

BIOSECURITY MEASURES APPLIED BY VETERINARIANS OF DAIRY CATTLE

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OBJECTIVES

The aim of the study was to assess the perception, opinion and interest of dairy cattle veterinarians towards biosecurity, as well as the level of implementation of biosecurity measures.

METHODS

- Telephonic survey to 15 veterinarians.
- Data analysed with the program EpiInfo®.

RESULTS

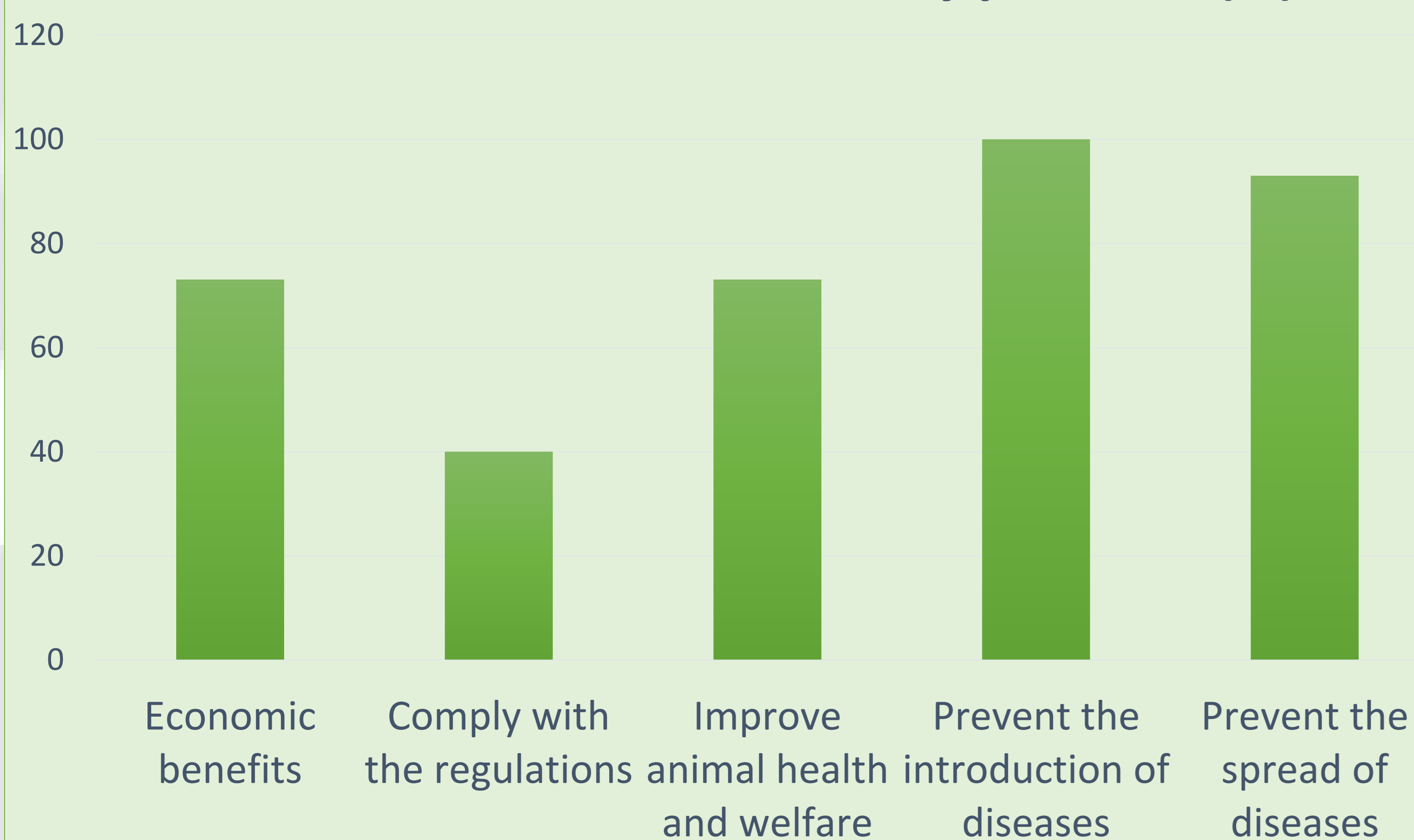
1-5 visits to farms/day

<20% of veterinarians have different clothes for each farm

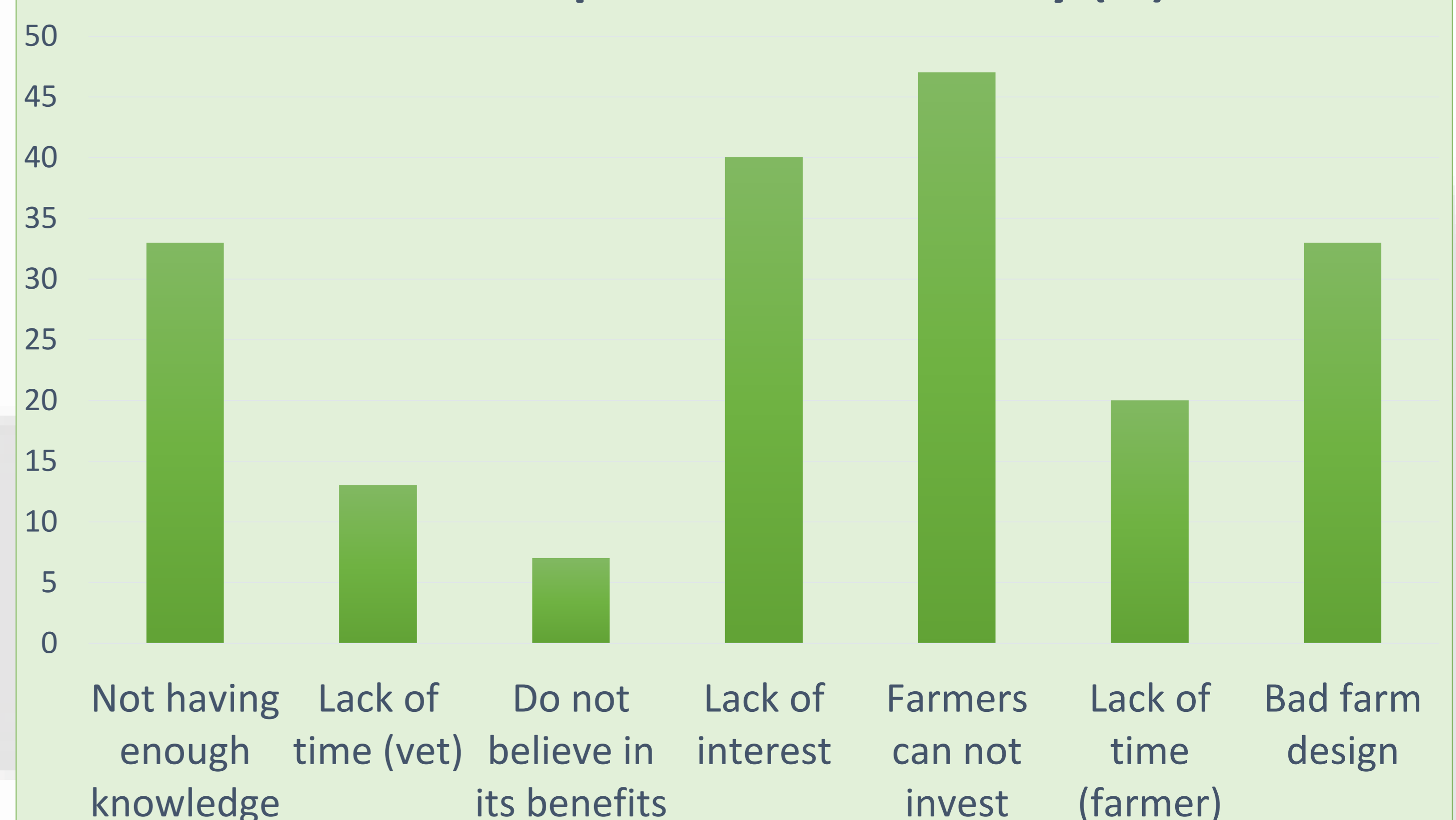
7% of veterinarians usually wear boot covers

67% of veterinarians disinfect shared material and 27% sterilize it.

Reasons to establish biosecurity practices (%)



Barriers to promote biosecurity (%)



Biosecurity measures considered most important:

- Make sure that the clothing of the visitors (and workers) are clean.
- Fence the farm and keep the door closed.
- Isolation of new animals after purchase for at least 3 weeks.
- Appropriate deworming and vaccination guidelines.
- Isolation of sick animals and testing their sanitary status.

Improvements in daily practice:

- About the vehicle, be more careful when parking it and disinfection of the car.
- About the clothing, have a change for each farm, and if not possible, improve the cleaning and disinfection of it.
- About the work material, have own material for each farm and extreme measures of hygiene and disinfection.

CONCLUSIONS

- The level of biosecurity of the dairy cattle veterinarians has large room for improvement.
- Several barriers for the improvement in biosecurity were identified and might deserve further attention.