THE CLASSYFARM SYSTEM

Animal welfare in swine

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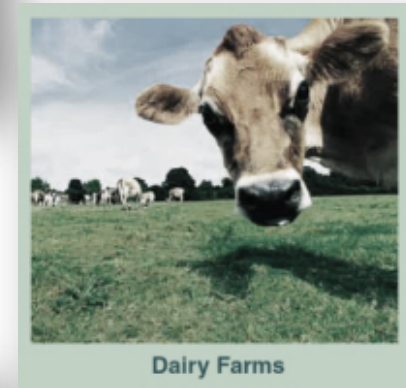
Brescia, 8 October 2019

INTRODUCTION

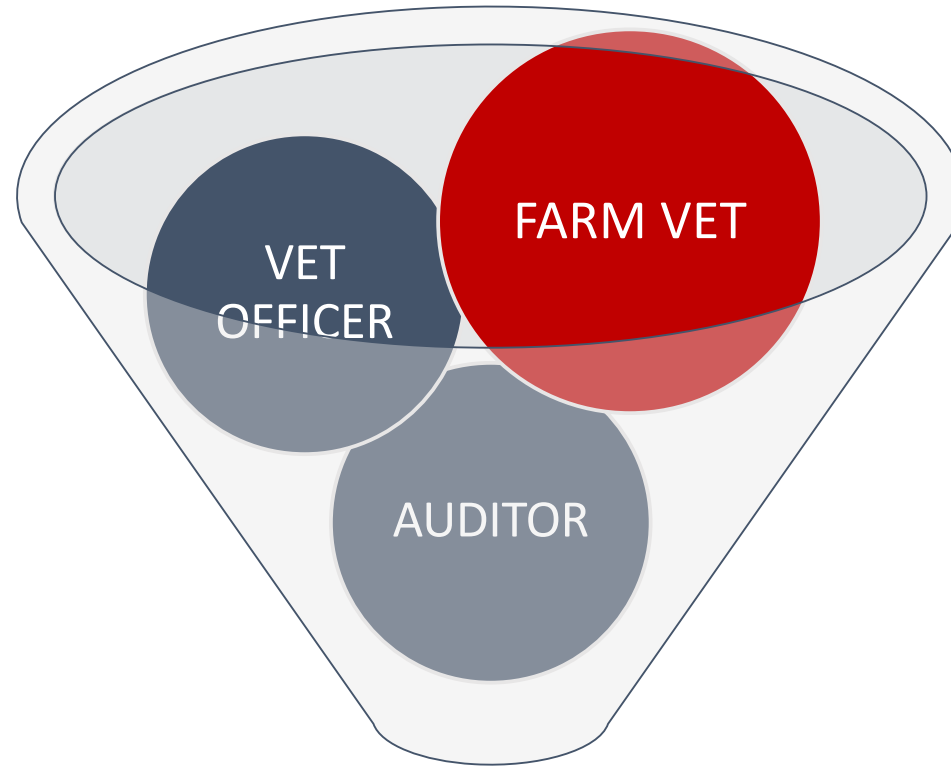## ClassyFarm System

Risk categorization using an **integrated approach** for **veterinary public health**

→ **Biosecurity**

→ **Animal Welfare**

→ **Antimicrobials**

→ **Slaughterhouse**

Pig Farm

Age Groups

Dairy Farms

Poultry Farms

AIMS

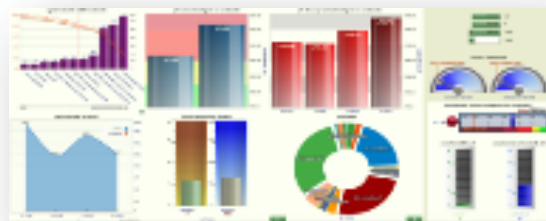**ASSISTING <u>EPIDEMIOLOGICAL</u> <u>SURVEILLANCE</u> WITH A <u>MULTI-SOURCES</u> SYSTEM**

ClassyFarm: animal welfare strategy

Risk categorization using **different sources:**

→ **Farm Vet (self-audit)**

→ **Vet Officer (official-audit)**

INTRODUCTION

Pigs welfare: check-lists and manuals (self-audit)

