



Animal Health and Fertility Program Update - DairyNSW

Kathryn Davis

Program Manager Animal Health & Fertility

18 June 2014

DA Animal Health & Fertility Program

- InCalf (Fertility)
- Countdown 2020 (Milk quality)
- Healthy Calves (husbandry, antibiotic residues, bobby calf management)
- Animal health and welfare issues
- Biosecurity (disease control and risk management)



DA Animal Health & Fertility Team

- Program Manager – Kathryn Davis
- Program Development Manager – Erika Oakes (Healthy Hooves Australia initiative)
- InCalf project leader – Barry Zimmermann
- Countdown 2020 project leader – Mark Humphris
- Healthy Calves project leader – Jamie McNeil

Work areas

Delivery of farmer extension

Development of resource materials

Development of training modules for industry use

Delivery of adviser training

Research management

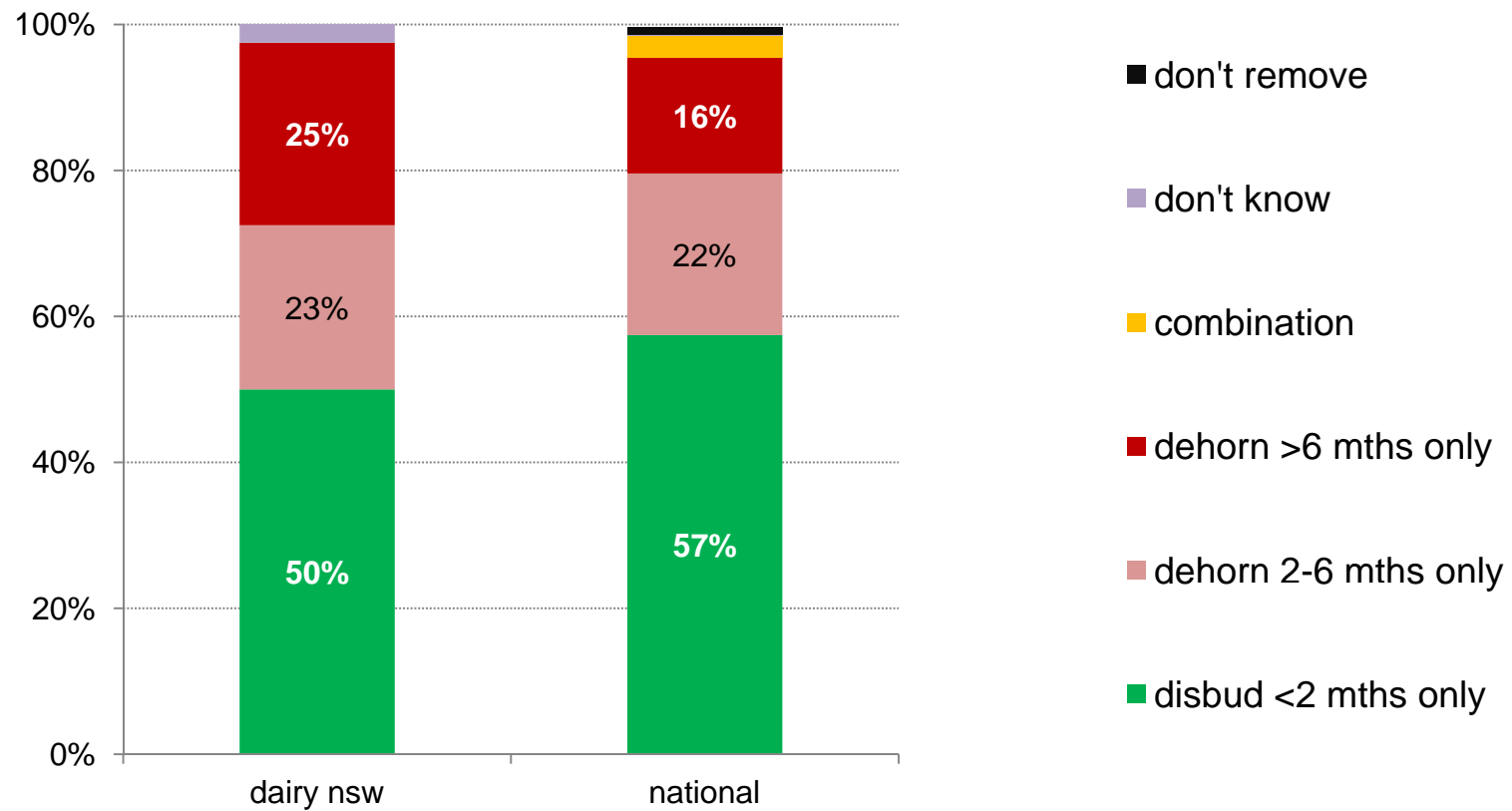
Networking and engagement



DA Animal Husbandry Survey

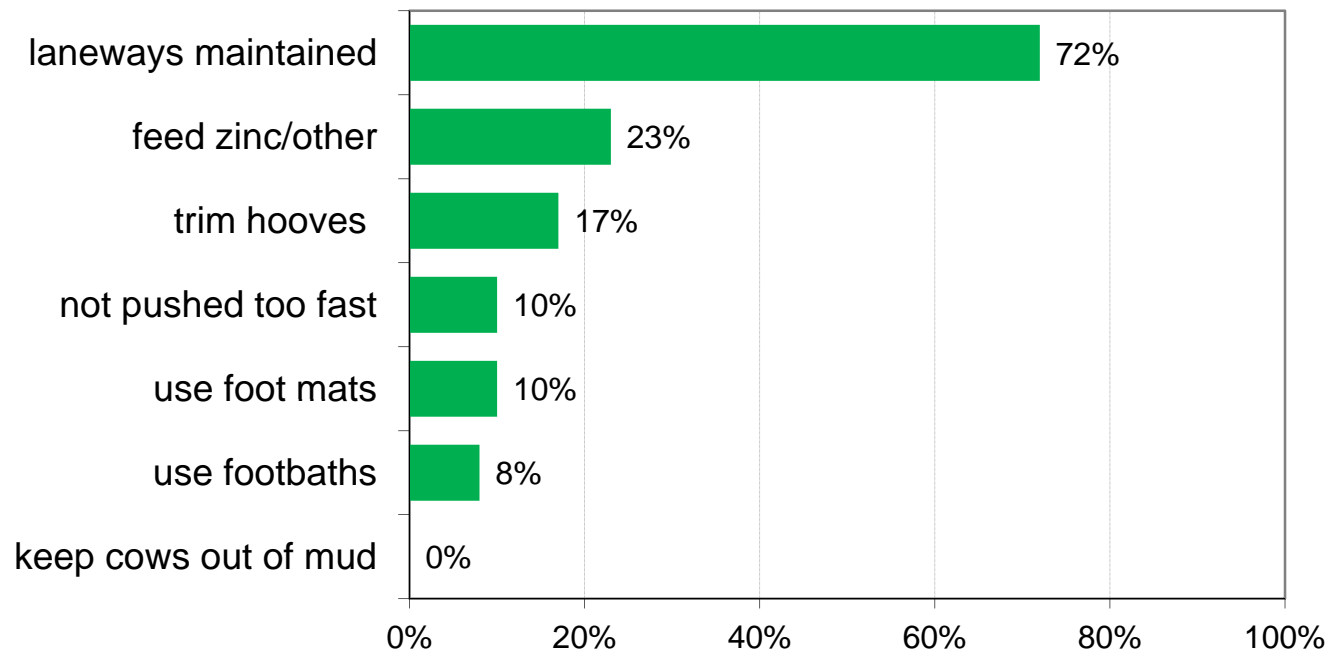
- Benchmarking ADF animal welfare priority areas
- Informing other AH&W program activities
- Tracking on-farm practices since 2005
- Every 2 yrs – last survey October 2012
- 400 farmers interviewed nationally

Dehorning



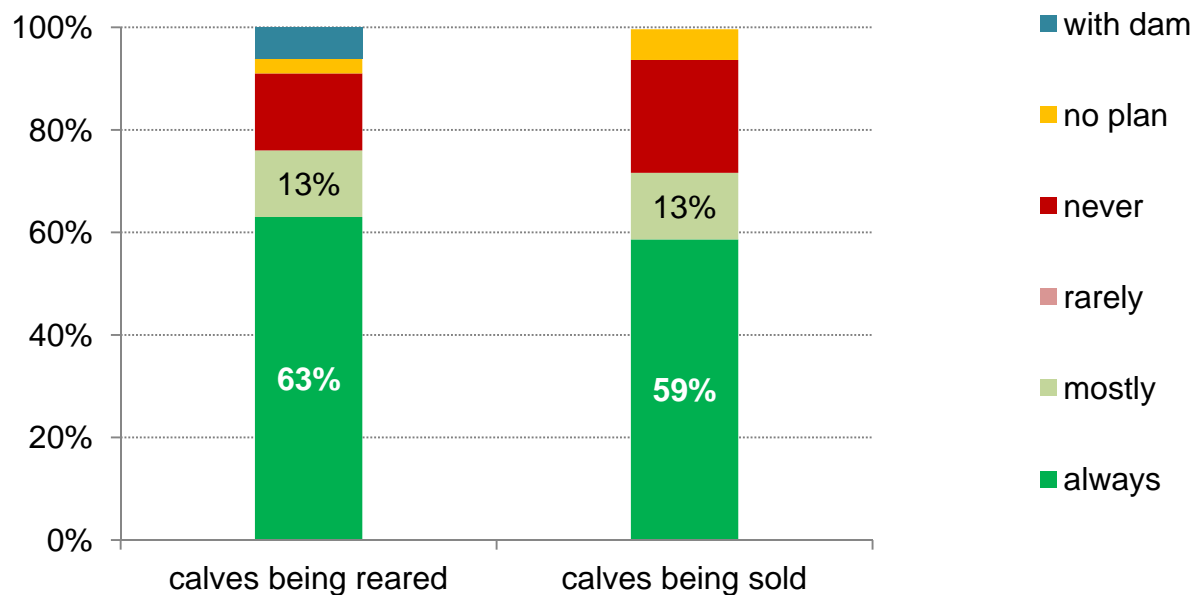
- 25% still dehorn > 6 months
- Only 2 in 10 respondents who undertake dehorning provide pain relief
- 45% interested in using caustic paste (including half of those who dehorn stock older than 2 months)
- 43% interested in using semen from naturally polled sires, including 32% of those who dehorn

