

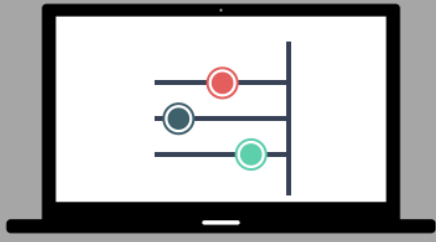
Mastitis Treatment

SURVEY RESULTS

CONTENTS

- Research Design and Methodology
- Analysis
- Key Takeaways

RESEARCH DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY



METHODOLOGY

20
QUESTION
ONLINE
SURVEY

TARGETED
4,000
FARM JOURNAL
SUBSCRIBERS

SURVEY OPEN
MAY 18 to
MAY 29

EMAIL STATS

- Initial email sent to 4442 email addresses
 - 351 opens
 - 40 unique clicks
- Reminder email sent to 4399 email addresses
 - 340 opens
 - 22 unique clicks

COMPLETION RATE

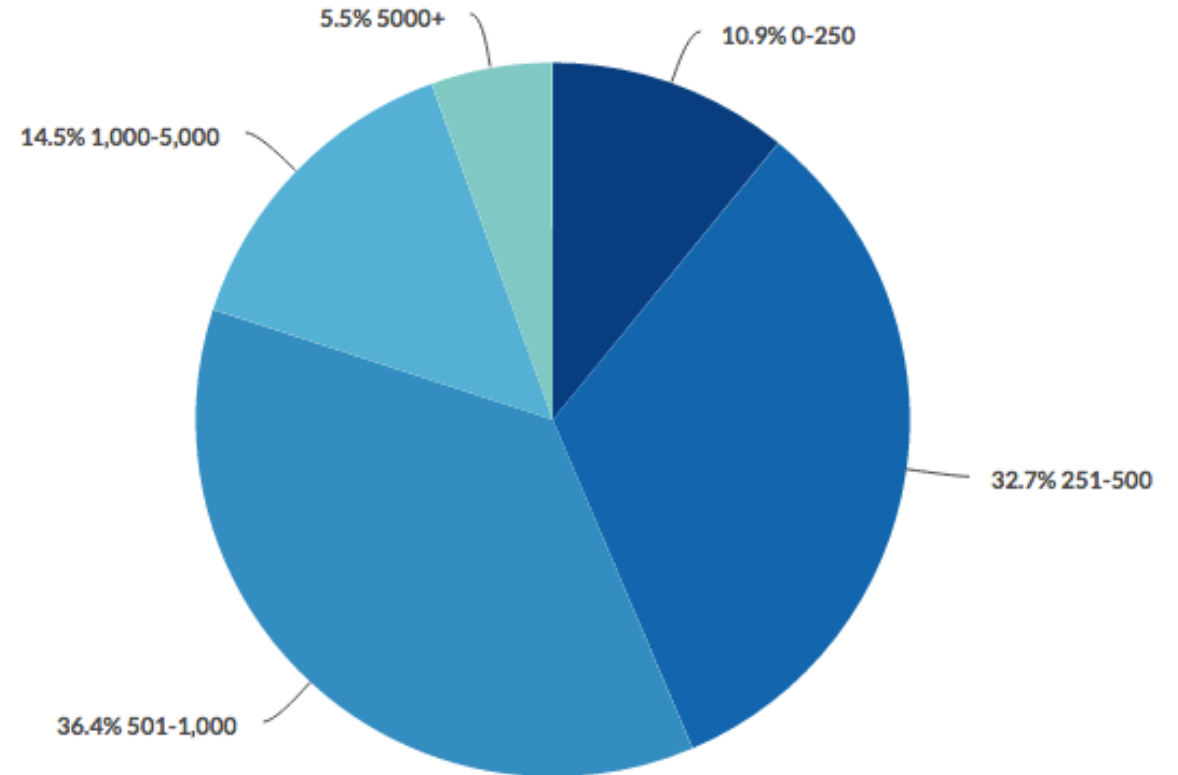
- 46 surveys were completed
- 9 surveys were partially completed
- (83.6% completion rate)



