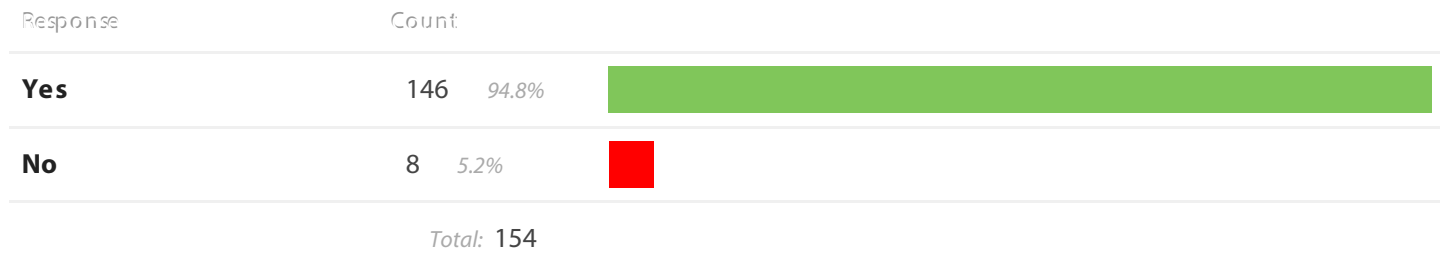
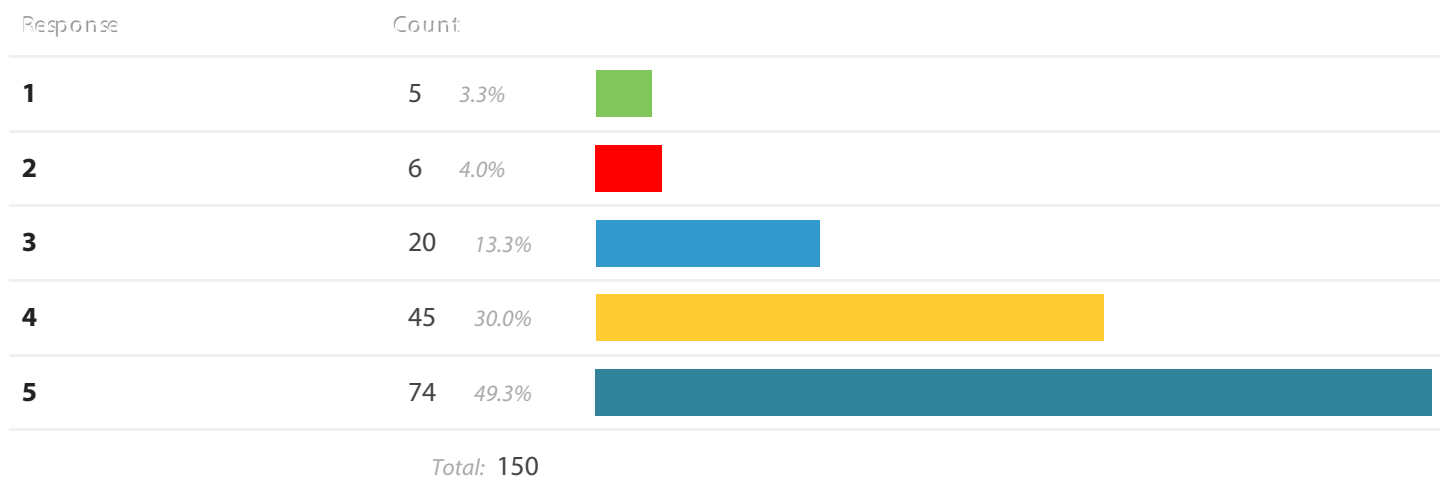


BSE Survey Results

1. Did you know that Canada has a national BSE surveillance (testing) program?



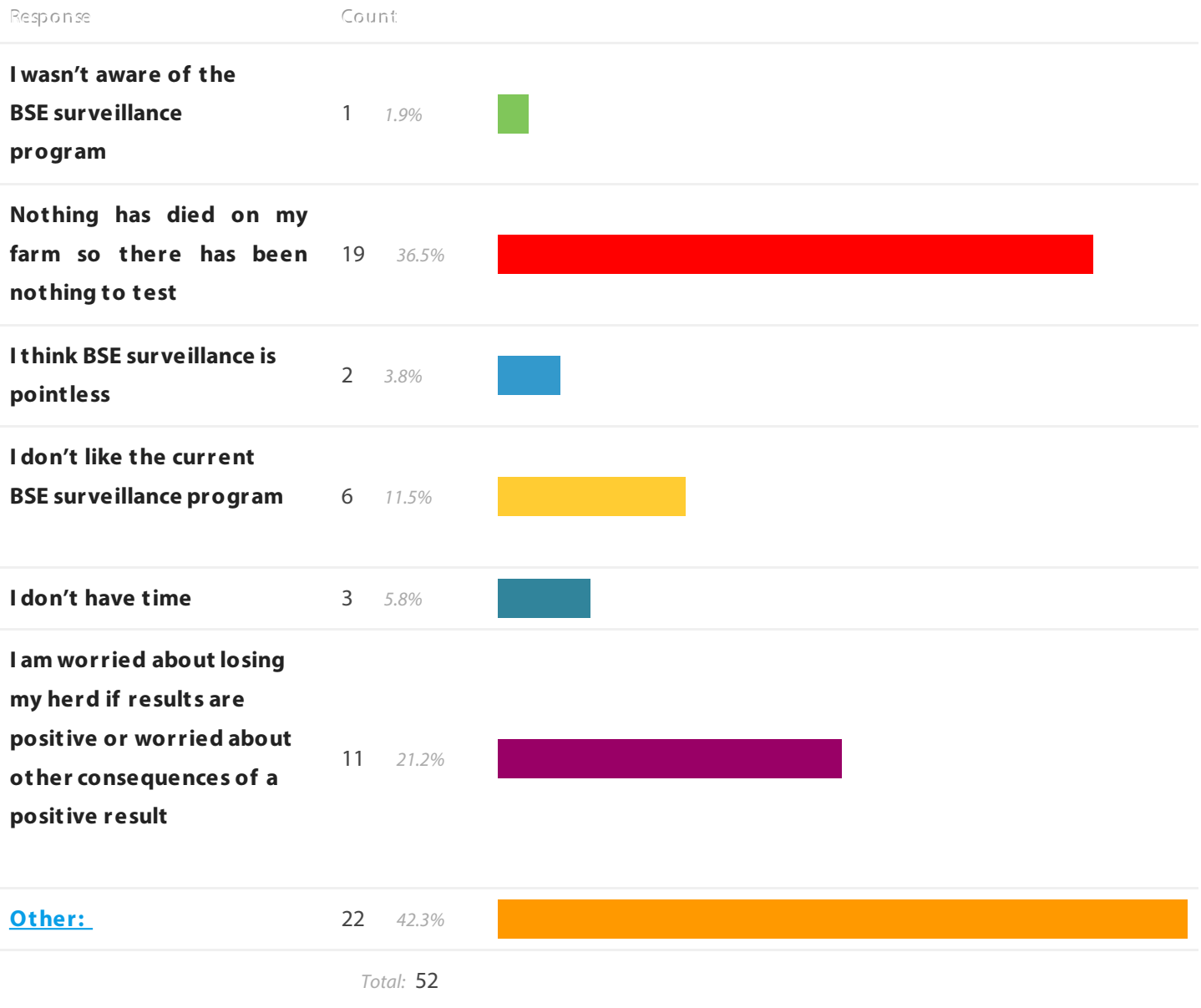
2. On a scale of 1 to 5, how familiar are you with BSE?



