



Federation  
of Veterinarians  
of Europe



# Regular veterinary advisory visits

## Challenges on implementation of biosecurity and training needs of veterinarians

Nancy De Briyne  
FVE Executive Director

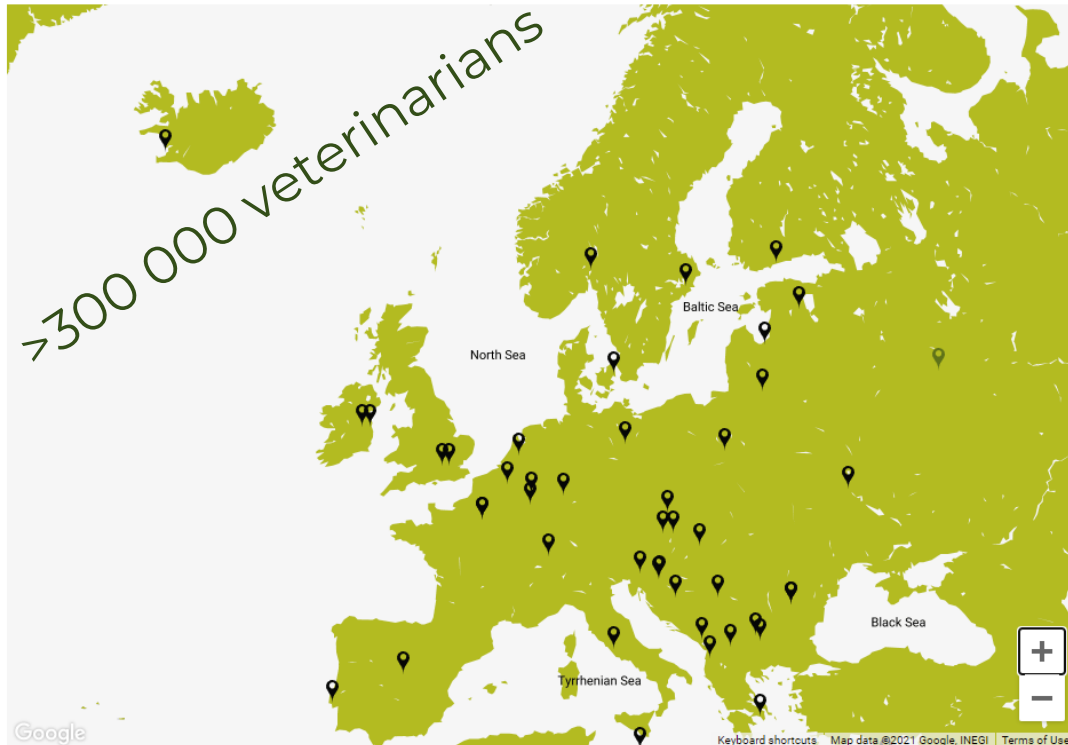




# THE FEDERATION OF VETERINARIANS OF EUROPE

## The FVE Network

📍 Members 📍 Observers



47 national associations

38 European countries

- 4 Sections
- UEVP (*Practitioners*)
  - UEVH (*Hygienists – Public Health Officers*)
  - EASVO (*Veterinary State Officers*)
  - EVERI (*Education, Research, Industry*)

### FVE's mission

The European veterinary profession, embodied by FVE, **enhances animal health, animal welfare, public health and protect the environment** by promoting the veterinary profession.

Together with its members, FVE supports veterinarians in delivering their professional responsibilities to the best possible standards and ensures that veterinary expertise is recognised and valued by society.



**Members - Sections**

Gives final decision

National or locational veterinary organisations appointing a delegation to the General Assembly

**General Assembly**

Elects Board/Orients association's actions and approves policy and financial reports

**Board of Directors**

Defines position and programme

**FVE Secretariat**

Carries out decisions of Board of Directors

**WORKING GROUPS**



The current FVE Board from 2019 to 2021 is composed by:



Reports to





# FVE Strategy 2021-2025

## PRIORITIES

The European veterinary profession, embodied by FVE, strives to **enhance animal health, animal welfare, public health and protect the environment** by promoting the veterinary profession. FVE aims to **support veterinarians in delivering their professional responsibilities** to the best possible standard, and that this expertise is recognized and valued by society.