HERD SIZE

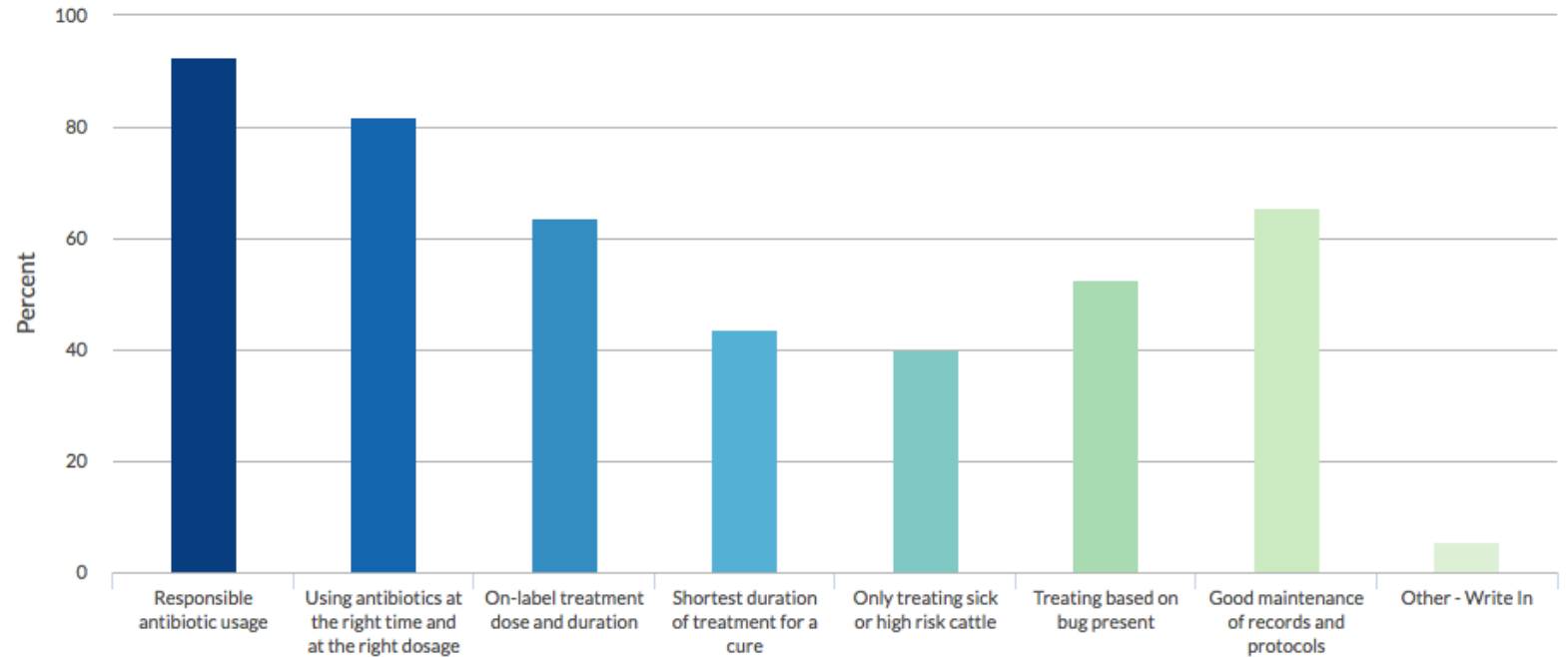
- Respondents primarily have a herd size of 501-1000
- The second largest group of respondents have a herd size of 251-500

n= 55



THE MEANING OF RESPONSIBLE ANTIBIOTIC USAGE

- Respondents primarily believe that “responsible antibiotic usage” is what judicious means.
- The right time and the right dosage was the second largest selection