3 a. Have you ever had an animal tested for BSE before?



3 b. If "No," why not?



Not familiar with the program and what age of animal to be tested

Any animals that have died have not had symptoms of BSE

hard to get to the animals that would fit the requirement

Seemed difficult

No cattle

I think BSE should not be such a big issue, we are more likely to die from food poisoning

I understand that in most cases; CFIA inspector does not show up as they are short of staff in PA since they laid off 2 out of 4 of their inspectors

For an animal that has died I just haven't thought about the program, most other animals get culled before they die.

I had a cow die and the vet refused to do the BSE test. He charged me for the necropsy and never came up with a reason for her death, but said It wasn't BSE

So small a number of livestock, personal consuming only.

I'm not a farmer, just a consumer

I don't fully understand the implications of not meeting the testing requirements as a country. these details need to be made more clear in order for me consider it as part of my management

Hassle getting vet in to kill and test

Animals are too young to be likely

not sure if it's compulsory. and if it's not, have never overly thought that much about it. Not that I am for or against

I worked at a vet did 200 plus tests **seen rancher kill them selves over the loss of value of cattle due to bse.**

I had sold my cattle before the BSE outbreak.

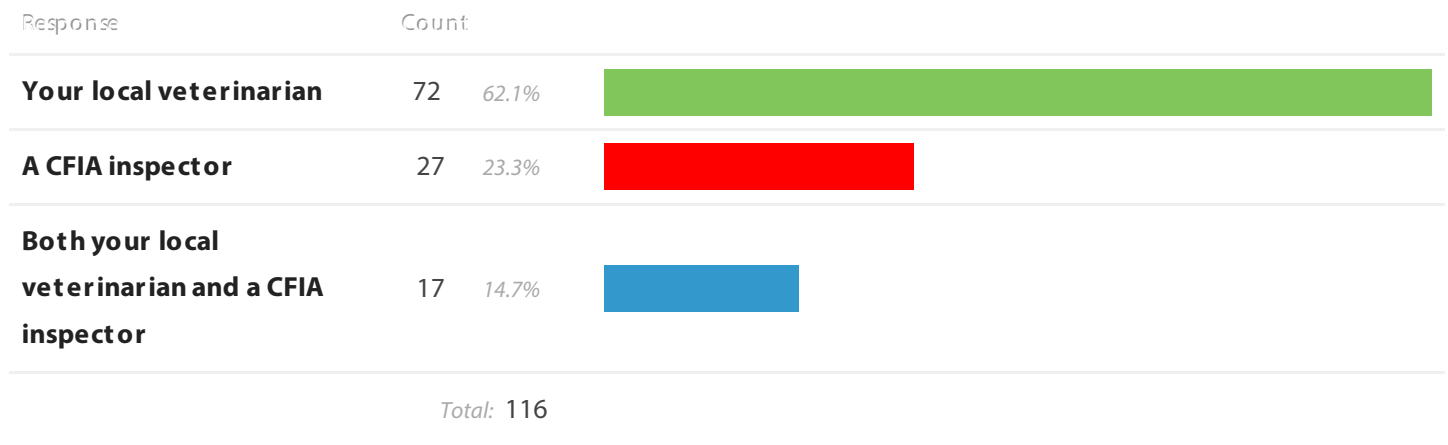
Not a farmer

Don't have cattle

Don't have cattle

the compensation for the SASK vets and owner's is way below the compensation for Alberta Vets. We live very close to the Alberta Border and vets do not want to come all the way out to the ranch for so little.