- **ONE-HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY**
- **ONE VETERINARY COMMUNITY**
- **BEING RECOGNISED AND INFLUENTIAL**
- **VETERINARY DEMOGRAPHY AND REWARDING CAREERS**
- **EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY**



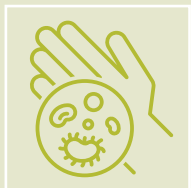




**Moving from curative to preventive veterinary advisory systems**



**Our goal: preventive veterinary care for all animals!**



**Promoting biosecurity is an essential part of veterinary advisory visits**

European Commission

A new **Animal Health Strategy** for the European Union (2007-2013) where **"Prevention is better than cure"**



6

**What are the biggest benefits of preventive animal health visits?**



# Risk-based animal health visits: Art. 25 AHL

Art. 25 requires operators to ensure that establishments receive **risk-based animal health visits** from a veterinarian for the **purpose of disease prevention** through

- Provision of advice to the operator concerned on **biosecurity** and other animal health matters
- Detection of, and information on, **signs indicative** of the occurrence of listed diseases or *emerging diseases*

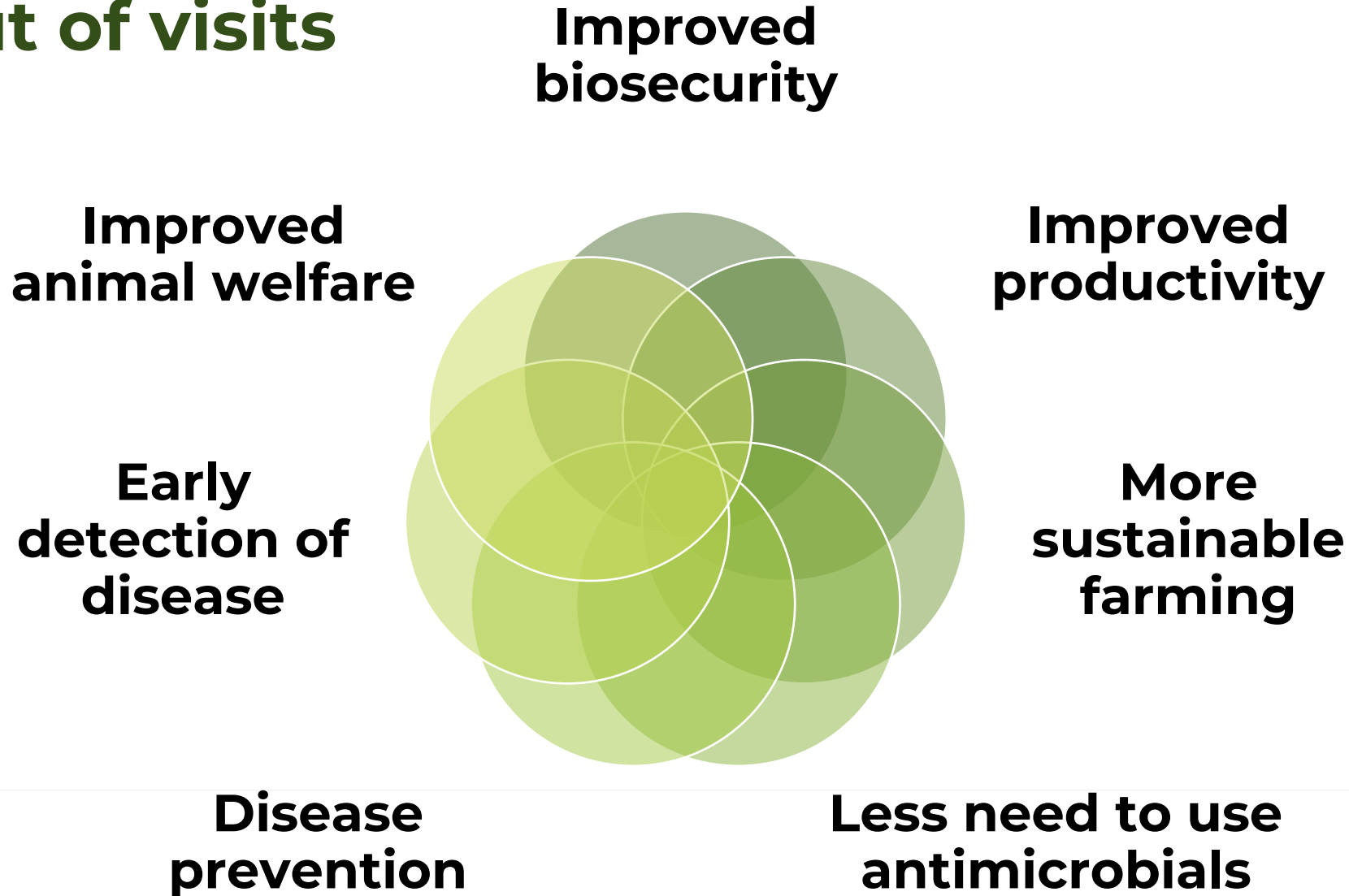


→ **Frequencies shall be proportionate to the risks and depend on**

- Type of establishment
- Animal species and categories kept
- Epidemiological situation



# Output of visits







# FVE position paper: Prevention is better than cure: regular animal health visits make this happen

- Task Force with national experts
- Wide consultation including with species sections
- Unanimously adopted by the FVE members
- FVE advocates continuously to communicate these new rules in a practical, understandable and targeted way to all the different actors involved!

[Link: FVE position on Prevention is better than cure](#)