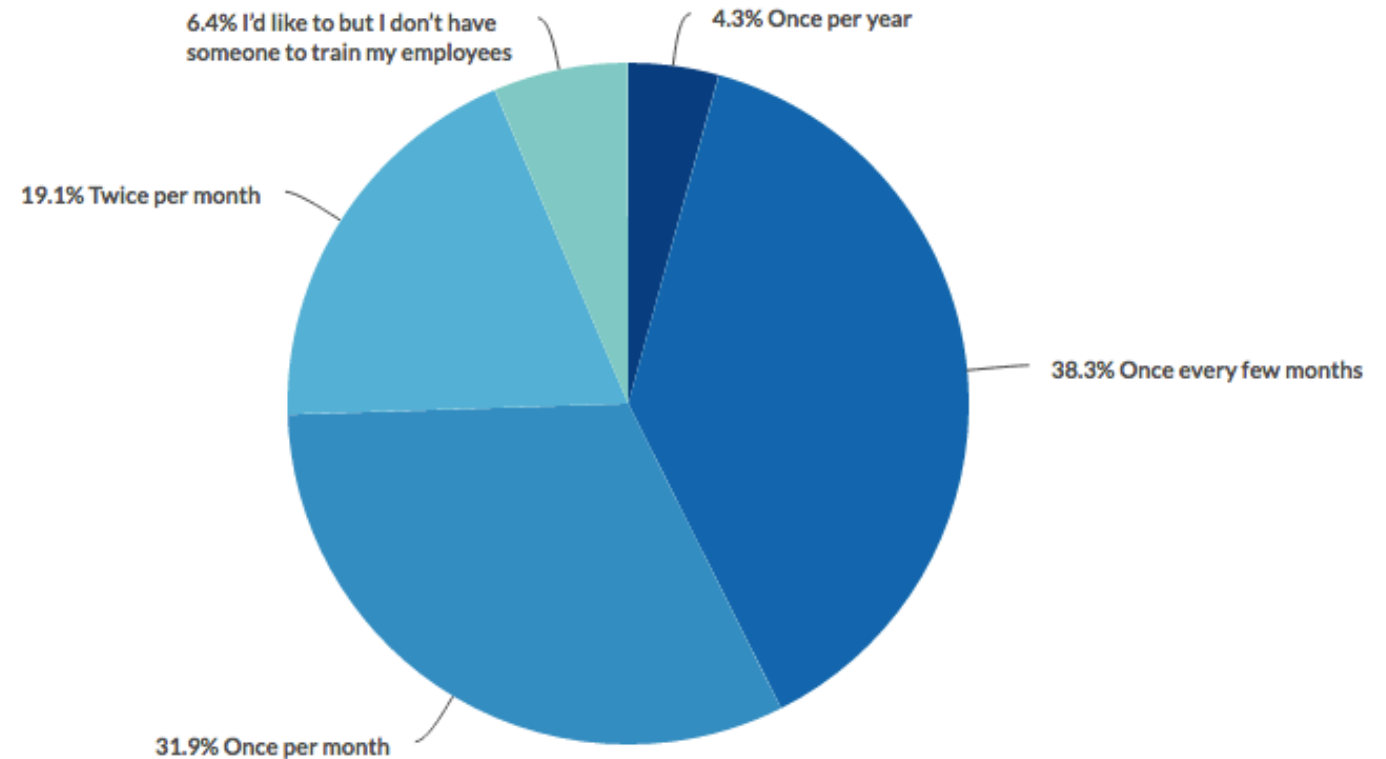


n=55

DISCUSSING MASTITIS TREATMENT PROTOCOLS

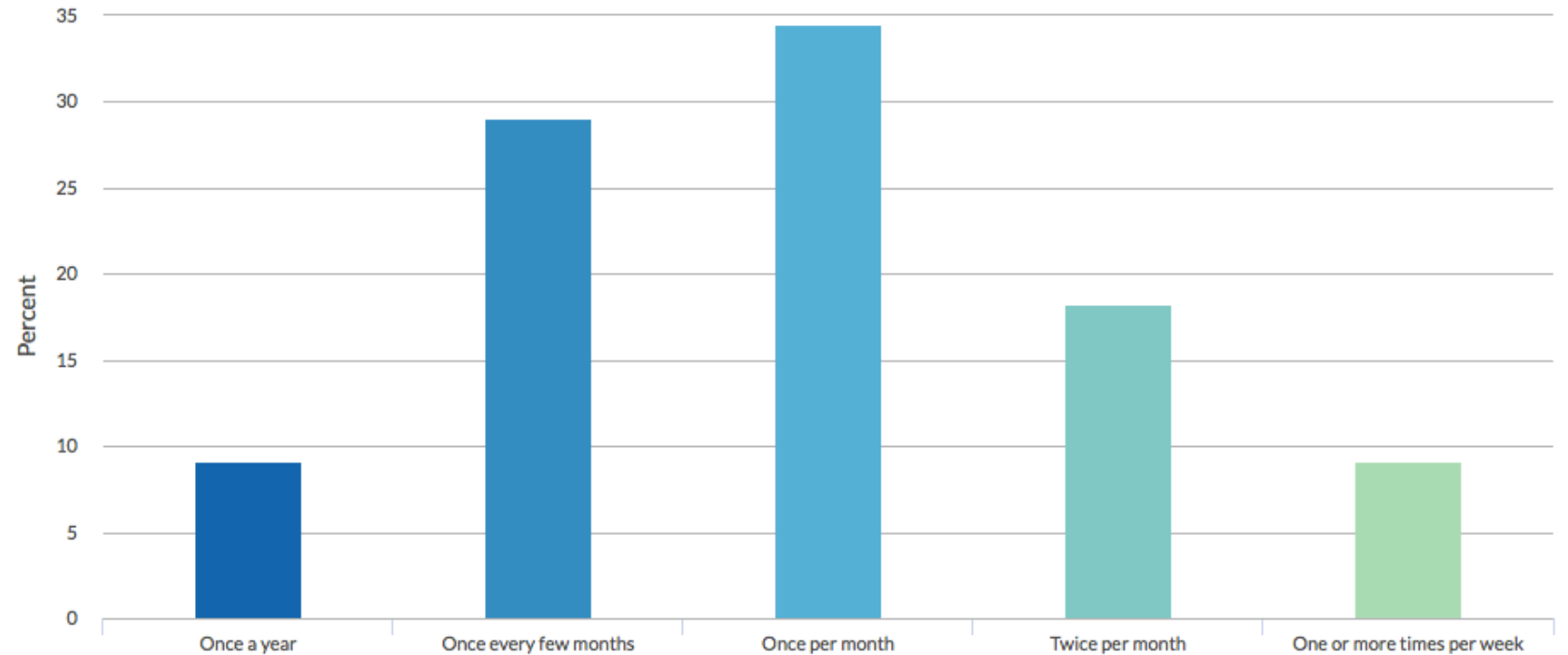
- Respondents typically discuss mastitis treatment protocols with their milking team once every few months
- Once per month was the second highest group

n=47



FREQUENCY OF VET DISCUSSIONS

- Respondents typically talk to their vets once a month about antibiotic use and treatment protocols