- Animal welfare in **sows, boars and piglets**

- Animal welfare in **weaners and fatteners**

- Preventing **tail docking** in pig farms: risk assessment from weaning to fattening

INTRODUCTION

Animal welfare in sows, boars and piglets

- 71 criteria:

  - Farm management (n° 24)

  - Structures and equipment (n° 26)

  - Great Risks (n° 6)

  - Animal Based Measures (n° 15)

Animal welfare in weaners and fatteners

- 53 criteria:

  - Farm management (n° 14)

  - Structures and equipment (n° 18)

  - Great Risks (n° 7)

  - Animal Based Measures (n° 14)

INTRODUCTION

Preventing tail docking in pig farms:

- Risk assessment from weaning to fattening

- 21 criteria:

  - Farm management (n° 7)

  - Structures and equipment (n° 8)

  - Animal Based Measures (n° 6)

INTRODUCTION

Pigs welfare: new check-list and manual (official-audit)

42 Criteria:

- Farm management and Structures and equipment (n° 37)

- Animal Based Measures (n° 5)

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INTRODUCTION

Risk levels: interpretation

Criteria assessment

"**INSUFFICIENT**": conditions that could **prevent** one or more animals to meet their biological needs and enjoy one or more of the 5 animal Welfare Freedoms

"**IMPROVABLE**": conditions that, with exceptions, guarantee to all animals their biological needs in an **acceptable** manner, including the 5 Animal Welfare Freedoms (industrial farming scenario)

"**OPTIMAL**": positive conditions that guarantee to all animals their biological needs in an **optimal** manner including the 5 Animal Welfare Freedoms (industrial farming scenario)

MONITORING: self-audit

National Plan for improve animal welfare in pigs

Farm Vet → CLASSYFARM → Vet Officer

Risk assessment for animal welfare: **identification** of *critical points*. **Mandatory** for all pig farms with **weaners and/or finishers**

Plan of **structural** and **management improvements**

→ **Assessment** of **critical points**:
- ✓ **Economic**: Farmer
- ✓ **Management**: Stockman
- ✓ **Technical**: Farm Vet

→ **Priority** and **timetable**

Farmer

Farm Vet   Stockman
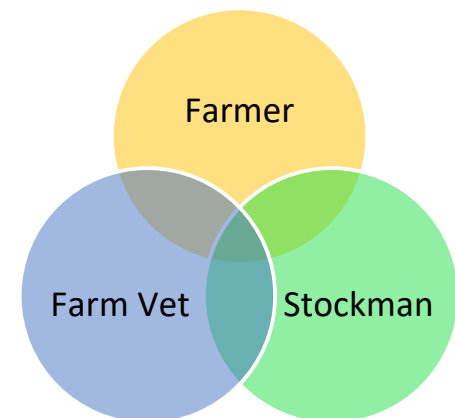
MONITORING: self-audit
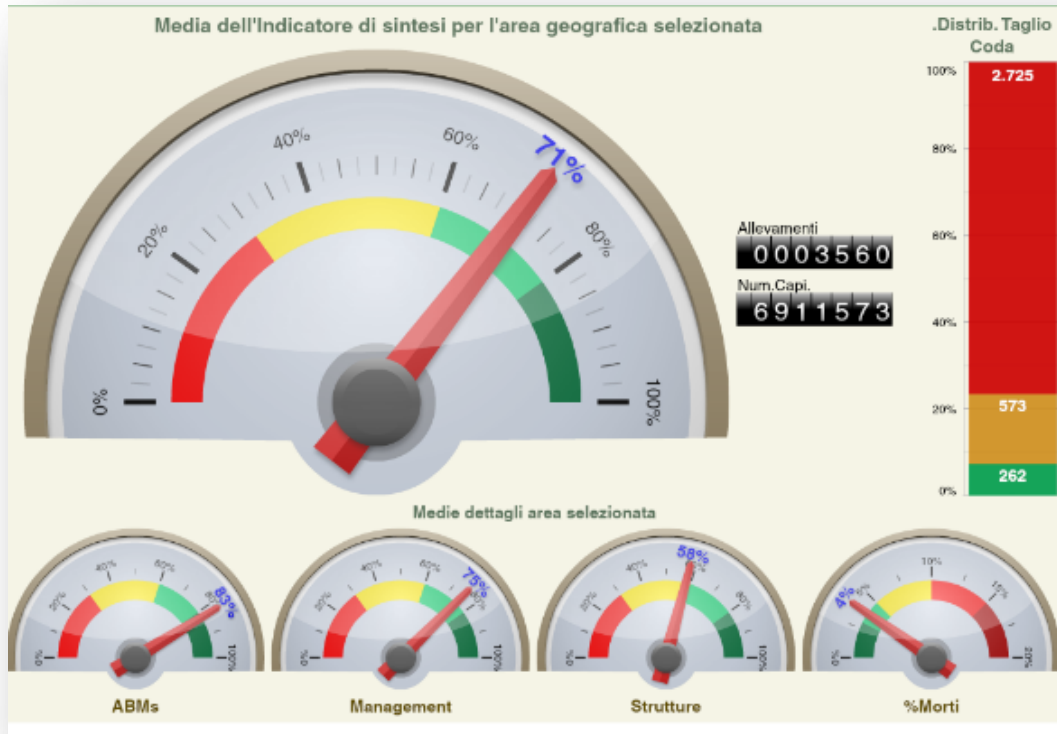
OVERALL DISTRIBUTION