# FVE recommendations for successful visits



FARMER AND  
VETERINARIAN  
SHOULD HAVE A  
**ONE-TO-ONE  
CONTRACT AND  
SCHEDULE  
VISITS  
REGULARLY**



A FARM  
SPECIFIC HERD  
HEALTH PLAN  
WITH A  
**TANGIBLE  
OUTPUT**



**REPORT**  
SUMMARISING  
THE OUTPUT  
COULD BE  
AVAILABLE ON  
REQUEST TO E.G.  
**OFFICIAL  
VETERINARY  
SERVICES**

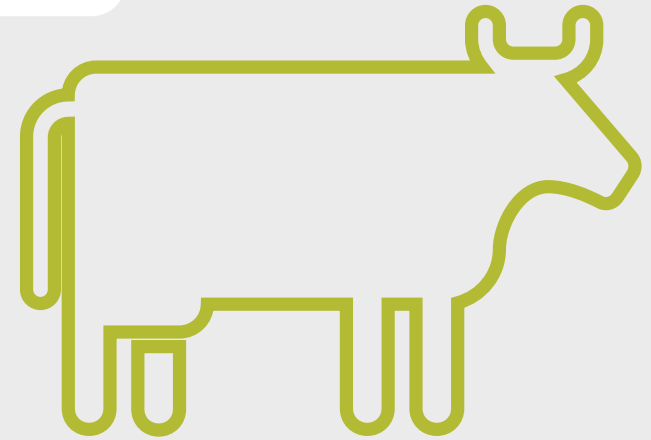


A **CLINICAL  
SERVICE** FOR  
THE FARMER  
WITHOUT  
CARRYING OUT  
OFFICIAL  
CONTROLS



THE VISIT SHOULD  
**NOT BE  
UNNECESSARILY  
TIME CONSUMING  
OR PAPERWORK  
HEAVY**

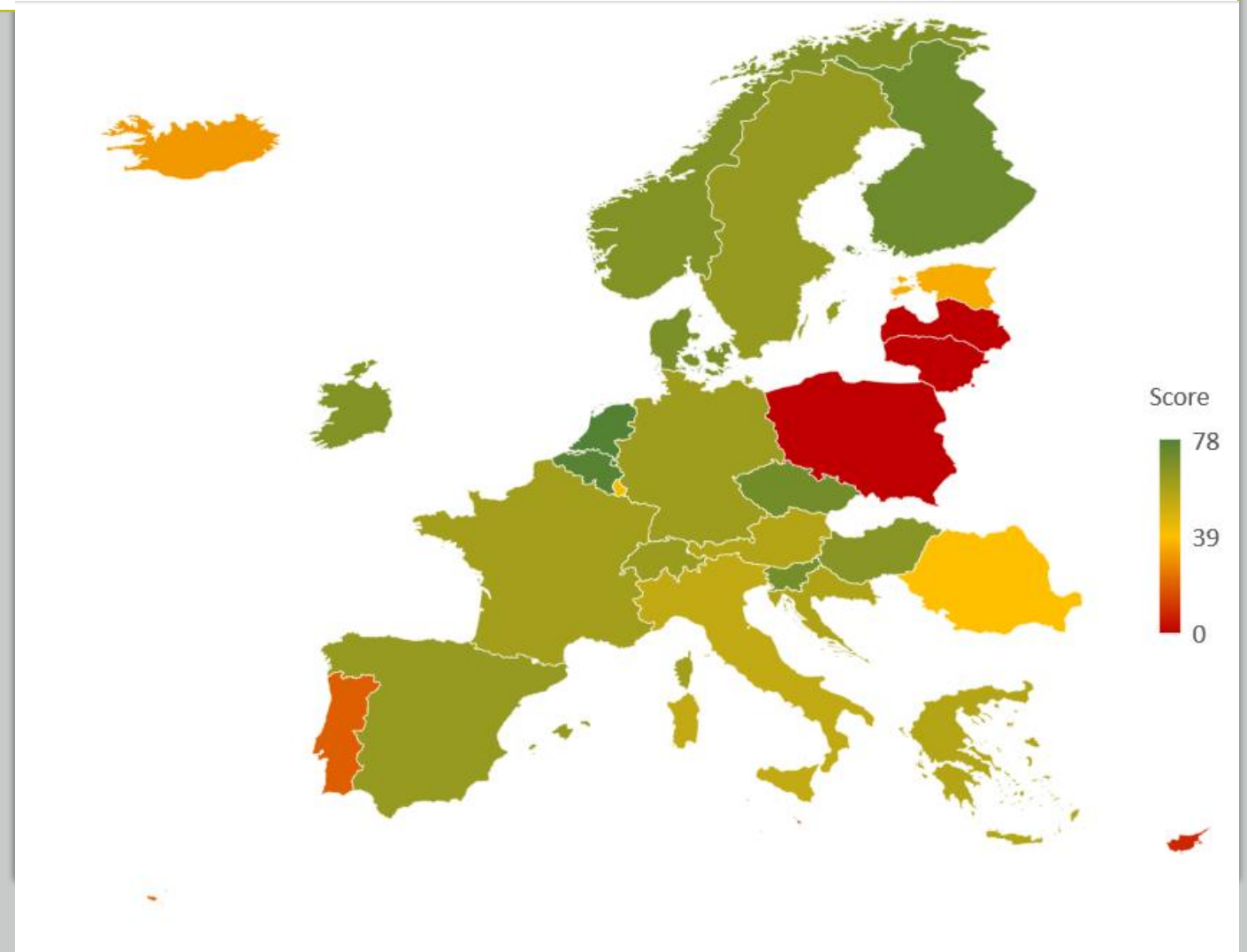
# **2<sup>nd</sup> FVE survey on regular animal health visits (AHV) in 2022**





