

Challenges with biosecurity implementation & perceptions of biosecurity in smallholder farms

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Outline

1. Different types of smallholders
2. Different regions
3. Challenges linked to the people
4. Challenges linked to the production systems
5. What do farmers say?
6. Drivers and barriers

”Smallholders” - context specific definition

- In some countries smallholders keep one or two animals, in others a small herd has 50 animals....
- Individual animals or a group (but not several herds/flocks)
- Business aspect – non-commercial, not main household income, producing mainly for own consumption
- Poultry
- Pigs
- Shoats
- Cattle





Different regions

- North-south gradient?
- Temperature
- Access to water and feed
- Disease vectors
- Resources...



Challenges linked to the people

- Smallholders may not perceive themselves as “farmers”
- Registers
- Training
- Networks
- Other priorities
- “non-professional”
- Culture



Challenges linked to the production systems

- Indoors vs outdoors
- Enclosed or free-roaming
- Feed, water
- Animal products
- Breeding
- Other purposes



What do farmers say/do?

- No time/resources for some biosecurity measures
- Things that seem easy can be hard
- Able to do more than they first thought
- Quarantine/isolation can usually be arranged
- Cleaning
- Footbaths....
- Change of clothes...
- Fate...
- Act on perceived risks
- Interplay between farmer/visitors





Drivers/barriers

- Economic
- Peer pressure
- Good life
- Used to mishaps,
- Fatalistic
- Low input/low output – less vulnerable
- Effects hard to illustrate, experience affects will
- “Biosecurity is a common effort based on collective knowledge”





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