- Farms with all animal with docked tail
- Farms with some group with undocked tail
- Farms with all animal with undocked tail
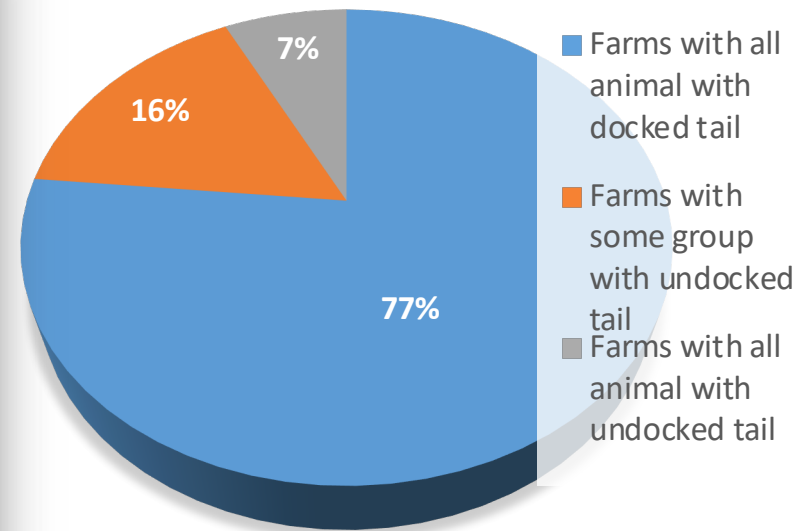
	Farms	Pigs
Fattening sector	3,090	4,998,903
Weaning sector	1,079	1,912,670
TOTAL	3,560	6,911,573