## Benchmarking based on FVE position paper criteria

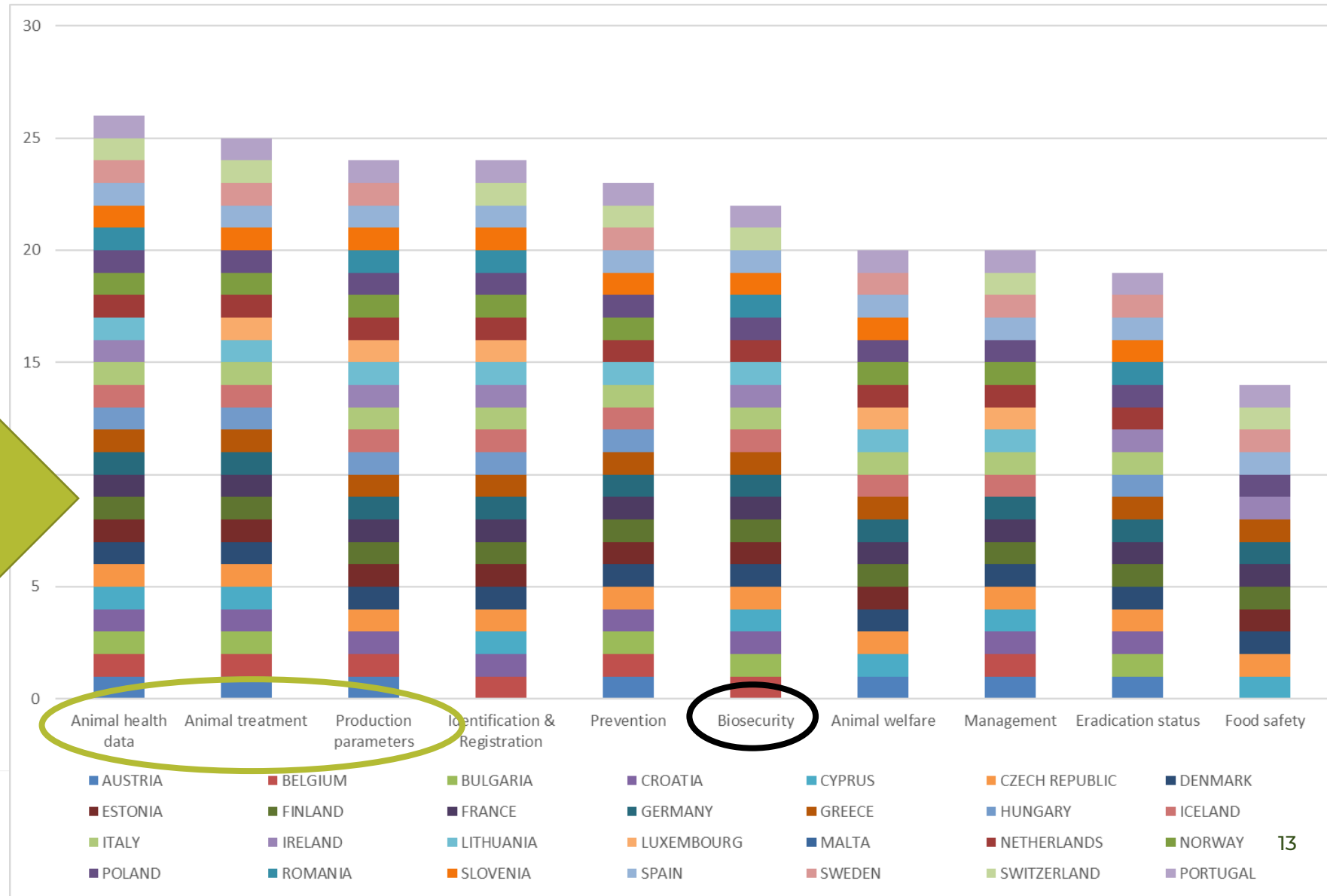
- **Who performs the visits?**
- **Are their mandatory?**
- **Which type of holdings?**
- **Coverage of total holdings?**
- **Which subjects are covered?**
- **Which production types (intensive to extensive)?**
- **Frequency (risk-based)?**