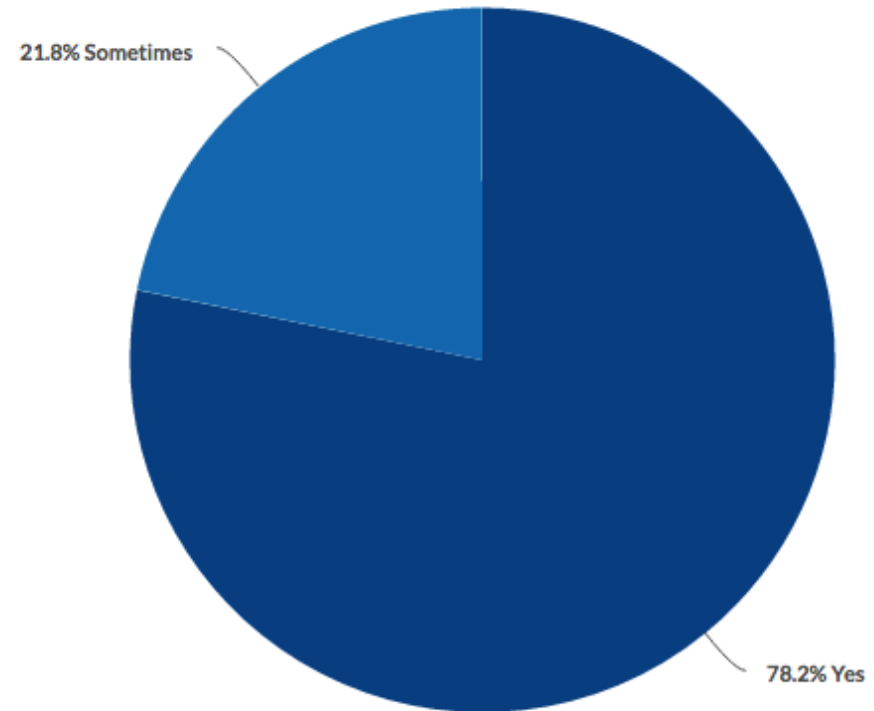


n=55

EVALUATING BEFORE TREATING

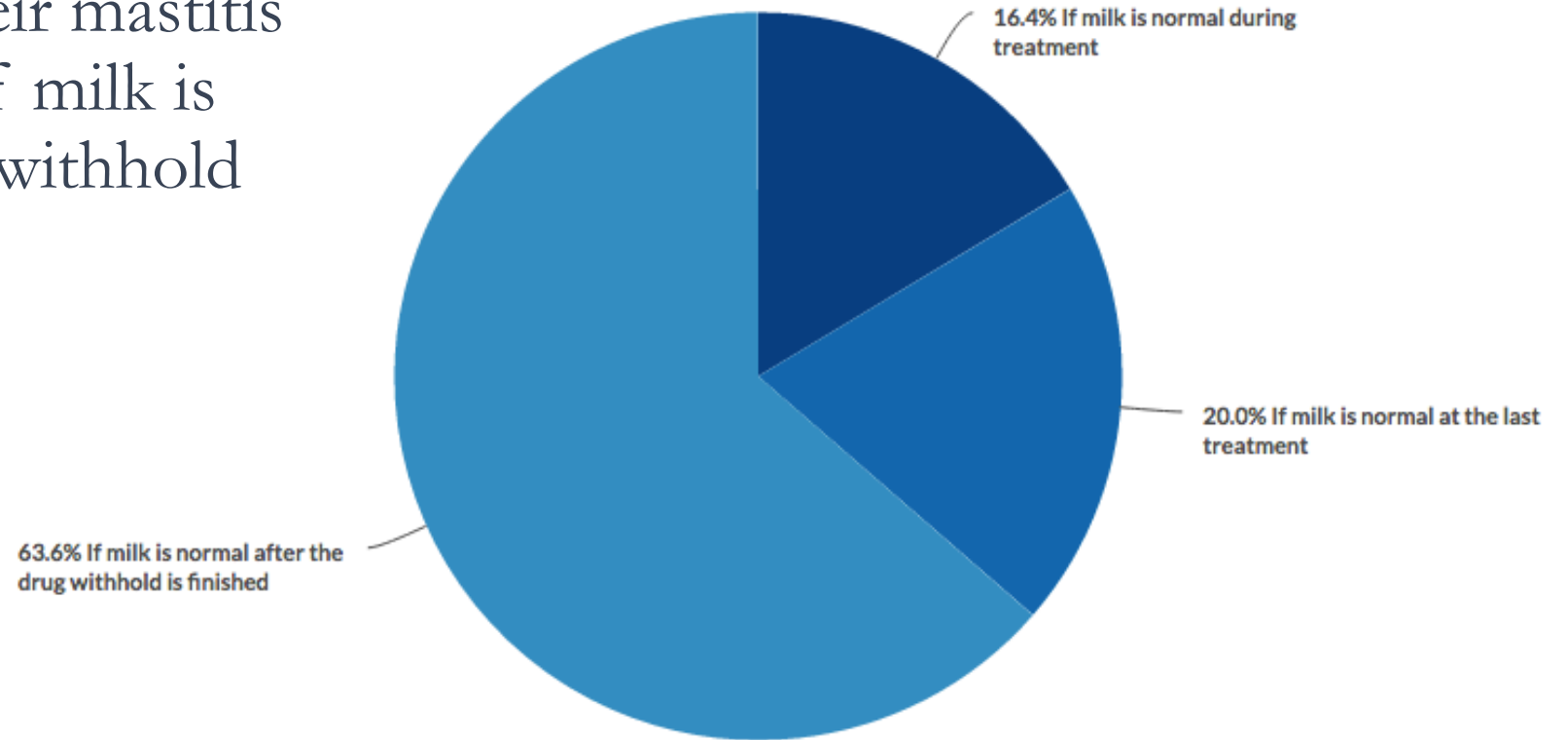
- Respondents typically do evaluate a cow's production records and history before treating with antibiotics