MONITORING: self-audit

Interactive dashboards: example of a vet's farms overview
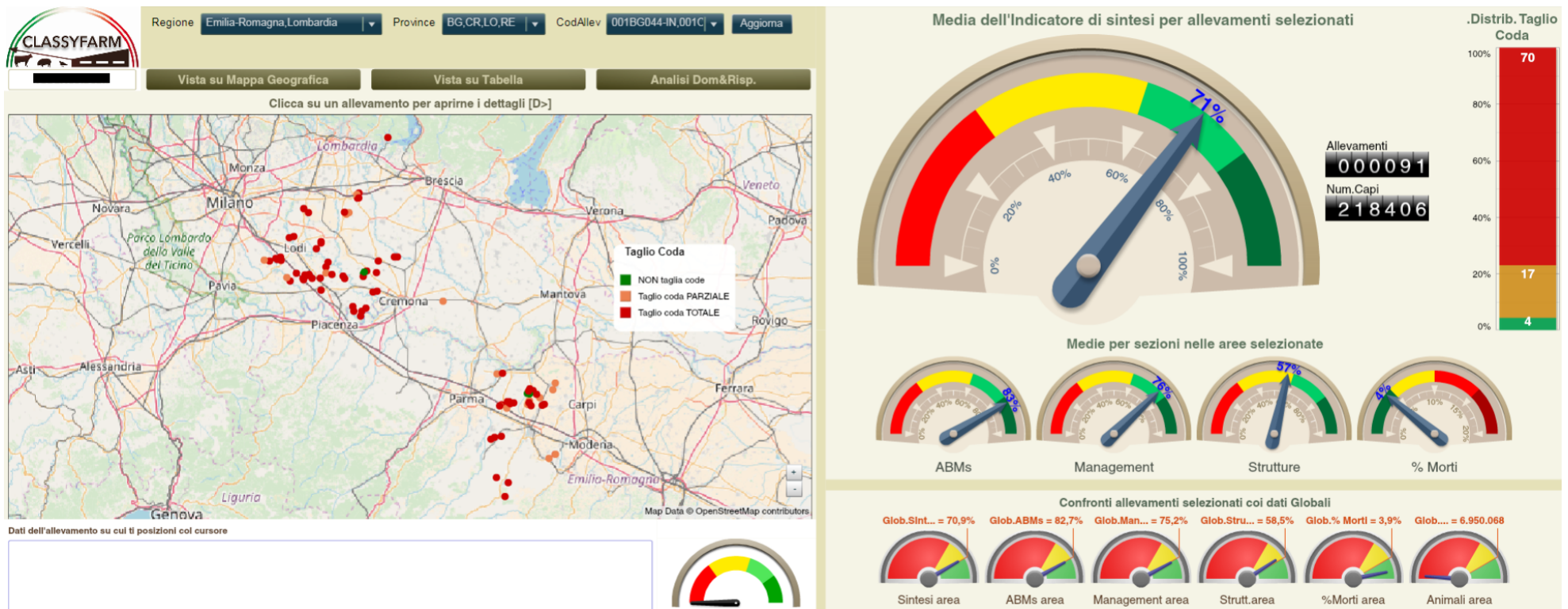
MONITORING: self-audit