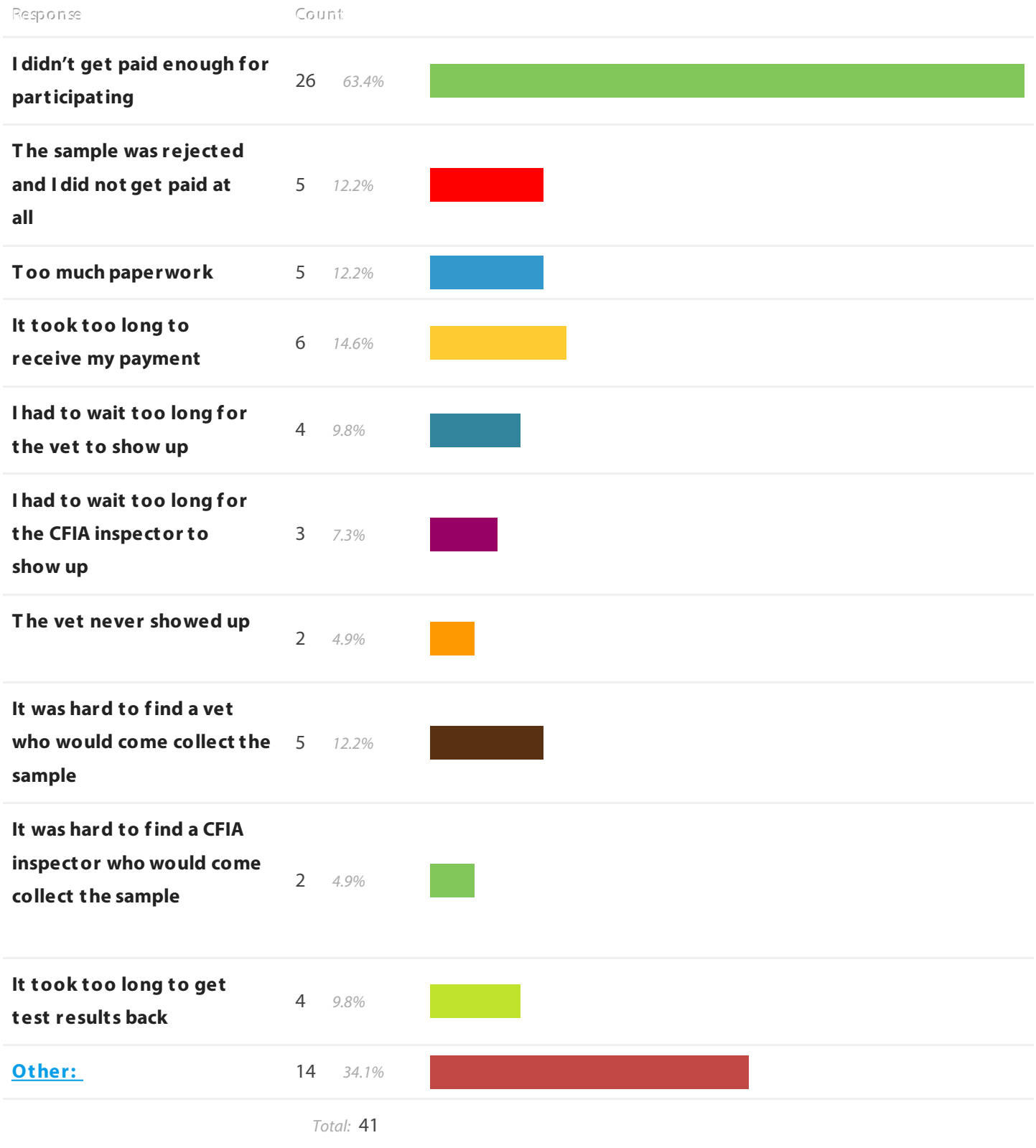
4. In the past, who collected samples for BSE testing on your farm?



5 a. When samples were collected on your farm, were you satisfied with the process?



5 b. If "No," why not?



The small amount paid is not worth the hassle of setting up a time for CFIA inspector to come out and be sure I am around the yard

We have not had any samples done

Had to give my banking information to get paid

did not get paid at all nor did I get a report. It was like they lost it

did not get paid nor did I get the test results

Too cool

Long weekend in summer nobody available so lost the samples

See above

We will never do a test on our cattle I will not be responsible for the destrustion of cattle industry.

We should be paid more for testing the animals. \$75 is too low.

The timing is so quick that it's tough to find them in the summer to get them done while they're still viable.

Never had one tested


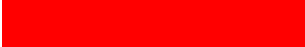







Direct payment is hard for me to control. I would like a check

not worth doing .vet gets well paid-farmer very little

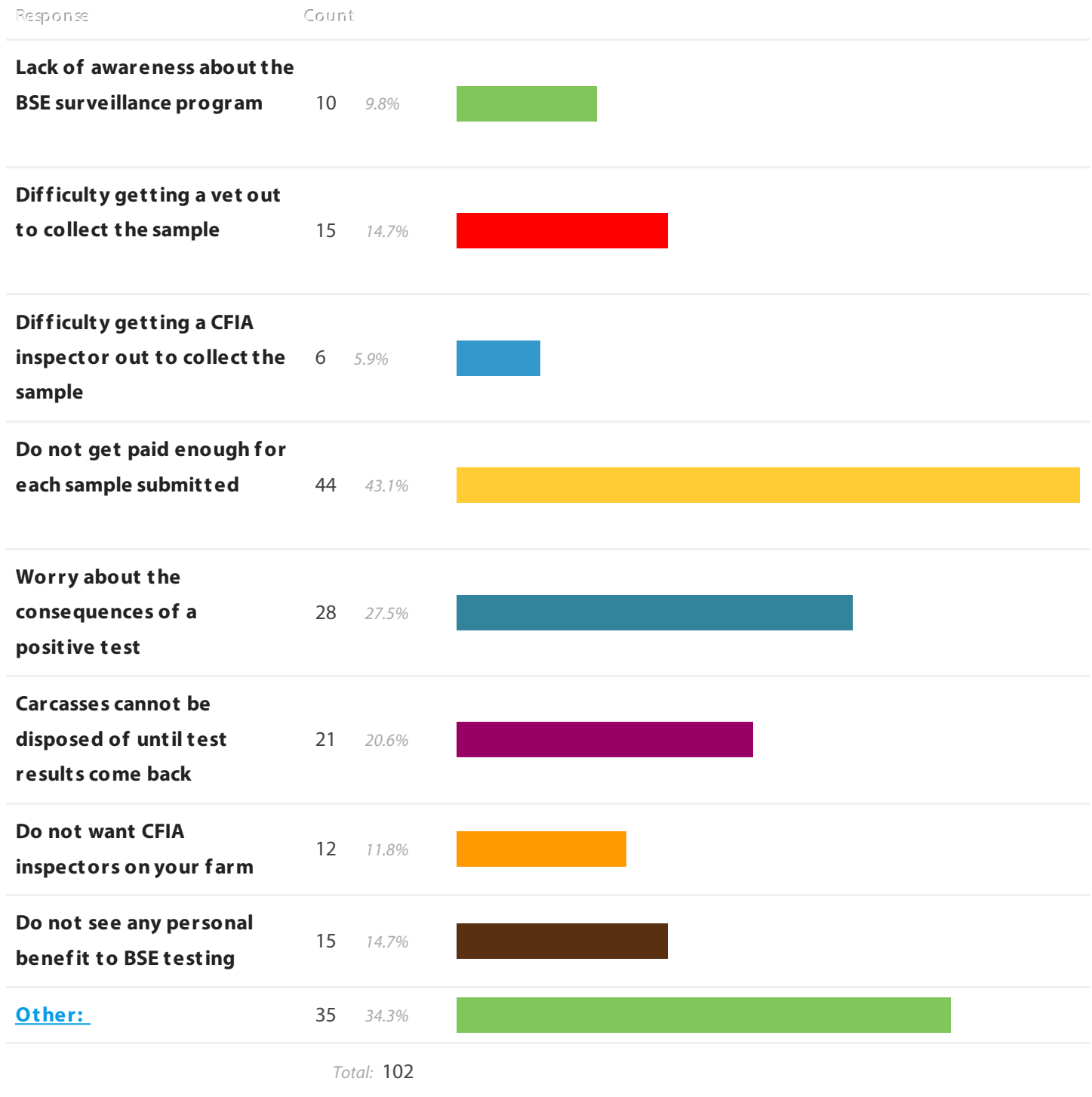
5 c. Have you stopped submitting samples for BSE testing because of these problems with the submission process?