Lameness prevention strategies



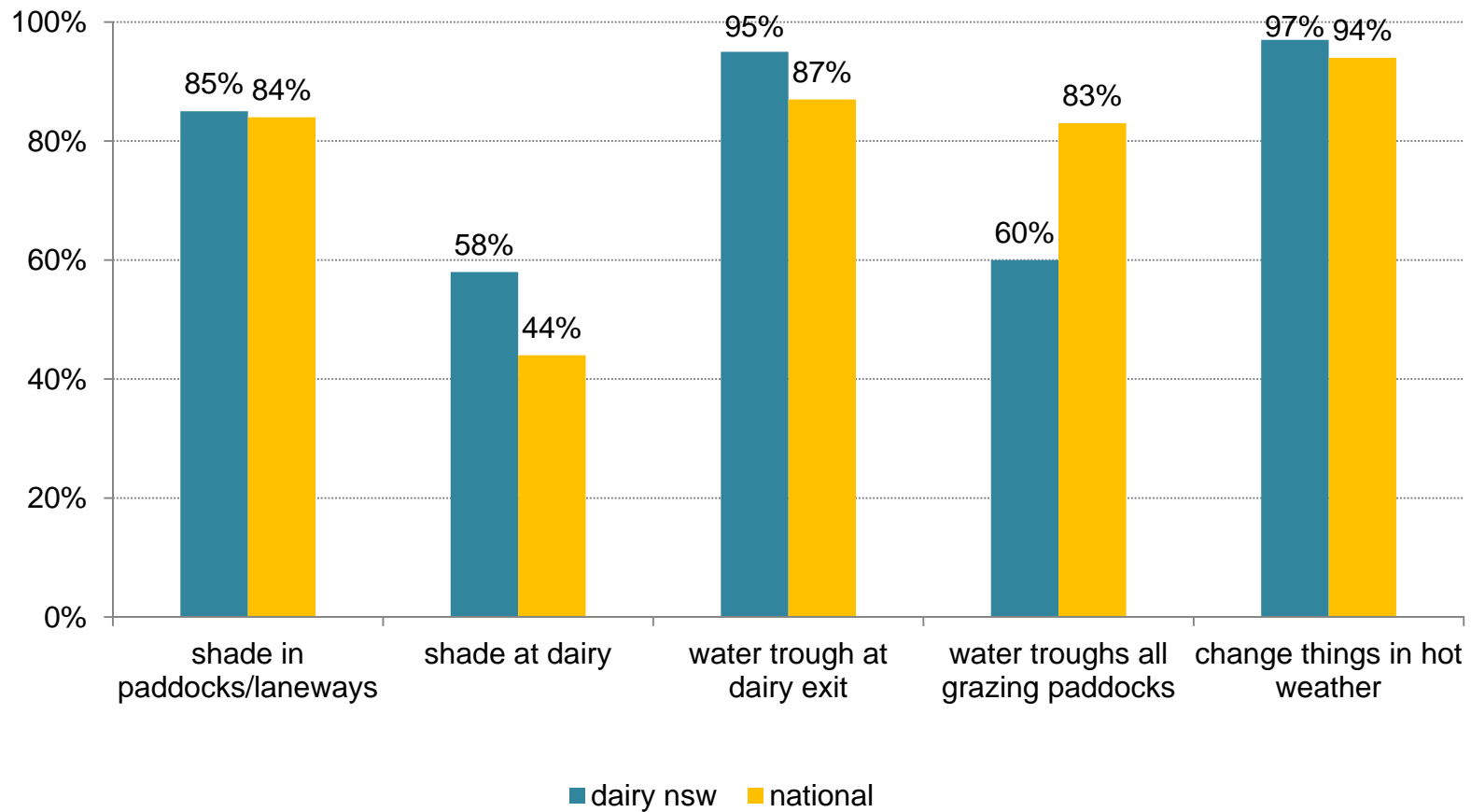
All DairyNSW respondents with a lameness strategy in place believe it has been *very* (57%) to *fairly successful* (43%) over the past year.

