



Risk-based meat inspection and integrated meat safety assurance



Harmonised Epidemiological Indicators

How Is the Current Situation of Implementation for Broilers, Pigs and Bovines in Europe?







WG2 Harmonised Epidemiological Indicator

EFSA's definition (2011):

 Prevalence or incidence of the hazard at a certain stage of the food chain

 Indirect measure of the hazards (such as audits of farms) that correlates to a human health risk caused by the hazard



WG2 Material and Methods

Online questionnaire for

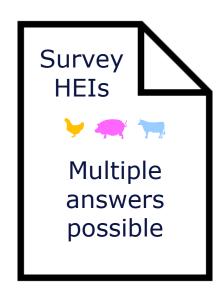






or

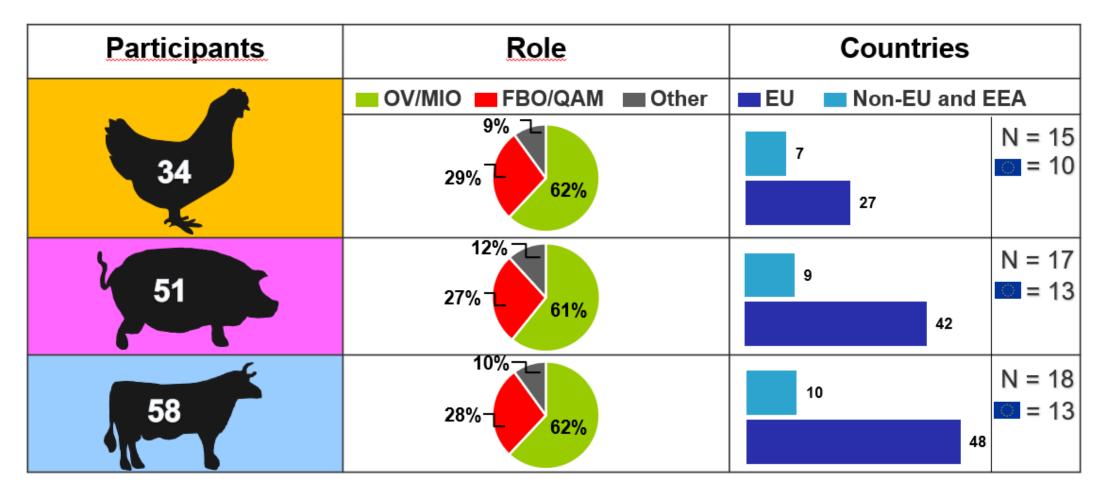
- Implementation of HEIs
- Consequent measures to monitoring
- Questions on
 - Monitoring and surveillance systems (MoSSs)
 - Stages at which testing is performed
 - Diagnostic methods
 - Sample materials





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WG2 Results: General Questions

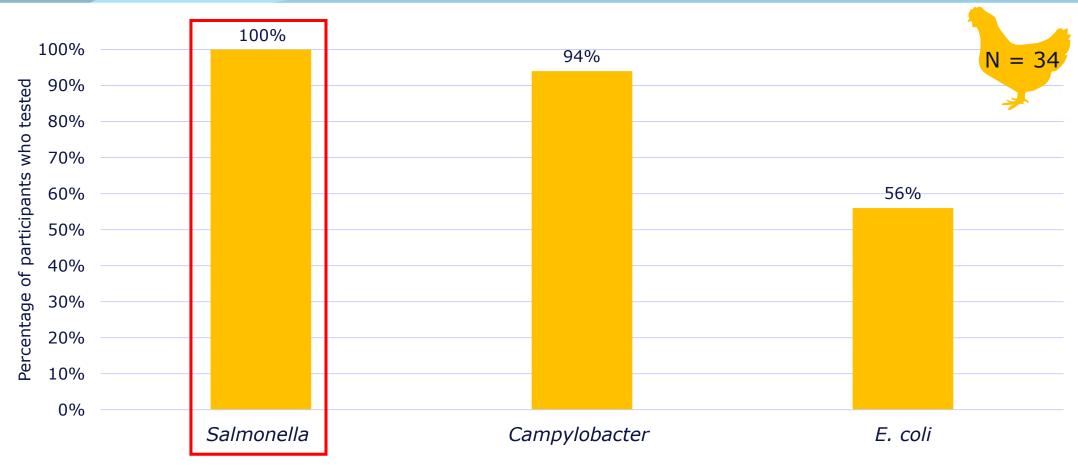








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Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in broilers