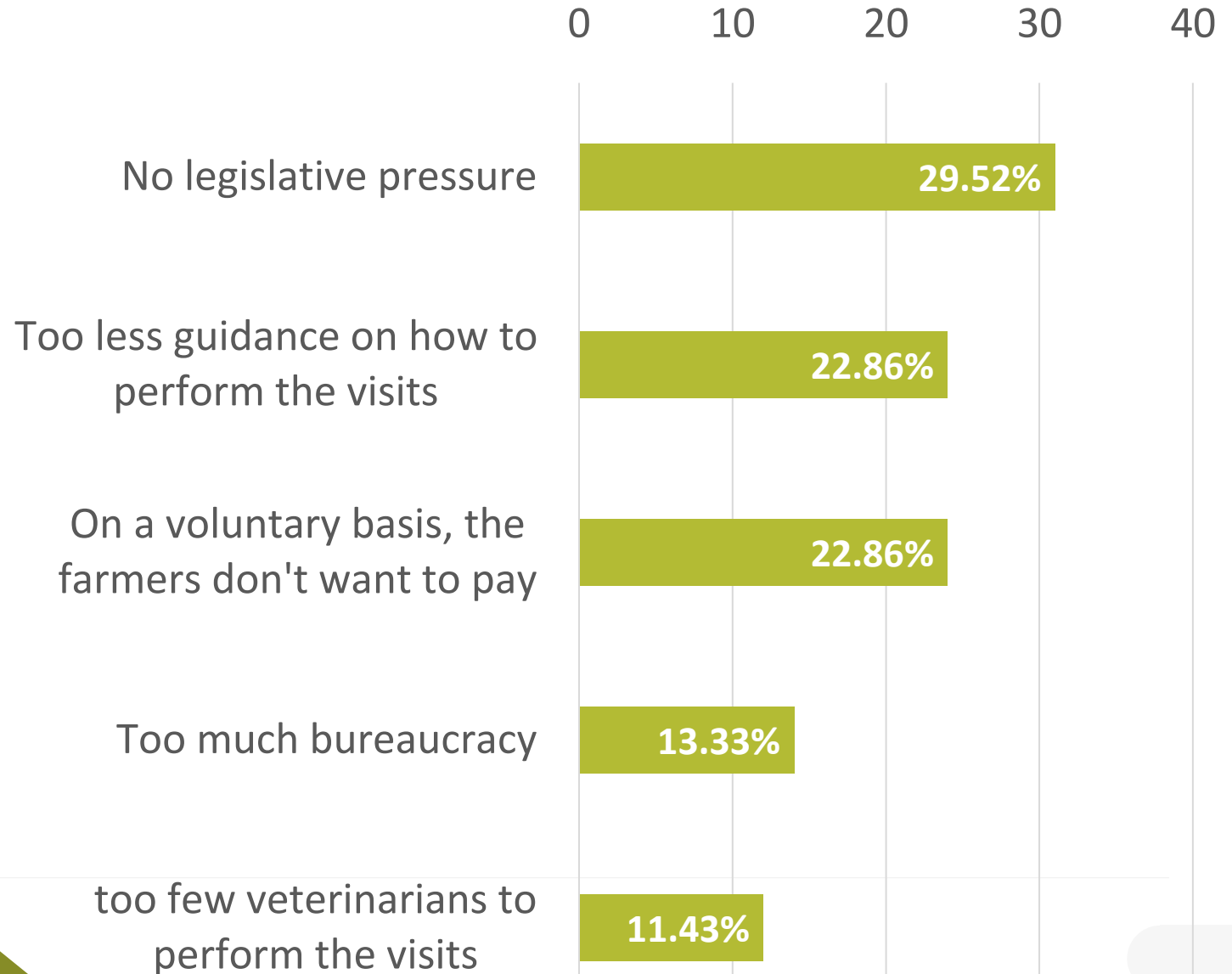
# Objectives of the visits

Biosecurity, while specifically mentioned in Art 25, was only included in **22** countries