Interactive dashboards: example of a vet's assessed farm

CLICK HERE TO
PRINT A REPORT
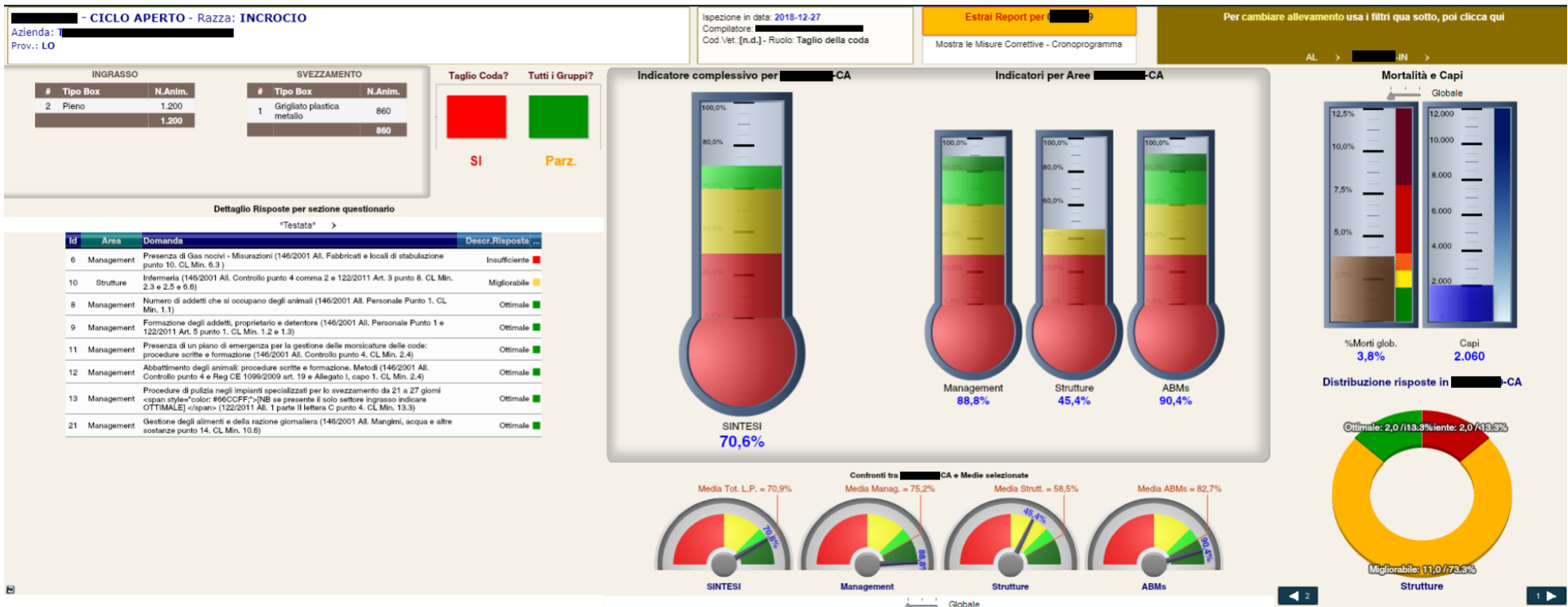
RESULTS

Major issues: frequency

- ➢ **Material** for exploration and manipulation: **type**

- ➢ Enrichment **material**: **quantity** and **usage**

- ➢ Presence of noxious **gas** – **Measurements per year**

- ➢ **Training** and **education** of stockmen

- ➢ **Emergency** action **plan** to manage tail-biting: written procedures and training