*MoSSs = monitoring and surveillance systems

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WG2 Results: HEIs for Salmonella





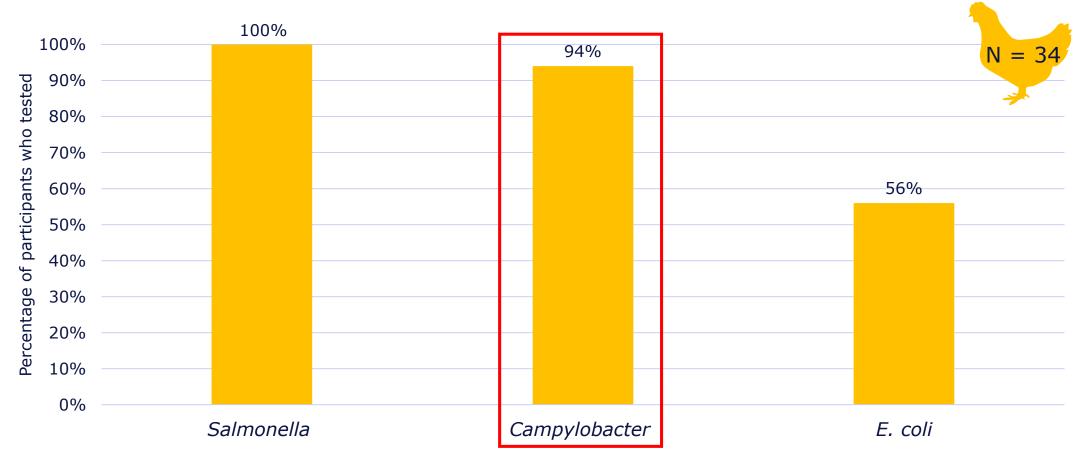
- HEI 2 Salmonella in poultry flocks prior to slaughter
 - **▶ 91%: Microbiology + pooled faeces**



- HEI 4 Salmonella in birds carcasses after slaughter process and chilling
 - > 62%: microbiology + neck and breast skin
- HEI 4 = PHC* for Salmonella in broilers (Reg. (EC) No 2073/2005)
 - 37% (EU MSs + testing for Salmonella) ≠ PHC
- Most common consequent measures in case of Salmonella-positive results
 - 77%: Surveillance of slaughter hygiene
 - 68%: Raising awareness
 - 65%: Feedback to the farm



* process hygiene criterion



Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in broilers



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WG2 Results: HEIs for Campylobacter



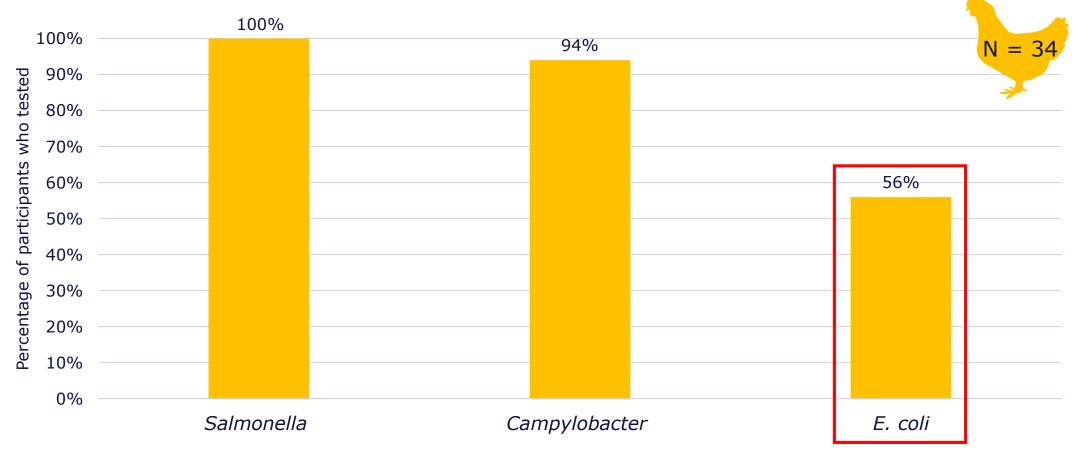


- HEI 4 Campylobacter in birds incoming to slaughter process (evisceration stage)
 - > 25%: Microbiology enumeration + caecal content