Calf management - colostrum



Nationally only 44% of respondents with year round calving herds say they *always* provide additional colostrum to calves being sold, compared with 69% with split calving herds and 59% with seasonal calving herds

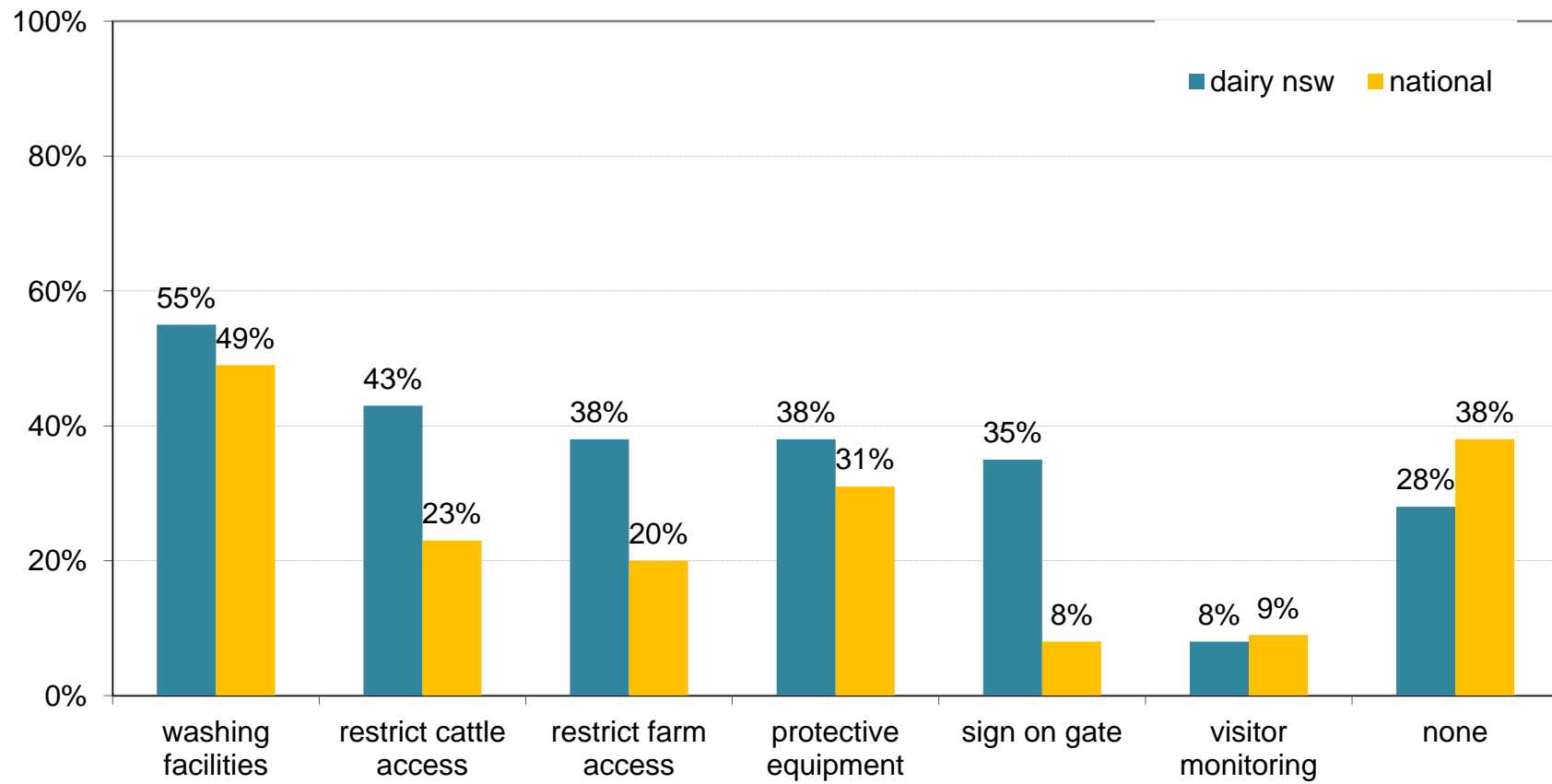
Managing Heat Stress



Staff training in husbandry procedures

	DNSW	National
On the job demonstrations	54%	39%
Verbal explanation	41%	23%
Formal training through a registered training organization	36%	23%
Attending industry workshops or field days	26%	23%
Provided with written protocols	5%	3%
On the job demonstration by vet or adviser	5%	3%
Provided with reference materials (eg books, manuals, videos, etc)	8%	5%
None	21%	27%

Biosecurity



Questions?

