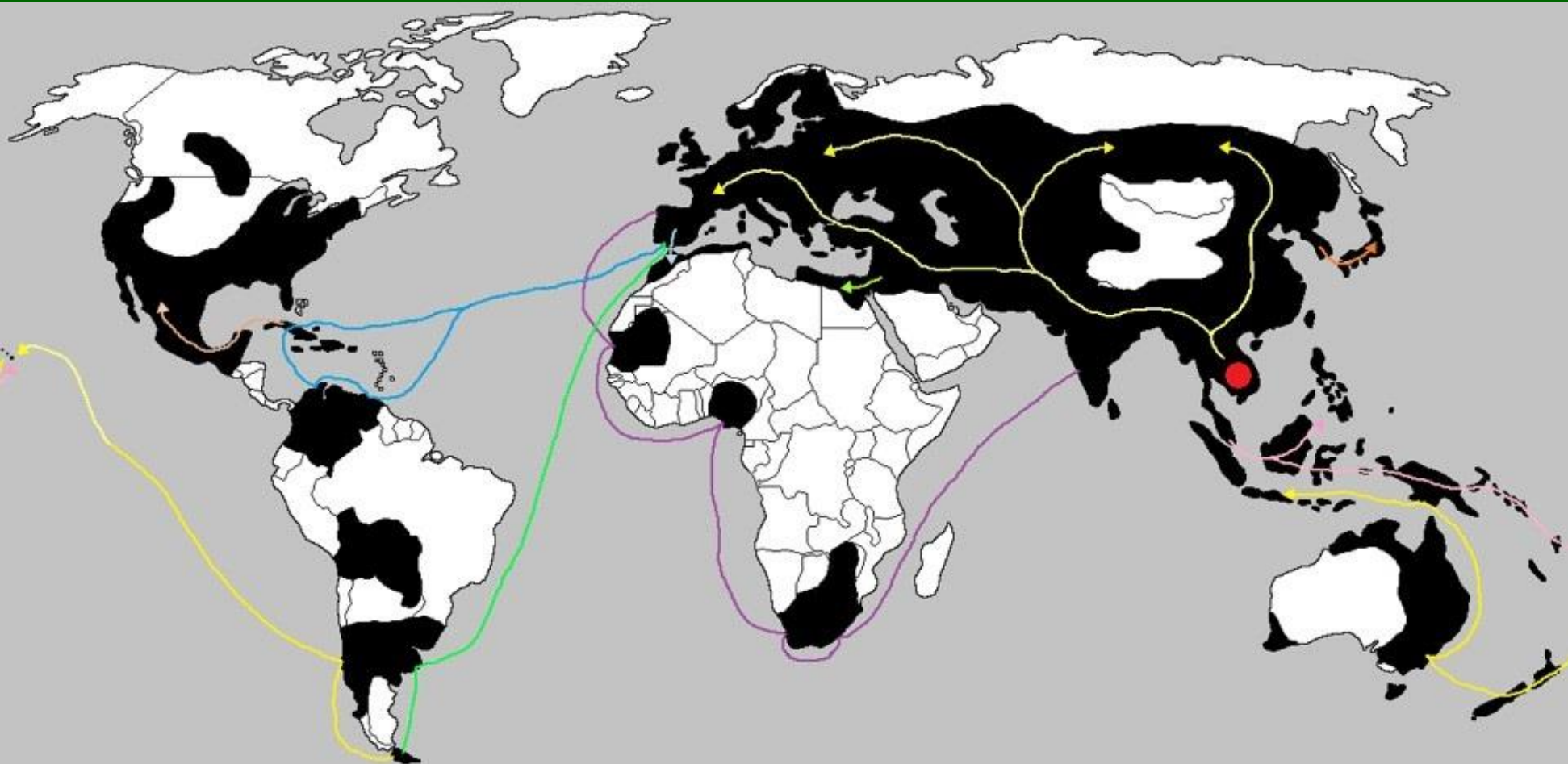
# Wild Boar Biology



- Adult feral pigs weigh between ~45-70kg (~100-150lbs)
- Litters (~6 piglets) can be born twice yearly
- Unmanaged Population densities can reach up to 45 pigs/km<sup>2</sup>
- Highly omnivorous surviving off a variety of food resources



# Wild Boar Range



- Origin of *Sus scrofa* (~3-5 mya)
- Initial range expansion (~1-2mya)
- Sea of Japan crossing (~500 kya)
- Strait of Gibraltar crossing (~90 kya)
- Polynesian voyagers (6000 BC - 1200 AD)
- Nile River expansion (~4<sup>th</sup> Century AD)
- Christopher Columbus (1492-1504)
- Vasco da Gama (1497-1499)
- Hernan Cortes (1511-1521)
- Ferdinand Magellan (1519-1522)
- James Cook (1768-1779)

(Wehr *In Review*)



# Management



Without Pigs

With Pigs

- Feral pigs are invasive and have many detrimental impacts to environments
- Fencing w/ removal is the most common non-lethal management strategy
- Most states have no bag limits on feral pigs in an effort to increase hunter harvest



# LOONEY TUNES



*"That's all Folks!"*