n=55



MEASURING MASTITIS TREATMENT EFFECTIVENESS

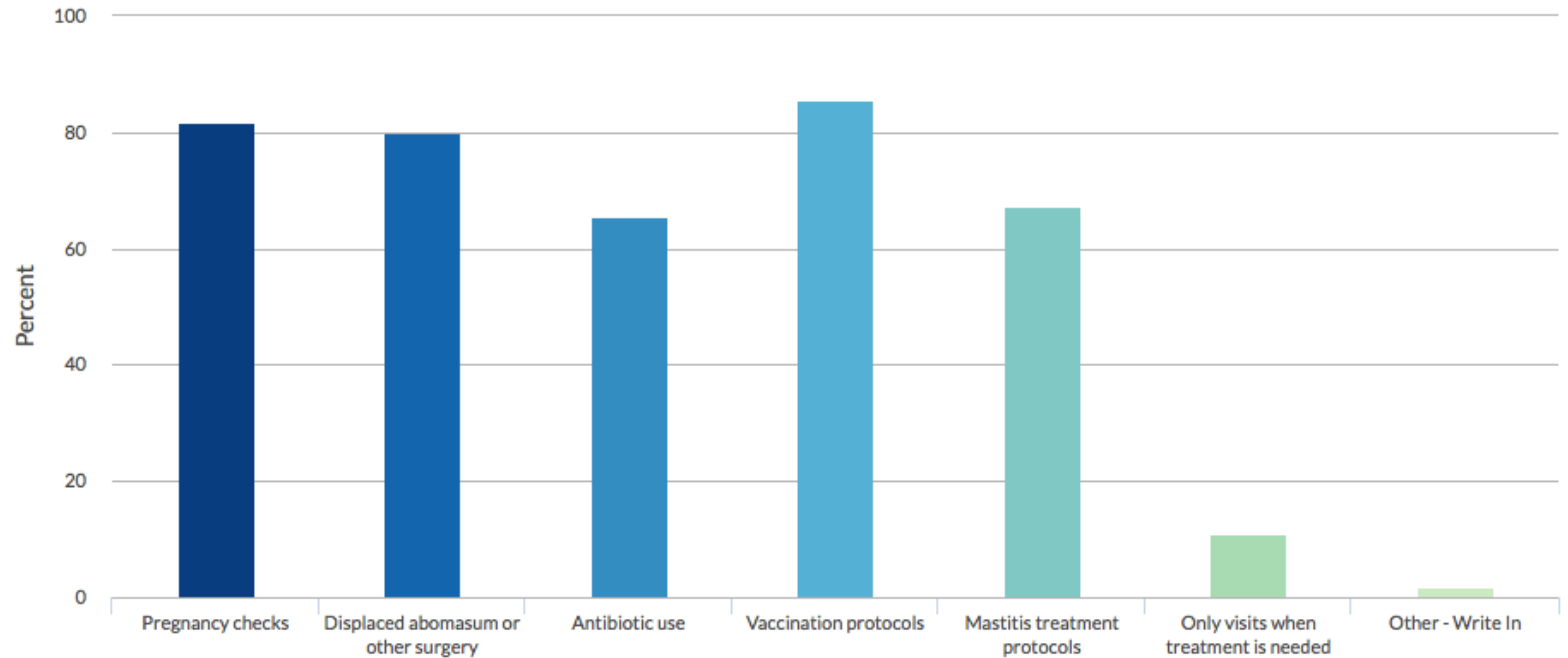
- Respondents know their mastitis treatment is working if milk is normal after the drug withhold is finished



n=55

REASONS FOR VET VISITS

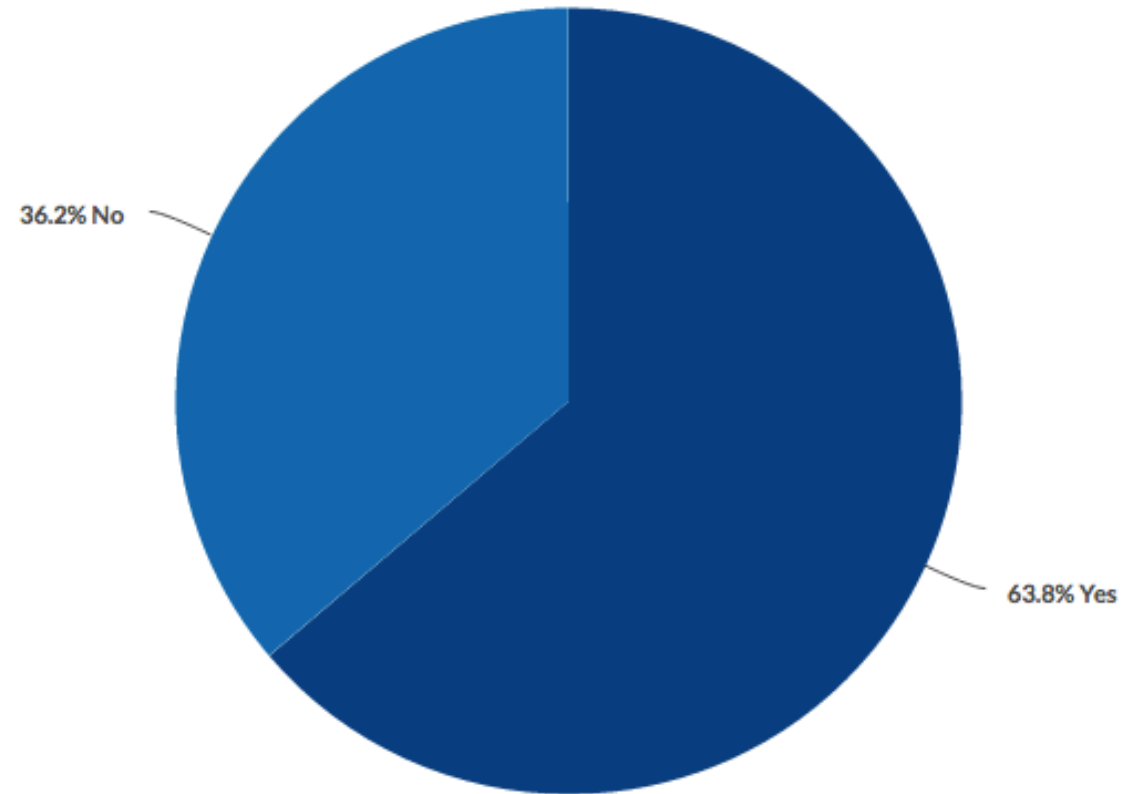
- Vaccination protocols, followed by pregnancy checks and displaced abomasum or other surgery, are the primary activities the respondents' vets engage in during visits



n=47

CHANGING PROTOCOLS

- Respondents have changed their protocols or practices in the last couple of years.



n=47

WHAT HAS CHANGED

CULTURING

- “We now test what kind of mastitis a cow has before treating her.”
- “We only treat after culture results.”
- “We started culturing mastitis cows.”
- “Culture milk samples, determine best treatment.”
- “More training on reading TNT plates. Using more discretion on whether to treat and when to start.”
- “Culturing all mast cows prior to treatment.”
- “Culturing clinical mastitis.”
- “Use of culture results for drug selection more proactive with subclinicals; longer antibiotic therapy.”
- “Culture and DNA testing.”