| Response | Count | |
|-------------------|----------|--|
| Yes | 28 25.7% |  |
| No | 81 74.3% |  |
| <i>Total: 109</i> | | |

6. What do you believe is/are the major reason(s) that cattle producers do not submit samples for BSE testing?

| Response | Count | |
|--|-----------|---|
| Lack of awareness about the BSE surveillance program | 51 | 35.2%  |
| Difficulty getting a vet out to collect the sample | 32 | 22.1%  |
| Difficulty getting a CFIA inspector out to collect the sample | 21 | 14.5%  |
| Do not get paid enough for each sample submitted | 86 | 59.3%  |
| Worry about the consequences of a positive test | 86 | 59.3%  |
| Carcasses cannot be disposed of until test results come back | 40 | 27.6%  |
| Do not want CFIA inspectors on their farm | 33 | 22.8%  |
| Do not see any personal benefit to BSE testing | 48 | 33.1%  |
| <u>Other:</u> | 19 | 13.1%  |
| Total: 145 | | |

7. What is/are the major reason(s) for you personally not submitting samples for BSE testing?



heard that cfia was sampling dead stock at the local renderer and paying the renderer for the samples obtained from other people's cattle when they had personally chosen not to call cfia themselves. not appropriate.

Once there is a positive test the media attention and it looks like our beef product isn't safe.

Not difficulty getting someone out just the hassle of setting up a time

I know there is a program but not sure of the specifics.

Few ever die and you forget about the program. Try to bury the animal as soon as possible.

Cows butchered so no one there to take the sample

There is not enough incentive for me to have an argument/discussion with my husband to get the test done. Also to do the test would involve having someone come out likely on an evening or weekend as we work as well as farm so we don't see our animals during the work week.

Not want certain Inspectors on farm

vet is only at the farm a few times a year and mileage is too much for only one sample

getting to the animals

There is not enough emphasis put on the importance of BSE testing. Our industry needs to test a much higher percent of animals. I think the best way to achieve a higher percent is to test more of the D3 cull market.

Vet doesn't get paid enough

If it is possible to get the vet before brain stem deteriorates I do.

If you don't think about right away in the summer when the cow dies it can be too late to have it done. Too busy its too late

Young herd with no suspect animals

No longer own cattle

Haven't really thought about the program since the crisis past.

BSE is not contagious .Small numbers of BSE cases occur naturally.

Takes too long; we are too busy

vets get paid more than the producer does, **have heard how CFIA treats producers!!!**

Never had dead animal

Vet refused

Nothing enters the public food system.

see above answer

Animals are young

Animals are young

We will not be responsible for destruction of cattle industry

My vet does not like doing this.

Not worth the hassle,needs to be more compensation for samples

Forget sometimes

I operate a small closed herd of cattle that are culled heavy and are Aled only cows over 12 years old don't exist on the farm, no need for that old genetics

Did not have an older animal die on the farm recently.

We do submit

havent had any to do

I do submit samples

8. In your opinion, how important is it that we meet the BSE surveillance targets for Saskatchewan?

| Variable | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | |
|--|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Important to Cattle Industry | 6 4.1% | 1 0.7% | 12 8.2% | 31 21.2% | 96 65.8% | Total: 146 |
| Important to Individual Producers | 9 6.2% | 11 7.5% | 27 18.5% | 28 19.2% | 71 48.6% | Total: 146 |
| Important to Public Health | 36 25.0% | 15 10.4% | 22 15.3% | 18 12.5% | 53 36.8% | Total: 144 |

9. If you selected "not important" to any item in question 8, please explain your reasoning.

| Response | Count |
|----------|--------------|
| | 36 responses |

Risk of BSE is so minimal the importance to public health is low

We do not consume the brain in Canada and there is so few cases to make a fuss. Consumers only think it is worth worrying about when the new media creates awareness by using the title "mad cow".

More politics than any proven direct link to JCdisease in my opinion. Tens of thousands of BSE diagnosis in

some countries, I believe we have had less than 20 over the past 13 years despite national producer awareness. I believe our meat inspection and human food safety nets are second to none when protecting our consumers here in Canada

There is no measureable health risk health risk to sask people from BSE

I donot know of any health risk to people from bse over blown issue.

the health risk is negligable its about trade publicity

BSE does not cause illness in HUMANS so why is it important to Public Health??

Public health isn't the concern, publics view/opinion is the concern

Not a health risk in general as opposed to cancer risk

No health riskmoney

Given the very low number of infected animals and the other protocols in place it is highly unlikely that meat from an infected animal would make it into the food chain.

Bse does not cause a human health problem

See answers in #7

I do not believe BSE poses a significant health risk to the population

Relative risk to public is very low, Money would be better spent on other areas of concern.

BSE shouldn't be such a big issue more people die of food poisoning, any animals tested should not be in the food chain anyway.I don't believe anyone actually knows what causes it for sure, look at our last case, probably caused by feed !!!

I don't feel we have a BSE problem in Canada. I feel it is under control

This is a trade issue not a public health issue

how can we even answer the above rating if the specific details regarding implications of not meeting the testing guidelines are not made known to producers?

The deads that occur on the farm/ranch never enter the good chain. And if disposed of properly are no threat to anything else

Not a priority

Canada ano ounces bse. Usa has more postive then we do yet **they are not blaber mouths** and tell the world. Canada has affected its trade. And cool is still wanting it closed

BSE controls in the feed and food system make this not a public health issue.

No risk for the public ,bigger risk of being struck by lightening

The chances of anything entering the food chain are very slim

USA does not go this far. We wiped out a generation of cattle farmers in 2002 over something that we do not know enough about.

I don't believe BSE is a great concern to the consumer, or a risk to the consumer.