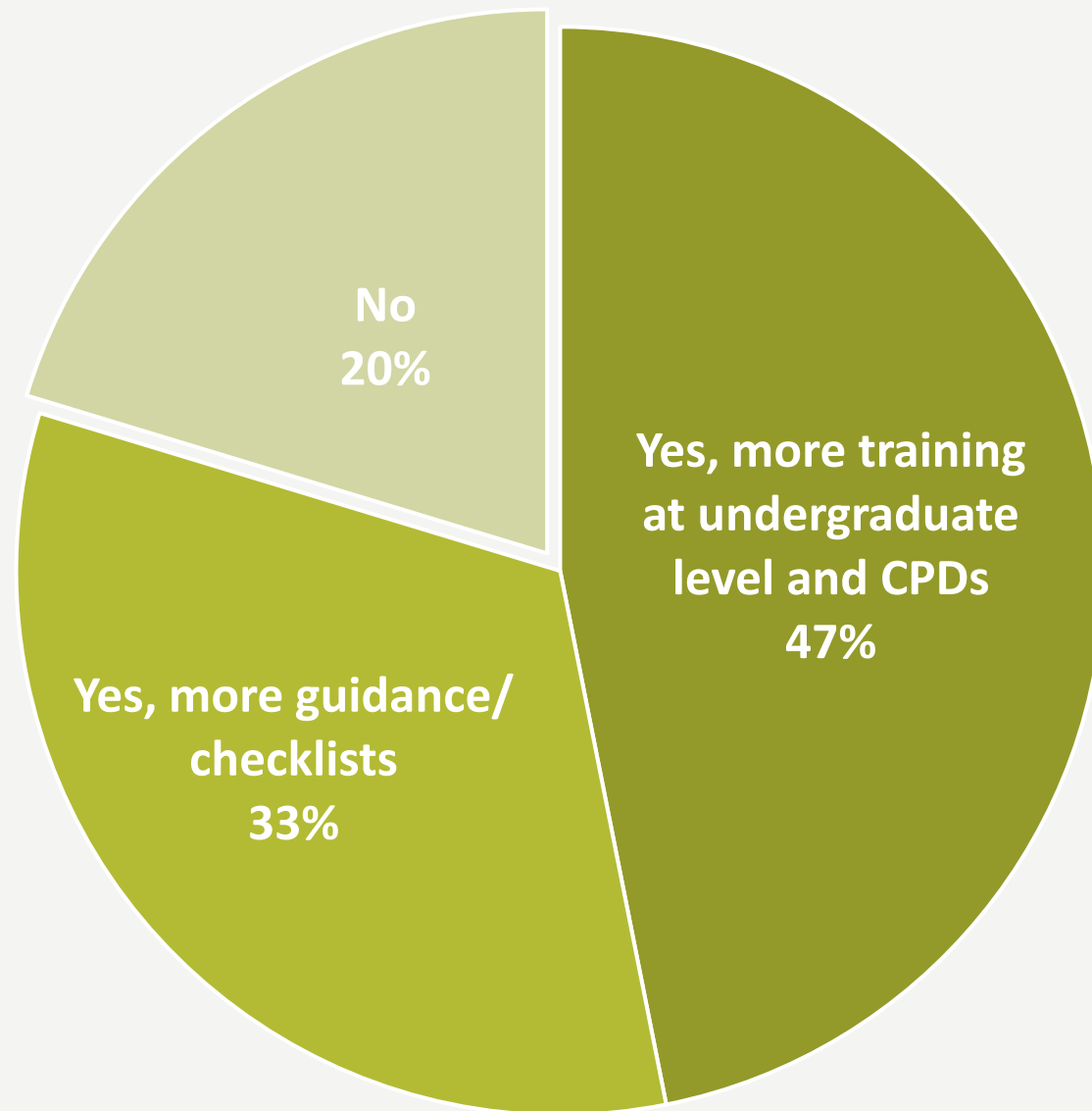
**\*Based on combined data from 2017 and 2022**

# What are the biggest obstacles to implement preventive AHV in your country?





**Do you think  
more training  
or guidance  
is needed for  
veterinary  
practitioners  
to implement  
preventive  
AHV?**





## Outlook on further FVE activities

- Map the quality and quantity of education on herd health management including biosecurity in the EU
  - Undergrad: Directive 2005/36/EC, WOAHA core curriculum, EAEVE Day 1 competencies
  - Postgraduate: national specialisations / EBVS
  - Further education: CPDs on national/supranational level
- Liaise with EAEVE and EBVS to conclude recommendations
- Liaise with quality assurance systems for checklists and guidelines



## Conclusions and recommendations

**The majority of FVE member countries had animal health visits, but many were restricted to specific animals or aspects**

**80% of those countries which performed AHV already covered (parts of) biosecurity**

**Veterinarians indicate they could use more training and guidance**

**Including veterinary training on herd health and biosecurity in education has great potential to improve the implementation of AHV and move to preventive care for all!**





Animal health visits: prevention is better than cure

REGULAR VETERINARY VISITS ENHANCE TRUST BETWEEN FARMERS, VETERINARIANS AND CONSUMERS



Animal health visits: prevention is better than cure

REGULAR ANIMAL HEALTH VISITS LOWER THE DISEASE BURDEN AND REDUCE THE USE OF ANTIBIOTICS



Animal health visits: prevention is better than cure

VETERINARIAN REGULARLY VISITING ANIMAL HOLDINGS CAN FOSTER PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE FOR ALL ANIMALS



Animal health visits: prevention is better than cure

ANIMAL HEALTH VISITS IMPROVE ANIMAL HEALTH & BIOSECURITY

## CONTACT US

E-mail: [info@fve.org](mailto:info@fve.org)

Website: <https://fve.org/>

## WHERE WE ARE

Federation of Veterinarians of Europe (FVE)

**Rue Victor Oudart 7, B-1030 Brussels**

