

# Poultry sector's opinion on welfare measures

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Introduction

- Some laying hen management practices have the goal to improve animal welfare
- For feasibility assessment and implementation, it is essential to learn how supply chain actors (farmers, veterinarians, etc) perceive these practices
- **Goal: Obtain supply chain actors views on laying hen welfare management practices**



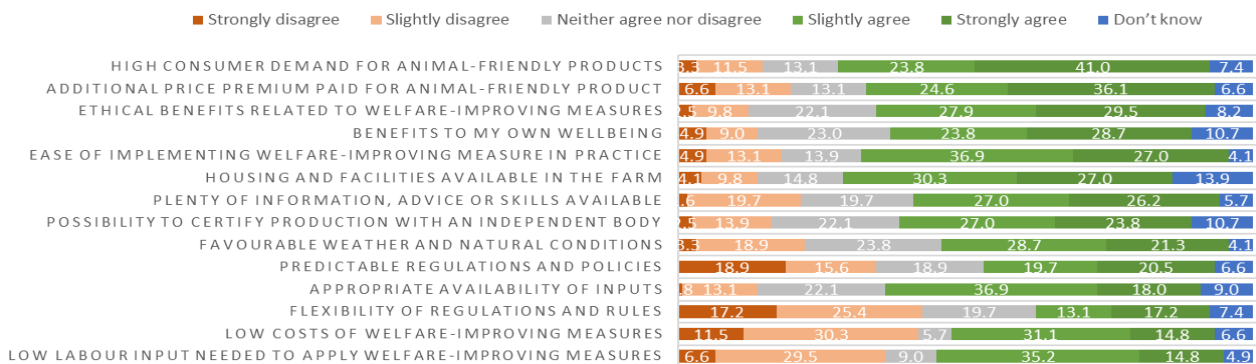
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Methods

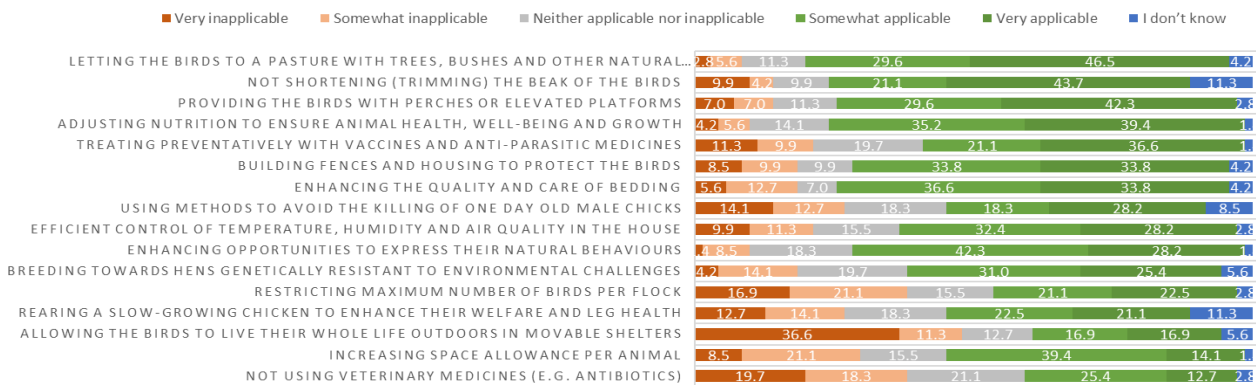
- Survey spread over 9 European countries (BE, DK, FI, FR, GE, IT, NL, RO, UK)
- Data collected in Spring 2021, followed by a descriptive analysis

## Results

### ARE THE FOLLOWING FACTORS AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE LAYING HEN WELFARE?



### HOW APPLICABLE ARE THE FOLLOWING PRACTICES ON YOUR FARM/THE FARM YOU WORK WITH?



Discussion

- **Opportunities** to improve laying hen welfare are the high consumer demand for animal-friendly products and an additional price premium paid for these products.
- **Barriers** are strict and unpredictable regulations and policies, and high costs of welfare-improving measures.
- Most practices mentioned in the survey were perceived **applicable** on-farm, except for allowing the birds to live their whole life outdoors in movable shelters, not using veterinary medicines (e.g. antibiotics), restricting the maximum number of birds per flock, and the use of methods to avoid the killing of one day old male chicks.