- HEI 5 Campylobacter in birds carcasses after slaughter process and chilling
 - > 69%: Microbiology enumeration + neck / breast skin
- HEI 5 = PHC for Campylobacter in broilers (Reg. (EC) No 2073/2005)
 - 37% (EU MSs + testing for Campylobacter) ≠ PHC
- Most common consequent measures in case of Campylobacter-positive results
 - 63%: Raising awareness
 - 59%: Surveillance of slaughter hygiene
 - 53%: Feedback to the farm





Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in broilers



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WG2 Results: HEIs for *E. coli*

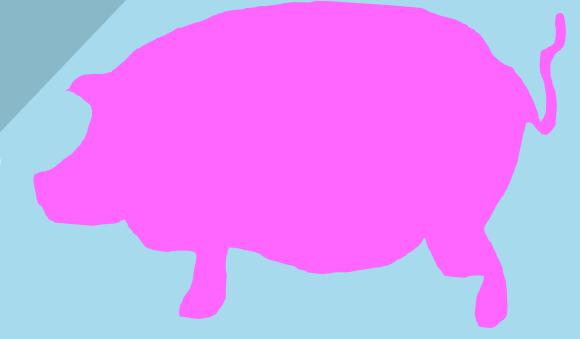




- HEI 1 Generic E. coli in birds carcases after slaughter process and chilling
 - > 53%: Microbiology enumeration + neck / breast skin
- Most common consequent measures in case of E. coli-positive results
 - 68%: Surveillance of slaughter hygiene
 - 47%: Raising awareness
 - 32%: Feedback to the farm

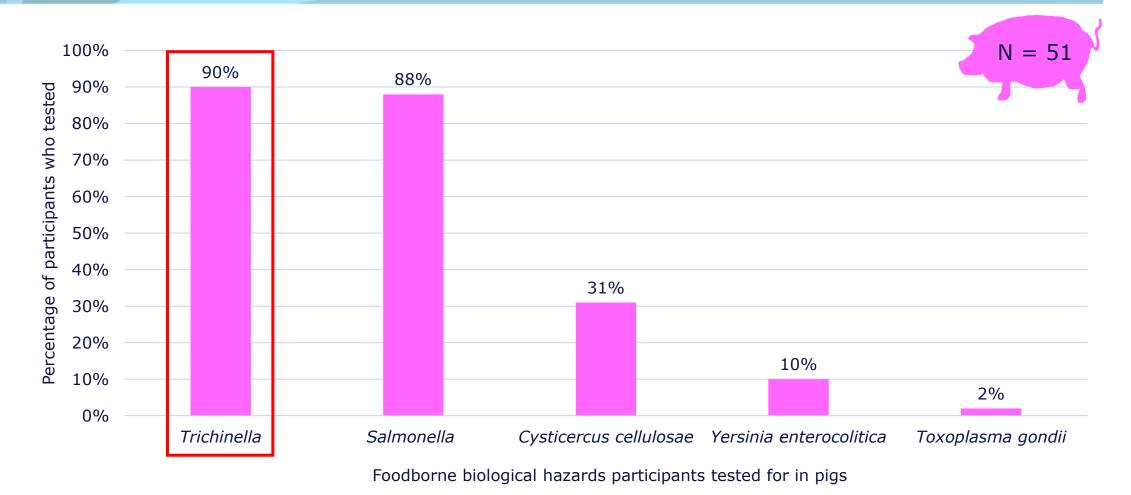








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*MoSSs = monitoring and surveillance systems