PRODUCT CHANGES

- “Certain medications were taken off the market or no longer carried by my vet.”
- “Different medicines as well as different use of the current medications to better fit a best practice operation.”
- “Some drugs are not labeled for dairy anymore.”
- “Started treating cows once a day with certain antibiotics.”
- “The usage of particular antibiotics.”
- “Used to use only Spectramast for mastitis and now use Amoximast on certain cows.”

JUDICIOUS USE

- “We try not use as much.”
- “Treating less animals deemed chronic. Less treating overall.”
- “Less treating with more supportive therapy until bacteria is known.”
- “Less use of antibiotics to cows. Used to give all sick cows treatment.”
- “More concern over antibiotic use, thus more cautious.”
- “Reduced antibiotic use. More aggressive culling.”
- “Use less by keeping cows healthier because of humane handling. Use shorter duration W?H antibiotics.”
- “We have started using them more conservatively and we are being more proactive on deciding on cull/treat.”

n=29

REASONS FOR CHANGING

OPERATIONAL

- “Cost.”
- “No longer in herd growth mode.”
- “Needed enough treatments to get less repeat cases.”
- “Save money.”
- “Vet recommendations.”
- “We have too many animals coming in and not enough space. And also money.”
- “Better record keeping treating less animals deemed chronic.”
- “To save \$\$\$.”
- “Unusual increase in mastitis during the winter.”

REGULATIONS

- “Government regulations.”
- “New rules.”
- “Regulations.”

EFFECTIVENESS

- “I had to change because what I was using no longer worked or was taken off the market.”
- “Learning about antibiotic resistance. Also sometimes we were treating same cows over and over again and weren't getting the best results.”
- “It is much more effective to use a treatment that will help cure the type of mastitis you are treating.”
- “Many mastitis cases were ‘curing’ 8 hrs after initial treatment.”
- “Old ones weren't working.”
- “Started on farm culturing and had poor cure rates for strep sp so decided to try Amoximast on those.”
- “To get better results.”
- “Trying to discover most effective treatment.”

JUDICIOUS USE

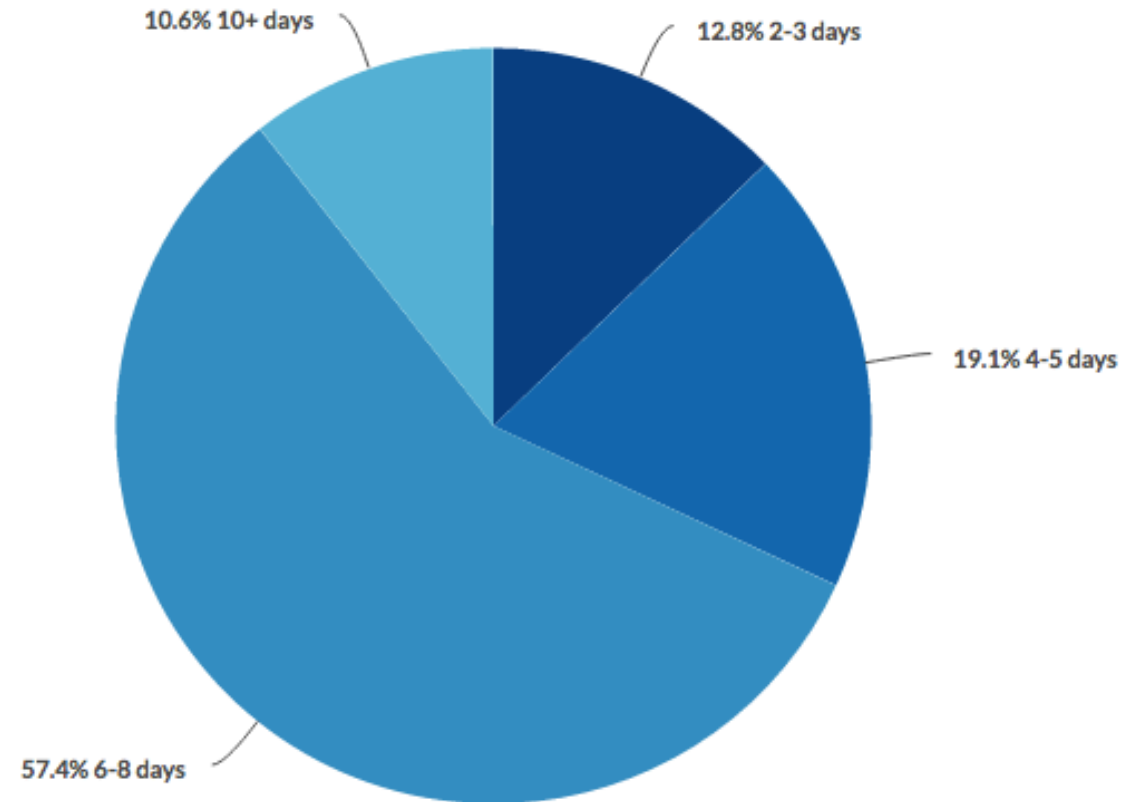
- “We began to culture on farm, treat based on results. We wanted to decrease antibiotic use.”
- “Didn't like using more drugs than were absolutely necessary.”
- “Healthier animals don't need as much treatment, better for the consumer.”
- “Less antibiotics usage.”
- “We are trying to do our part to make sure we are using the best options available for our animals, and those are always changing so we want to stay current with best practices.”

n=29

DAYS SPENT IN HOSPITAL PEN

- Respondents' cows typically spend 6-8 days in the hospital pen when treated for mastitis, including treatment and withhold times.