To industry as a whole it may be important to an individual producer I don't see the importance.And i see no importance at all to public health as animal will not enter food chain anyways.

The health risks are so minimal that I am not concerned. If we had many positive cases it would be a different story

BSE is not a significant issue,it is so rare, my understanding is less than a dozen Canadian expected.

Pay \$500 for each cow sampled

How is this a public health issue ?

BSE is not a risk to North American consumers. If you graph the frequency of BSE and the number of people infected with the human form of BSE the lines diverge - this proves there is no cause and effect. Also, in North America we do not eat spinal tissue or brains, so risk is minimal even if there is a connection.

If a BSE case is found on farm,export borders are closed and the media blows every case out of proportion makes the case bad for Canada and farmers

Bse is not a threat to public health.

BSE was blown out of proportion in North America , there has been very few human cases and the link between the human cases and bse seems to be questionable

10. In your opinion, what would encourage cattle producers in Saskatchewan to submit samples for BSE testing?

Response

Count

116 responses

start paying more sask \$ 75 alberta \$250

increase the dollar amount and send out respectful, non - arrogant, reasonable, personable inspectors out.current inspectors can be insulting and condescending

Awareness

Needs to cover the vet costs.

A monetary payment worth their time and effort and a "what to do with the carcass" till results come back. Not sure how you value the time and effort but \$75 is a joke! If it was a amount that made it worth while you would have much less trouble meeting your targets. That might have to be several hundred dollars.

Make the process easier and offer incentives

Take samples at packing plant

more information about the testing

Higher compensation for submission

Payment

Getting compensated for the hassle.

Create a magnet which is distributed to producers which outlines how to arrange for testing to be done and which animals to test so that the information is readily available and easy to find when the need arises. Have an incentive that when you book an appointment to test an animal the person making the call gets a \$25 gift card for making the call. Then have a payment for successfully testing the animal. Have a cattle rep call each and every cattle producer in their territory to explain the program and ask if they have any questions about it - great job for a summer student. Have a facebook post with a 3 minute video on what/where/why/how of BSE testing and why it's good for cattle producers and have an incentive for people to like and share it - eg. a randomly selected person each week who has done so gets a prize. Have a 4H program which emphasizes BSE testing and have participants create a short video on why BSE testing is good for Canadian producers. Use the winners productions as advertising for the program. Overall my impression of BSE testing in Canada is that producers don't know how to get it done, can't be bothered, and don't understand what happens if their animal is positive so they are leery of letting someone from the gov't onto their place. Also, my experience is that men aren't going to go through the effort unless their wives tell them to do so. As a result you need to engage women to want to go through the hassle with their spouse of getting the job done. Inform women, empower women to get the ball rolling, give women an incentive which means something to them. Engaging children through 4H also makes it more likely that the testing will be done as if the kids think it should be done the parents are more likely to follow through on it.

More awareness, and personal benefit

get a payment plan in place that will make it at least worth \$400 so people will take the time and effort. Current payment gives no incentive. If it requires a further checkoff then it should be collected and producers will have a goal to get their money back by submitting heads.

Better knowledge and better communications.

need more awerness of prgram

need more awerness of program

offer more compensation

Quicker disposal and more money. Cow man is getting spoiled with high price for there cows. They think \$75 is not worth the hassle. When cull cow prices go back down to \$500 per head then \$75 is attractive.

Pay producers more for samples to make us think you are interested in exporting the product we produce. Assist veterinarians with mileage cost so that they can pickup samples if they are close. Accept and pay for samples from cows slaughtered for on farm use.

Up the producer compensation to Alberta levels or more. It takes significant time energy cost and loss of otherwise valuable productive hours on the farm to participate in the field program

Allow them to assign cull animals to the test program when delivered to auction

Allow producers to assign cows to be tested from the cull cow auction market

Pay comparable cull cow price for sample

cull cattle are worth more now and cheques aren't sent out (only direct deposit) so it is not convenient for producers

More money.

\$75 is an insult why do producers always have to foot the bill for the public

I believe that getting the word out with regards to the numbers required for testing and the importance for the individual as well as the industry

Possibly teaching producers how to remove the brain stem w/o damage and submit it.

I don't believe the price is high enough today to make it worth while, Even \$75 when it started was a joke but everyone did what they could for the program. Today whats \$75 with not only the price of cows but the cost of your time, today my time is worth so much, just can't find good help so one has more important things to do without waiting for a vet for \$75 to protect all of Canada's cattle industry, packers and unions workers etc.

Start paying the cattle producer for their time as well as some salvage fee for the animal being tested as well as continuing paying the veterinary and lab fees.

Higher payout for voluntary samples. Insurance that a positive case would not cause you to lose your herd, reputation, and financial well-being

more education about the program and higher payout for having a test done.

Maybe higher payments

Easier process

Education and awareness

Money

need to pay more for samples

more money

More information on the testing. The producer gets results back on his own animals but information on aggregate results is not readily available. With the current high prices producers don't see an economic impact of not testing.

Better incentives. \$75 is hardly worth the effort of calling a vet to come out.

Pay more

Use provincial plants and health inspected plants

a bigger compensation-a fast & discreet sample processing-more knowledge of the process & why it is important

a faster & discreet sampling & testing process-a speedy reply for nonpositive results-more knowledge of the process and importance to industry

increase the money paid to the cattle producer for cooperating with the program

Make the process easier.

Not sure.

More info. The last cow we had tested, we weren't sure how to go about. Call vet and they gave us number.

getting paid a reasonable amount for their time and effort to test their animals, **and not being treated like a criminal by the CFIA**

If testing could be done at provincial and federal slaughter plants

A personal connection...free sampling.....

Greater awareness that this is important to our industry.

Higher payment per animal tested

Payment and ease of process

Knowledge of the disease.

Greater compensation

Money

Increase the payment to

If producers received more money or some incentive for submitting samples you would get more samples! If it was not so difficult to meet the criteria to submit a sample you would get more submissions! Go back to the 4 D's and more producers would submit!

More financial incentive and better assurance/education that they wouldn't risk the industry's position if they had a positive test.

If vets were more accommodating

education

Financial compensation

Speed, accuracy

awareness of program .

Testing should be free, and easily available. And each farm should be tracked results available online

a clearer understanding as to the consequences associated with not meeting the testing levels

I suspect getting paid more per sample would help. Cattle are worth a lot of money right now, if something looks only a little diseased, producers may be more likely to ship it, then to go about putting it down for testing.