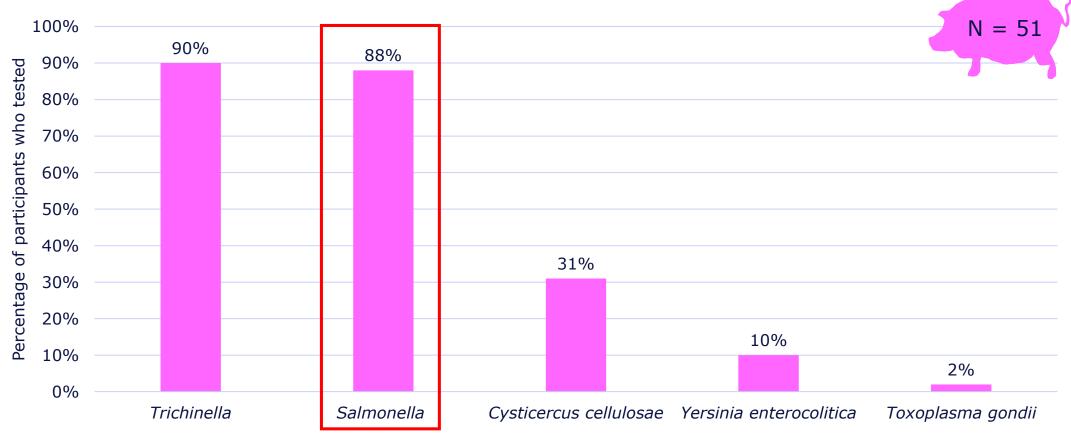
WG2 Results: HEIs for *Trichinella*





- HEI 1 Trichinella in free-range and backyard pigs /
 HEI 2 Trichinella in pigs from non-officially recognised controlled housing conditions /
 HEI 4 Trichinella in wildlife (e.g., wild boars, bears, raccoon dogs, foxes, wolves)
 - > 96%: Digestion method + tissue samples
- 10% (FBOs, same Western EU MS): no testing for Trichinella
- Country is not allowed to apply for derogation from Trichinella testing → freezing?
- 4/5 FBOs also did not perform any official monitoring for Salmonella
- Most common consequent measures in case of Trichinella-positive results
 - 67%: Feedback to the farm
 - 57%: Categorisation of farms
 - 40%: Feedback and Categorisation









*MoSSs = monitoring and surveillance systems

WG2 Results: HEIs for Salmonella



• 12% (OVs, 4x EU MSs): **no testing** for *Salmonella*

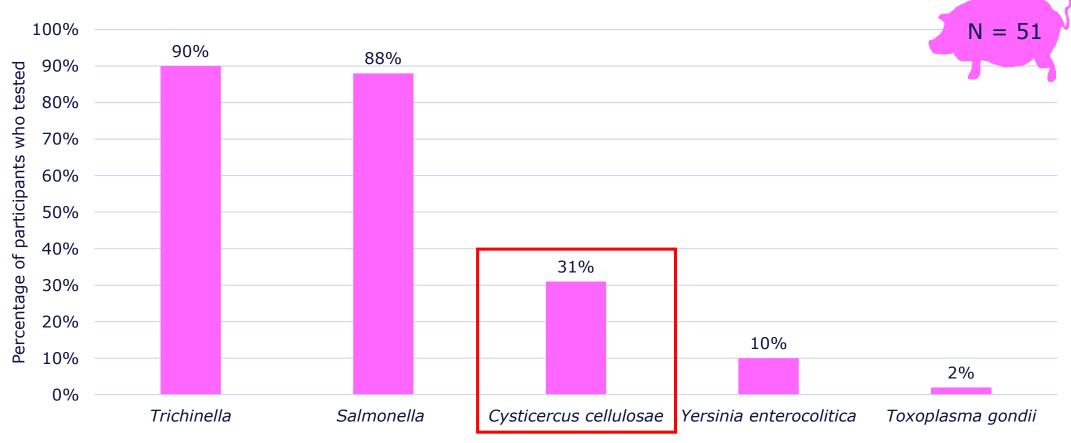


- HEI 6 Salmonella in fattening pigs carcasses after slaughter process before chilling
 - > 69%: Microbiology + carcass swab
- HEI 6 = PHC for Salmonella in pigs (Reg. (EC) No 2073/2005)
 - > 32% (EU MSs + testing for Salmonella) ≠ PHC



- HEI 7 Salmonella in fattening pigs carcasses after slaughter process and chilling
 - > 40%: Microbiology + carcass swab
- Most common consequent measures in case of Salmonella-positive results
 - 49%: Feedback to the farm
 - 44%: Categorisation of farms





Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in pigs



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WG2

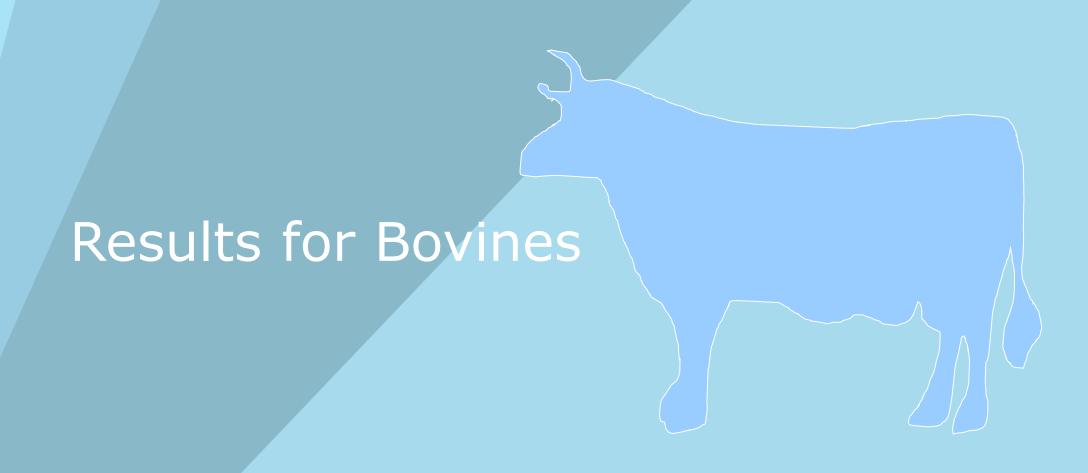
WG2 Results: HEI for *C. cellulosae*





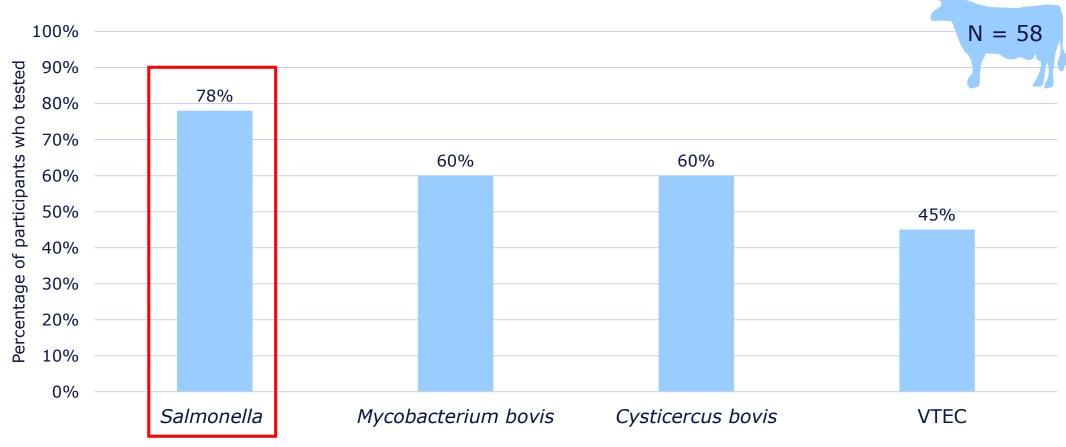
- HEI 1 Cysticercus cysts in pigs
 - > 0%: Visual meat inspection + PCR for confirmation
 - ➤ 100%: Visual meat inspection
- 31% considered visual meat inspection as active form of testing for *C. cellulosae*
- Predominantly from Eastern Europe (69%) → significant correlation between region and testing
- Most common consequent measures in case of C. cellulosae-positive results
 - 81%: Raising awareness
 - 75%: Feedback to the farm







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Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in bovines