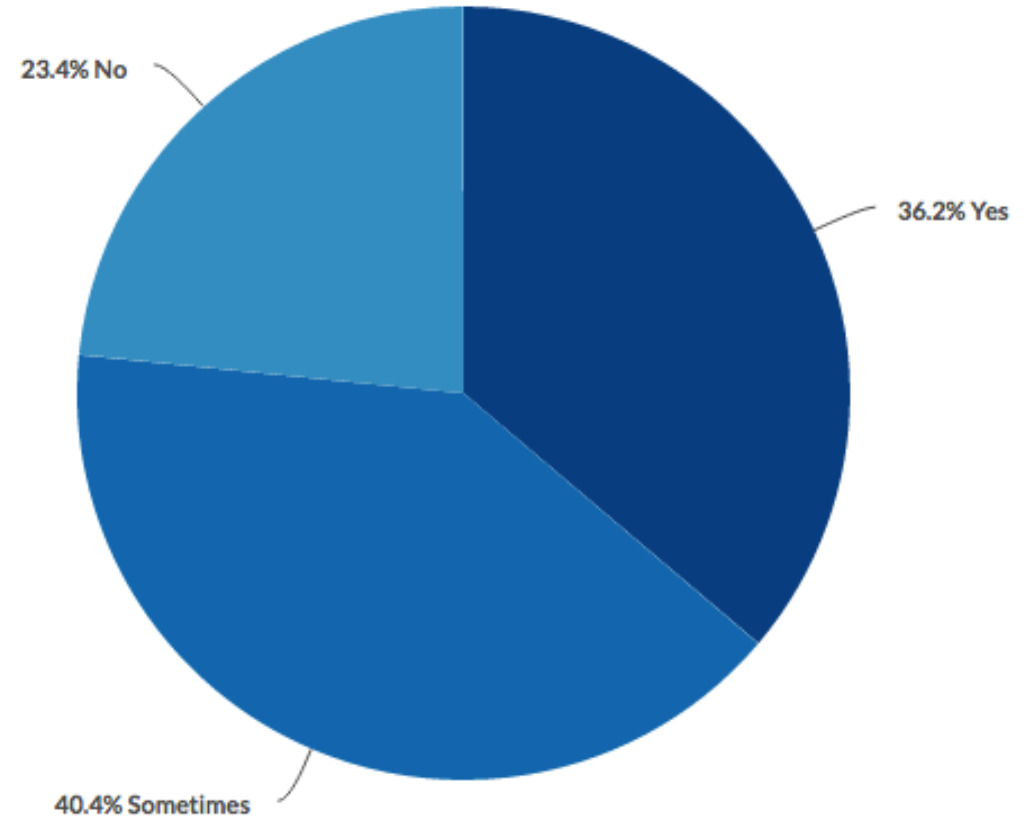
n=47



CULTURING INDIVIDUAL MILK SAMPLES

- Respondents sometimes culture individual milk samples to help determine what mastitis pathogen they are fighting