I don't know. The worry of repercussions will probably keep inhibiting submissions

Getting paid for their animal.

higher salvage payout

Increased public awareness of disease; help farmer with costs associated with cost & disposal of infected carcass.

More money for samples

Nothing. Done to many for a vet. Seen the wrong people get money.

A little more compensation for both the producer and the vet. And more acceptance of samples so vets and producers are not getting crushed by CFIA when they make the effort.

\$

They need to be paid more for the animal, then they would get it tested.

Needs to be done at processing plants where you have to numbers to do fair testing

More education about the disease

paid more

The producer payment is not worth the effort a larger payment is needed. It is also difficult to access someone to get the brain perhaps there should be more people trained in harvesting brains and a larger payment for this process as well. The vets in our area are run ragged servicing "live" animal calls. No CFIA inspector available in close proximity.

Yes

Fear of losing a market

Awareness of BSE ,how it affects future of beef industry.

More money might do it. But I doubt it.

more money, accurate knowledge of what will happen if there is a positive test

Training to do it ourselves. More people to take samples

More monetary compensation.

Dollars for their labour

Higher level of compensation

Less time for test results

test any older animal no matter their conditions

More compensation, awareness and an easier collection process.

More money clear convenient guide lines for the pick up and disposal

Increase in compensation

More awareness through farm shows and ag programs on TV.

Higher compensation.

Education. Personal benefit or reward.

Pay \$500 for. Each cow sampled

If caught destroying animals without notification should get jail time

Easier to get a vet out to ranch. More education to the producers on what would happen if the animal did test positive. **More respect shown to the producer.**

More money

Increase allowance to at least keep up with cost of living increases. It is hard to accept that anyone takes this seriously when the actual value of the payment goes down every year. I question if all vets are on side either. Auto deposit is more trouble than you think

Continued promotion & emphasis on the importance for testing for the industry in its relationship with consumers and the international community, and an awareness of the negative consequences of not having a traceable testing program in place. Promotion and support for the testing program should be federal, provincial & industry based.

Financial incentive maybe

More education, and EASE of getting tests done. We had a mystery loss - found a dead cow, no CFIA vet could come out. We called and asked for a vet to come out to test two crippled/injured cows we were euthanizing. It took over a week and he came from Prince Albert to to do so. We missed testing the mystery death - coyotes got her before he could come out. The other two were tested, but we had to feed them \$250 a ton hay to keep them alive long enough for him to come out. One died a day or so before he came - she NEVER should have had to suffer like that, we should have been able to put her down as soon as she was injured, however we nursed her along to try to keep her alive so she could be tested.

Make it worth their time.

to pay more and that the vets dont see it as a huge ordeal to come get a sample

money and awareness

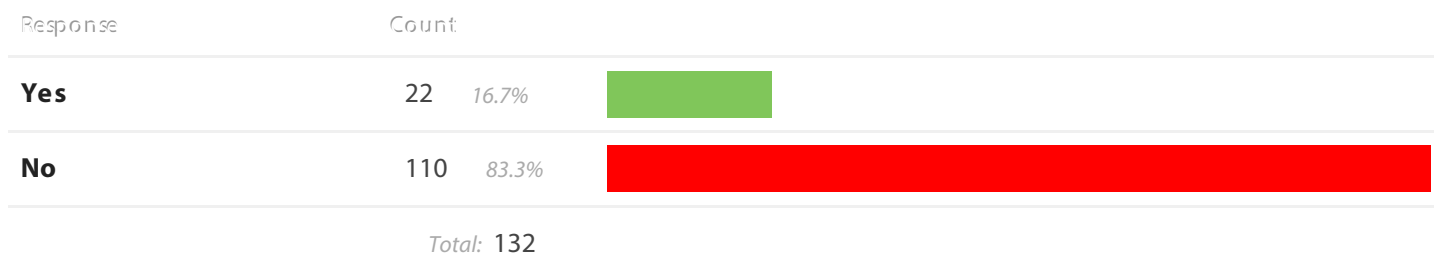
Pay slaughter price for animals tested.

A reasonable fee for testing as it isn,t worth the hassle for the current fee and the fear of a positive case seems to always effect our market but has no effect on human health

More \$ would help. Clearer picture of what happens if you did have a positive test

Higher payments

11. Were you aware that Alberta Agriculture has created a video promoting BSE testing?



12. What types of informational material would you find useful to learn more about BSE surveillance?



See answer to #10

pay more for samples

In more magazines. Like the western producer or cattleman a magazine.

waste of money that could go towards paying for samples

stay connected

I know the procedure and the reasons

none I am update on why CFIA need it done.

A process that is more streamlined

emails through groups like SSGA

Vets should be encouraging producers to get cows tested no matter the age or cause of death.

No need to reinvent the wheel, just use the one from Alberta

Vet visits!

more funding for cfia

clear, specific information from our provincial and national cattle organizations as to the implications of not meeting the testing number

Information inserted in auction mart mail outs talking about euthanasia and BSE testing on cattle unfit for sale.

Ads in cattle magazines and the Western Producer

Inform the public of how little risk there is of becoming sick from beef ,do some positive marketing

I think there is adequate info. available spend the \$ on the collection.

All of the above on the Sask ag website



News articles, active promotion by vets

Refocus on why people aren't cooperating. Create some buzz at coffee row by upping the price. People will start talking about it again.

Promotional reminders in cattle magazines. I think we all know why we need to test. If not, maybe we should not be in the business.

none above

13. Do you feel that some producers believe finding a positive case on their farm might have a negative effect on their operation, and are therefore reluctant to participate in BSE surveillance?

| Response | Count | |
|-------------------|-----------|--|
| Yes | 117 88.6% |  |
| No | 15 11.4% |  |
| <i>Total: 132</i> | | |

14. Please use this space if you would like to comment further about any question on this survey or about BSE surveillance in general.

| Response | Count |
|----------|--------------|
| | 33 responses |

producers were very upset to learn that cfia went behind their backs to sample at the rendering plant.farmers do not like cfia animal health inspectors and they have given all of cfia a bad name because farmers think of them when they think of cfia.

importance of losing trade through countries shutting doors must be emphasized. To many producers sit at coffee shop and brag about how they won't ever let anyone tell them what to do. They need to realize that that bit of pride could cost the industry Billions!

