



Methods used to collect farmers' attitudes towards cattle production: A rapid review

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Introduction

- On-farm disease control is extremely important as the consequences of a breakdown can have wide reaching effects
- Current work at the University of Nottingham is investigating the motivators and barriers to implementing biosecurity measures and vaccination on UK dairy farms
- Farmers' attitudes are important to understand as part of the decision making behaviour in all aspects of farming (Defra, 2008)
- There have been a number of methods used to collect and analyse farmers' attitudes, however little published research has reviewed the studies and methods used

Aims

- To review and appraise previous research investigating attitudes, motivators and barriers of farmers relating to cattle farming
- To identify and appraise the methods used in previous research in this area



Methods

- A rapid review methodology was used (Ganann et al., 2010)
- A keyword search was performed in CAB Abstracts in July 2012

Search Terms

[farms OR farmers OR producer OR producers] AND [opinions OR beliefs] AND [cattle OR sheep OR pigs OR poultry]

Inclusion Criteria

- Study investigates cattle farmers, including those in a wider farming population
- Study measures or elicits farmer attitudes, motivators, barriers or opinions
- Published as a paper in a research journal
- Available in English
- Readily accessible electronically, in paper copy, or by inter-library loans from the University of Nottingham library

- Each step was performed independently by two authors (HOC and IR) and then checked to ensure agreement
- All included papers will be subject to critical appraisal

Conclusions

- Research investigating farmer attitudes has increased over the past 20 years, covering a wide variety of topics worldwide
- Multiple methods have been used for data collection and analysis
- Although interviews and group discussions were used almost as often as more quantitative data collection methods, there was a large quantitative analysis bias

Results

Keyword search results

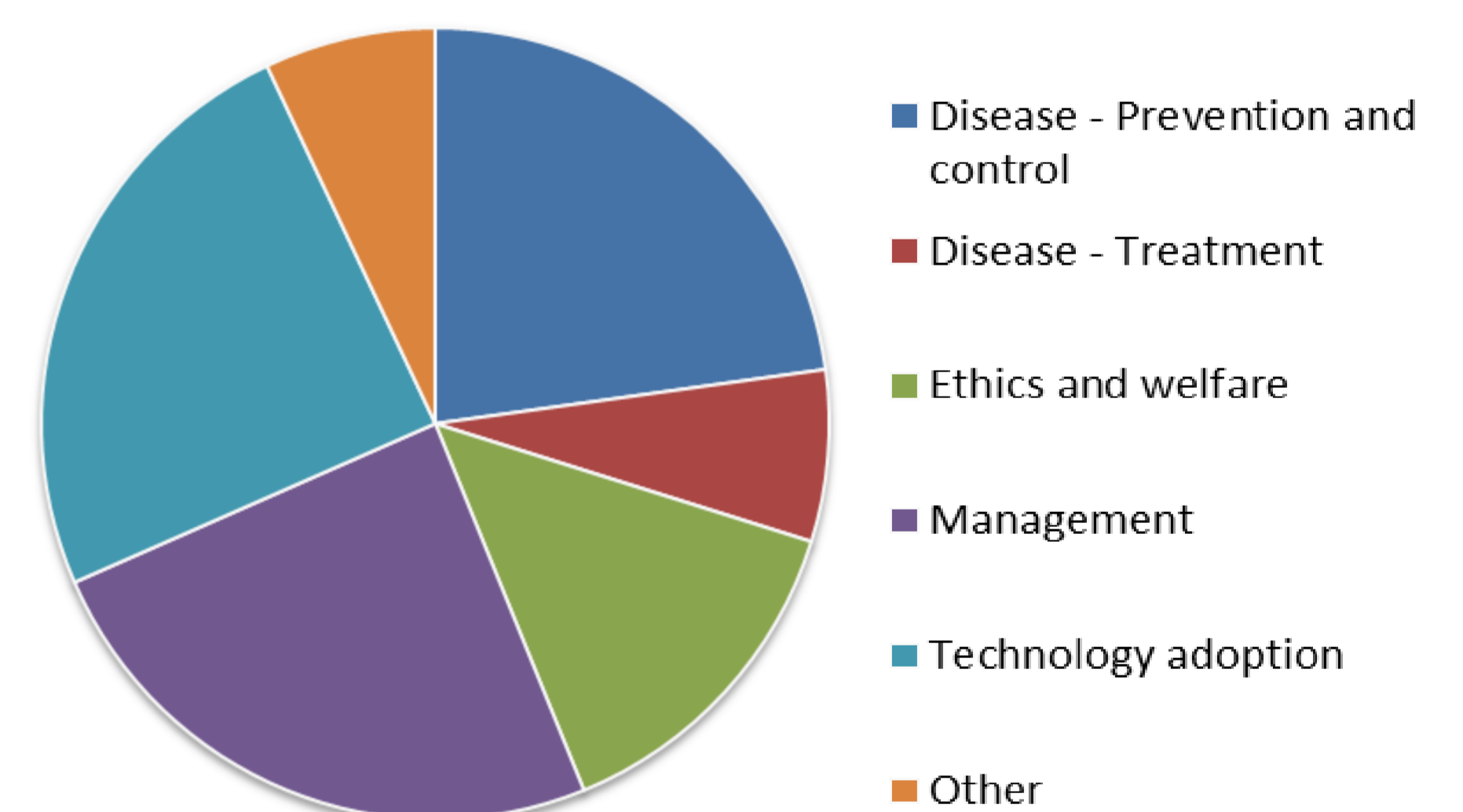
CAB Abstracts keyword search July 2012
528 records