*MoSSs = monitoring and surveillance systems

WG2 Results: HEIs for Salmonella



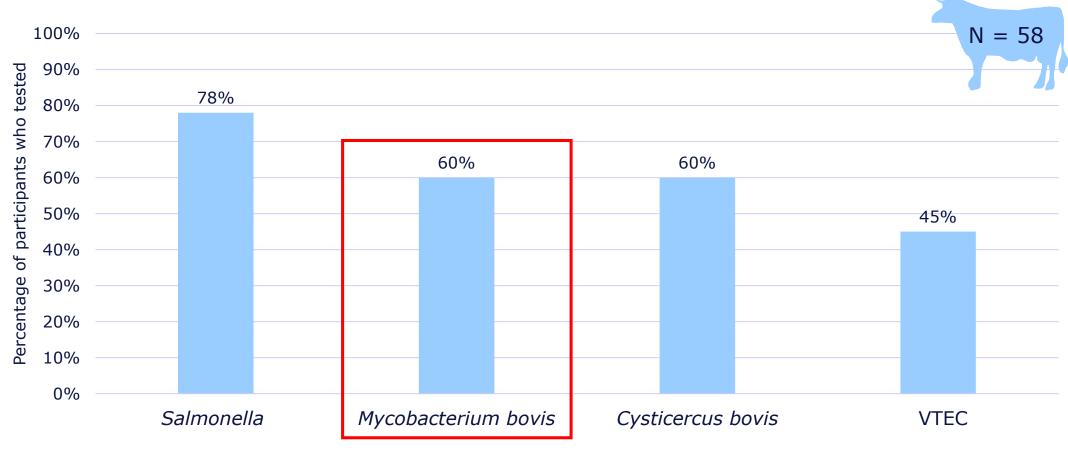


- HEI 8 Salmonella on carcasses pre-chilling
 - > 71%: Microbiology + carcass swab
- HEI 8 = PHC for Salmonella in cattle (Reg. (EC) No 2073/2005)
 - ≥ 26% (EU MSs + testing for Salmonella) ≠ PHC



- HEI 9 Salmonella on carcasses post-chilling
 - > 22%: Microbiology + carcass swab
- Most common consequent measures in case of Salmonella-positive results
 - 84%: Surveillance of slaughter hygiene
 - 58%: Raising awareness
 - 56%: Feedback to the farm



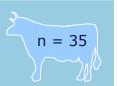


Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in bovines



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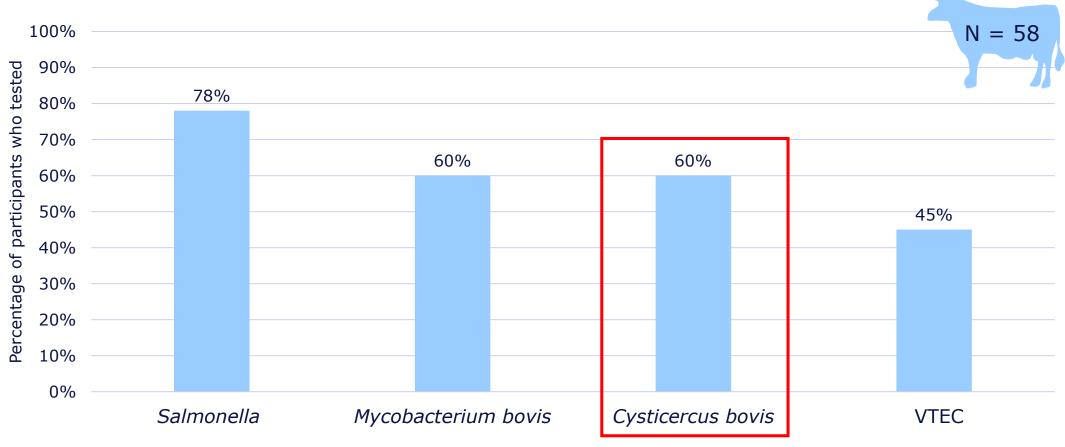
WG2 Results: HEIs for M. bovis





- HEI 2 Human pathogenic mycobacteria in bovines at slaughter
 - > 20%: Visual meat inspection and microbiology + suspected lesions
 - > 46%: Visual meat inspection
- Most common consequent measures in case of M. bovis-positive results
 - 80%: Categorisation of farms
 - 63%: Intensification of meat inspection
 - 57%: Raising awareness
 - 54%: Feedback to the farm





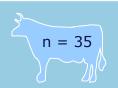
Foodborne biological hazards participants tested for in bovines



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WG2

WG2 Results: HEIs for *C. bovis*





- HEI 3 *T. saginata* cysticerci in suspected lesions from all types of farms
 - > 6%: Visual meat inspection + PCR for confirmation
 - > 89%: Visual meat inspection
- Most common consequent measures in case of C. bovis-positive results
 - 69%: Intensification of meat inspection
 - 63%: Feedback to the farm
 - 54%: Raising awareness
 - 54%: Freezing the meat



Conclusion

- HEIs are useful as part of the risk-based meat safety assurance system (RB-MSAS)
- HEIs enable risk categorisation of farms and abattoirs





- HEIs for broilers are implemented in most EU member states
- Currently implemented MoSSs for broilers are appropriate



HEIs for pigs that are equivalent to testing regulated by law were mostly implemented



- Additional HEIs for pigs are underutilised and not implemented properly in Europe
- HEIs for bovines are poorly implemented (only HEI 8 Salmonella over 50%)
- Main implemented consequence: raising awareness, farm categorisation, feedback to farmers
- When asked about farm interventions, participants mostly stated these were not implemented
- More training is needed in HEIs application



Thank you for the attention.

And a special thanks to all participants, RIBMINS NCPs, and WG 2 members.