A video link on a website would be good. All information in one place.

why sample cows that are condemned at slaughterer all D3 cows to increase numbers

With less than 20 cases in our many million head national herd it and the triangular area in Alberta seemingly the major point of concern since 2003 , it shouldn't surprise anyone that cattle producers don't and haven't really embraced BSE as a significant health risk but rather as a devastating cattle industry trade issue

our export success would be greatly enhanced by an increase in the numbers of animals tested. Deal with the need to retain the carcass issue and you will get more animals tested. Allow producers to assign animals as a part of their cull program and coordinate this with auction marts.

Over blown issue.

again \$75 is not worth the time and effort if the public wats testing make it worth it

I believe some people feel that testing can be done at slaughtering facilities and their cow would make little difference in the overall numbers

Thank you

2002. The year that bse wiped out a generation of Canadian cattle farmers

I'm a supporter of the program if it keeps the foreign buyers happy.

Getting the vets to encourage their clients I think will be the way to get more tests done.

I believe if monetary compensation was more it might encourage more producers to participate for the hassle of getting in touch with CFIA and not being able to dispose of carcass immediately.

Producers are basically very private about their business. They do not trust anyone or anything that may put their farms and lively hood at risk. The government needs to work really hard to gain the trust of the producers, and be able to communicate and work with them in a respectful way. Most producers have struggled to keep their operations going since BSE. They have eroded their equity and are just starting to be able to rebuild. The government made so many errors in how the BSE incident was initially handled that they nearly crippled the whole beef industry beyond repair. As a generation cattleman I am trying very hard to trust anyone when it comes to our cattle herd.

Think about what will allow this to be talked about. 1) border closure. 2) increased producer payment.

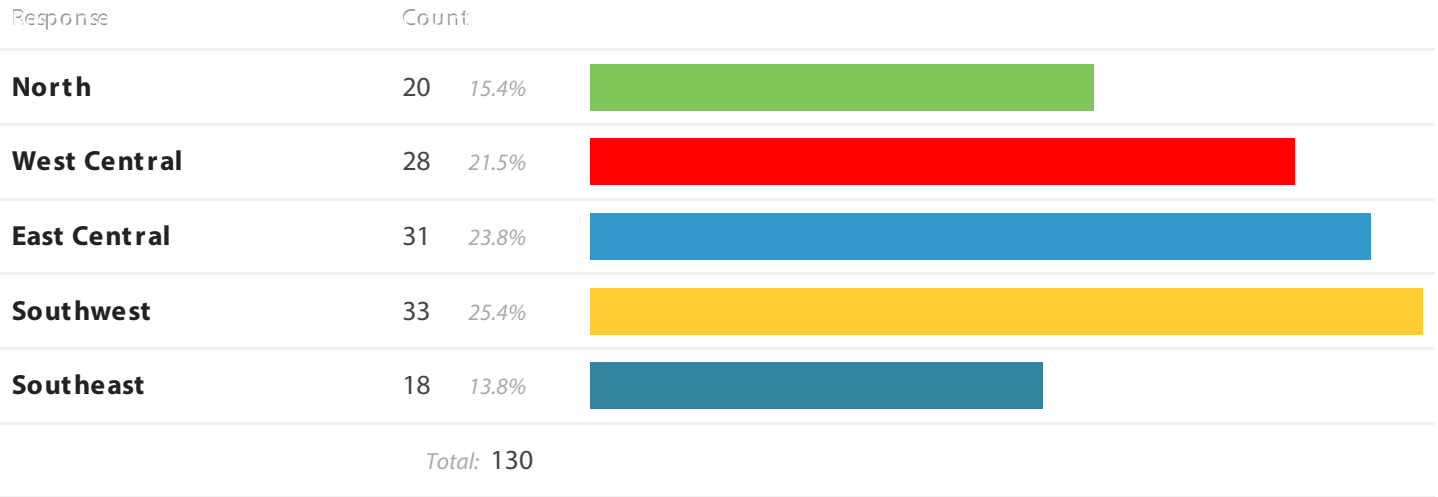
I think that the problem is a lack of awareness for the reason for the surveillance program. Producers need to realize that in the event of a case of BSE the government & the industry need to show diligence in monitoring and data to support the overall herd health in the industry. You cannot support the claim that an incident is isolated & controlled if you cannot support the overall herd health in the industry through data supported by continual monitoring.

I think concern about negative impact on operation is huge deterrent as to why guys don't submit. Do we lose all our cattle? What happens?

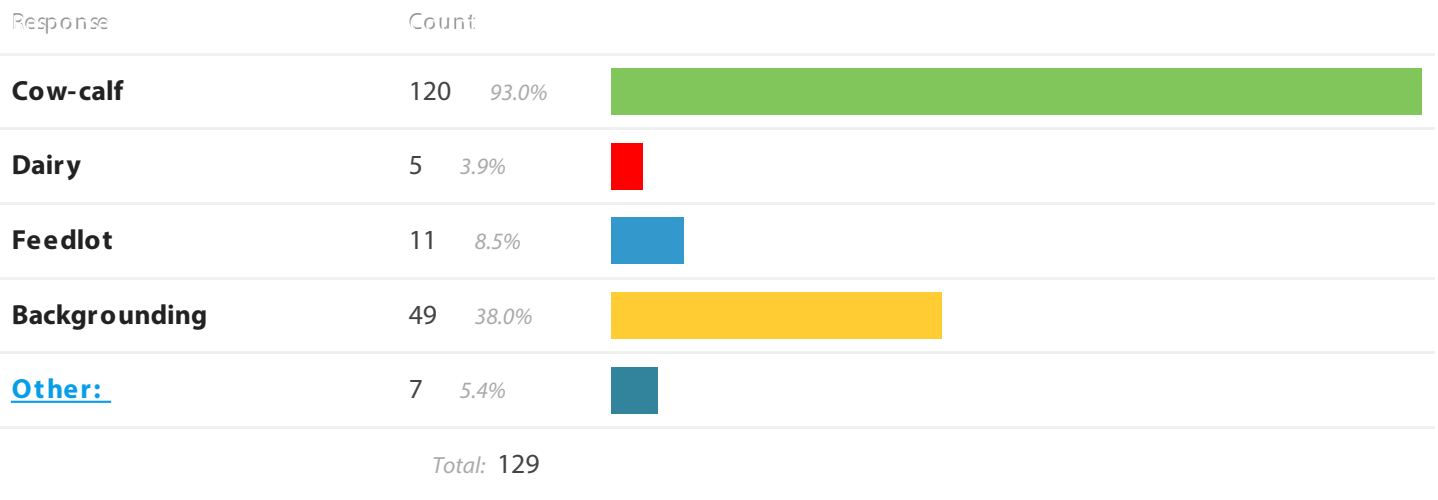
A few producers MIGHT be worried about a positive result. But the bigger issue is people just forget - we had one we could have tested a year ago we just did not think about testing. AND the biggest issue is waiting for testing. Coyotes eat them first, or you have to feed them until the vet comes. Many producers will not invest in keeping them alive until you can come out to test.