- ➢ **Killing methods**: written procedures and education

Enrichment materials

Training

RESULTS

Mild issues: frequency

➢ Structures and equipment - Presence of noxious **gas**

➢ Structures and equipment – **Infirmary**

Minor issues: frequency

➢ **Laying area**

➢ **Manure** on the body

➢ **Space** allowance

➢ **Watering**: access
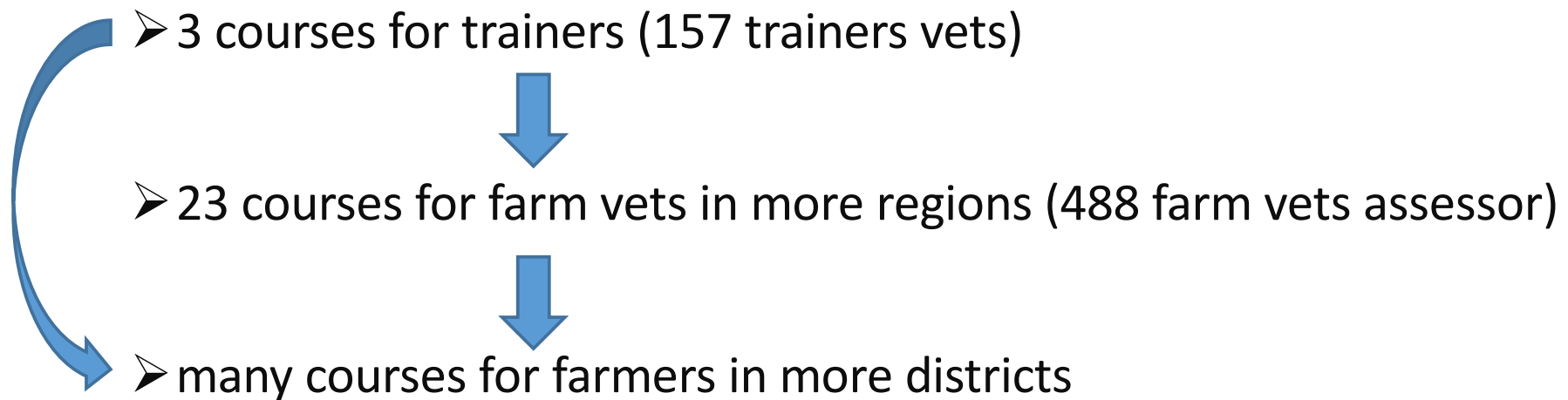
TRAINING

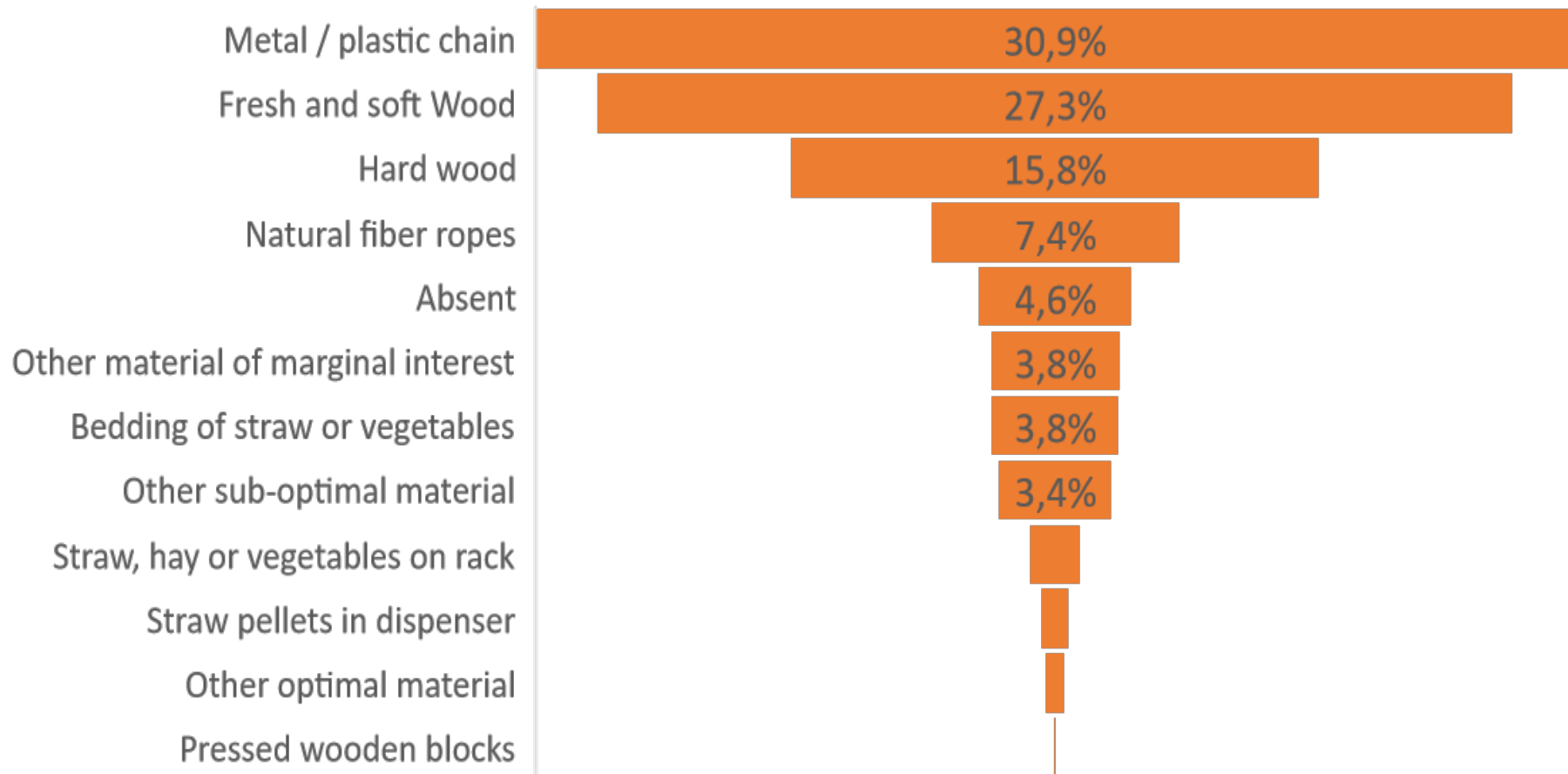## *Cascade training*

Animal welfare in pigs: risk assessment

➢ 3 courses for trainers (157 trainers vets)

➢ 23 courses for farm vets in more regions (488 farm vets assessor)

➢ many courses for farmers in more districts

ENRICHMENT MATERIALS

Enrichment materials: frequency of answers

Material	Frequency
Metal / plastic chain	30,9%
Fresh and soft Wood	27,3%
Hard wood	15,8%
Natural fiber ropes	7,4%
Absent	4,6%
Other material of marginal interest	3,8%
Bedding of straw or vegetables	3,8%
Other sub-optimal material	3,4%
Straw, hay or vegetables on rack	
Straw pellets in dispenser	
Other optimal material	
Pressed wooden blocks	

LINKS

Documents available at http://www.classyfarm.it/

System access via https://www.vetinfo.it/

Acknowledgements

Thank you for your kind attention!