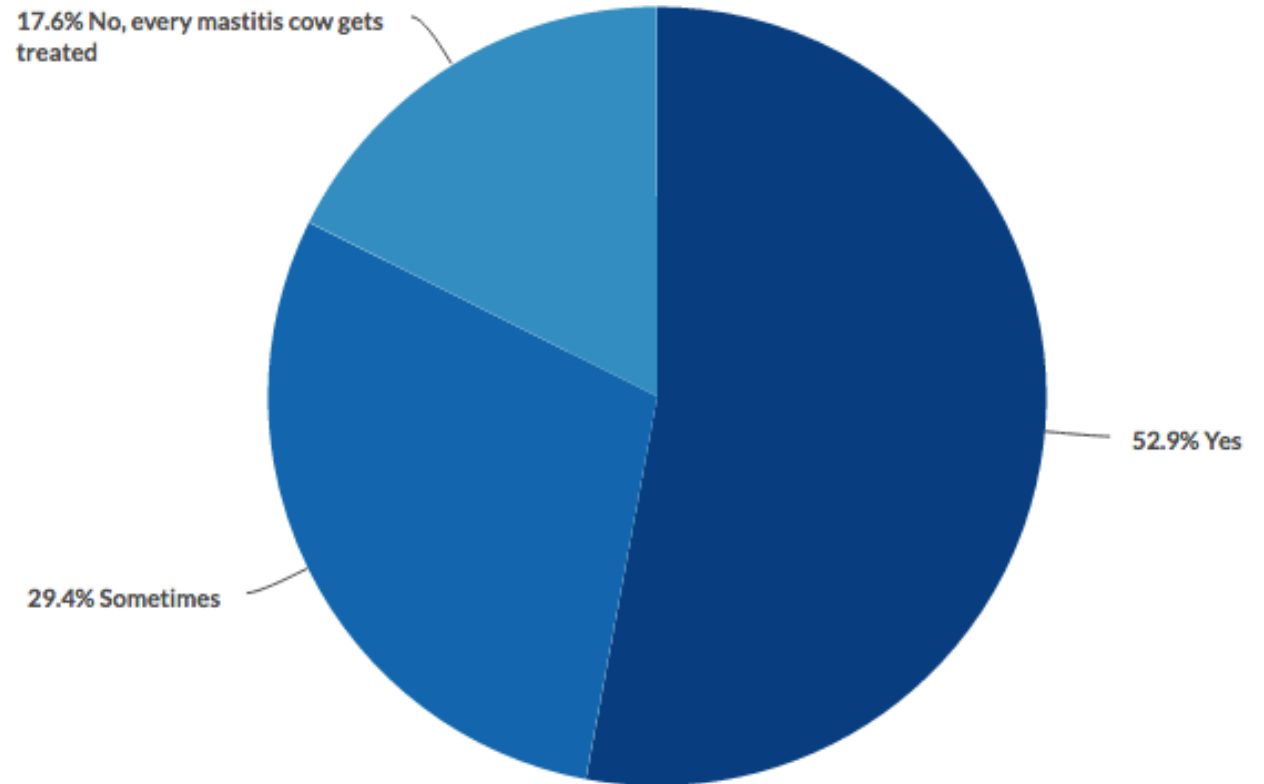
n=47



WAITING TO TREAT

- Respondents typically wait to treat cows based on the culture results

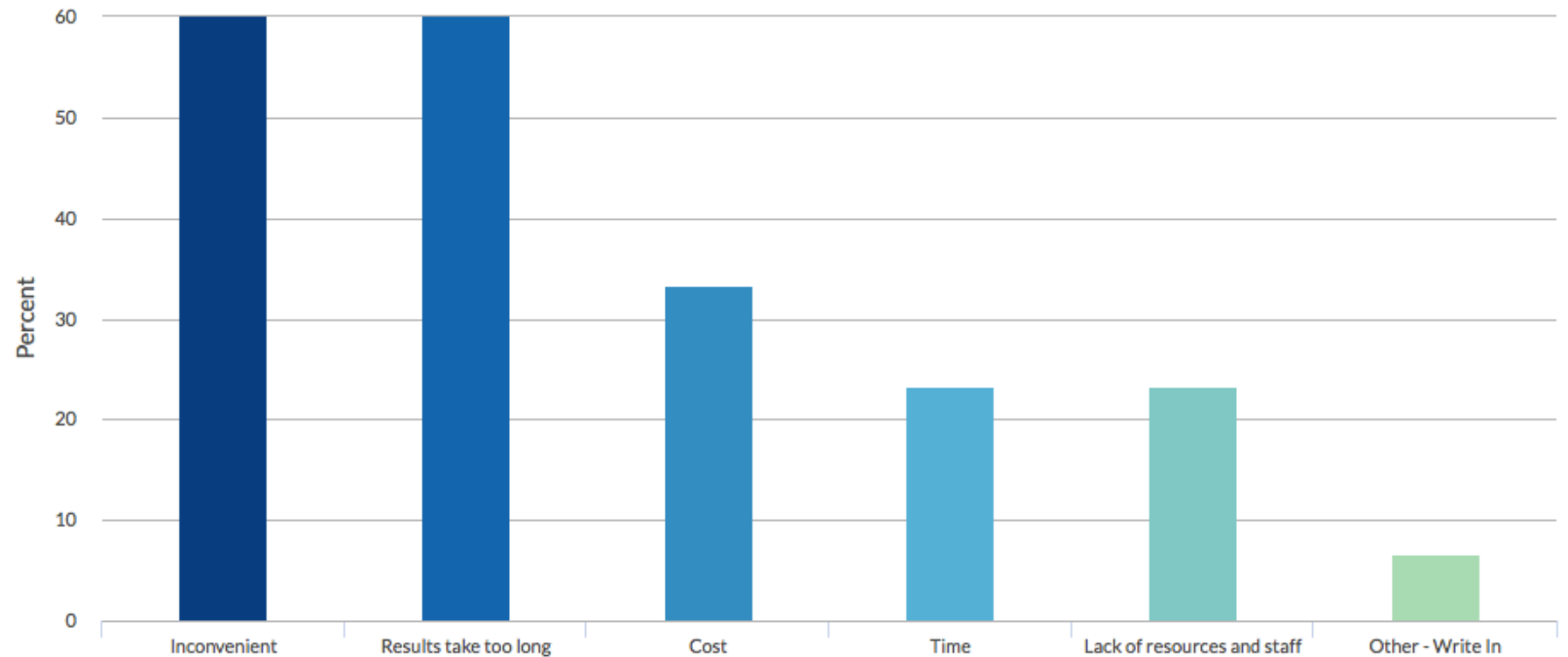
n=17 (those who answered “sometimes” or “no” on whether they culture before treating were the only ones to receive this question)



REASONS FOR NOT CULTURING

- Respondents who do not culture milk samples say that regularly culturing individual cow samples is inconvenient and the results take too long

n=17 (those who answered “sometimes” or “no” on whether they culture before treating were the only ones to receive this question)



CONTACT INFORMATION

- Consent to be contacted about judicious use of antibiotics:
 - 18 respondents provided their names
 - 18 respondents provided phone numbers
 - 20 respondents provided email addresses

KEY TAKEAWAYS

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- “Responsible antibiotic usage” is how most respondents define judicious use.
- Respondents typically talk to their vets once a month about antibiotic use and treatment protocols and cite vaccination protocols as the most common reason vets visit operations.
- Respondents have changed their protocols or practices in the last couple of years.
 - Starting culturing, changes to the product availability, and using antibiotics more judiciously are the primary ways that respondents have changed their protocols
 - The reasons for doing so are for operational reasons (cost, vet recommendations, etc.), they are forced to by certain regulations, they are looking for a more effective method, and they want to use fewer antibiotics.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- With respondents, culturing is an established part of their protocol.
- For those who don't culture regularly, the key reasons for not are the time it takes and the inconvenience of it.