Start a check off so you can pay full slaughter value for animals tested, you will get a lot more outfits taking part in the testing.

15. What region is your operation in?



16. My cattle operation is:



grass-fed finishing

Subsistence

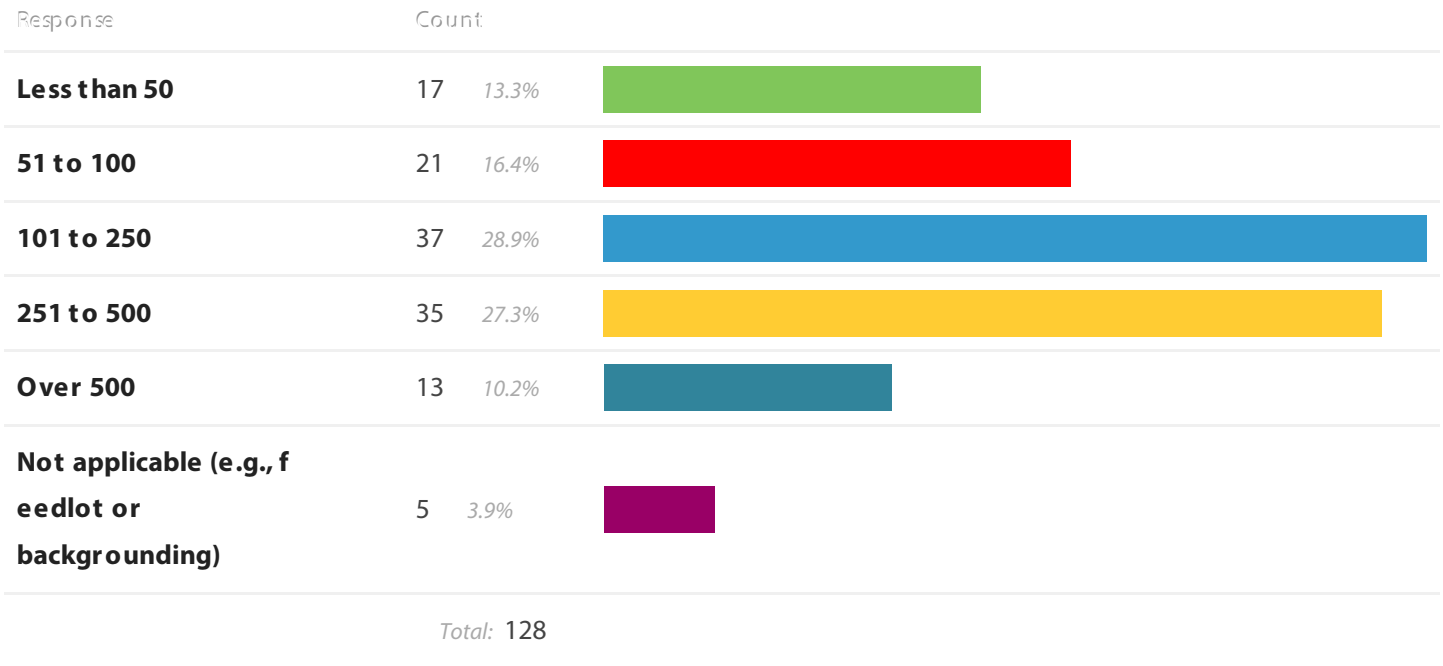
Backgrounding til spring and feeding replacement heifera

Purebred

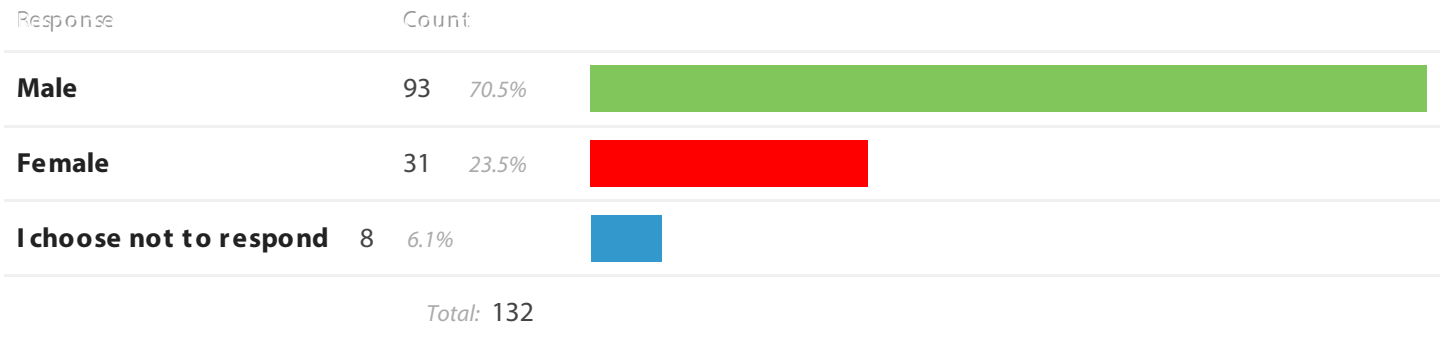
Purebred

Seedstock









17. My herd size is:



18. What is your gender?



19. What is your age?

| Response | Count | |
|--------------------------------|----------|--|
| Under 24 years | 2 1.5% |  |
| 25 to 34 years | 13 9.8% |  |
| 35 to 44 years | 29 21.8% |  |
| 45 to 54 years | 24 18.0% |  |
| 55 to 64 years | 45 33.8% |  |
| 65 to 79 years | 12 9.0% |  |
| 80 years or more | 2 1.5% |  |
| I choose not to respond | 6 4.5% |  |
| <i>Total: 133</i> | | |