Inclusion criteria applied

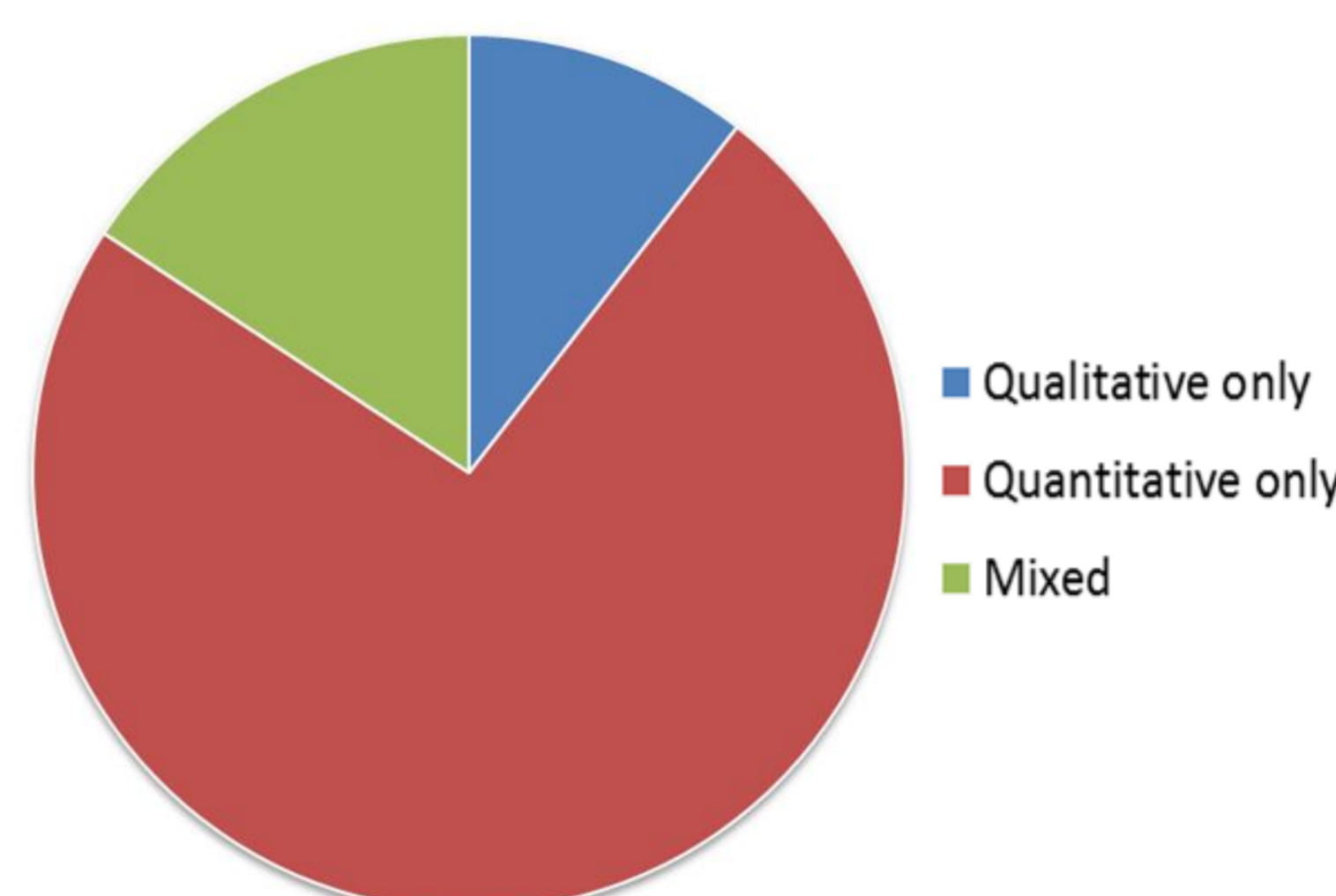
471 excluded

Total included
57 records

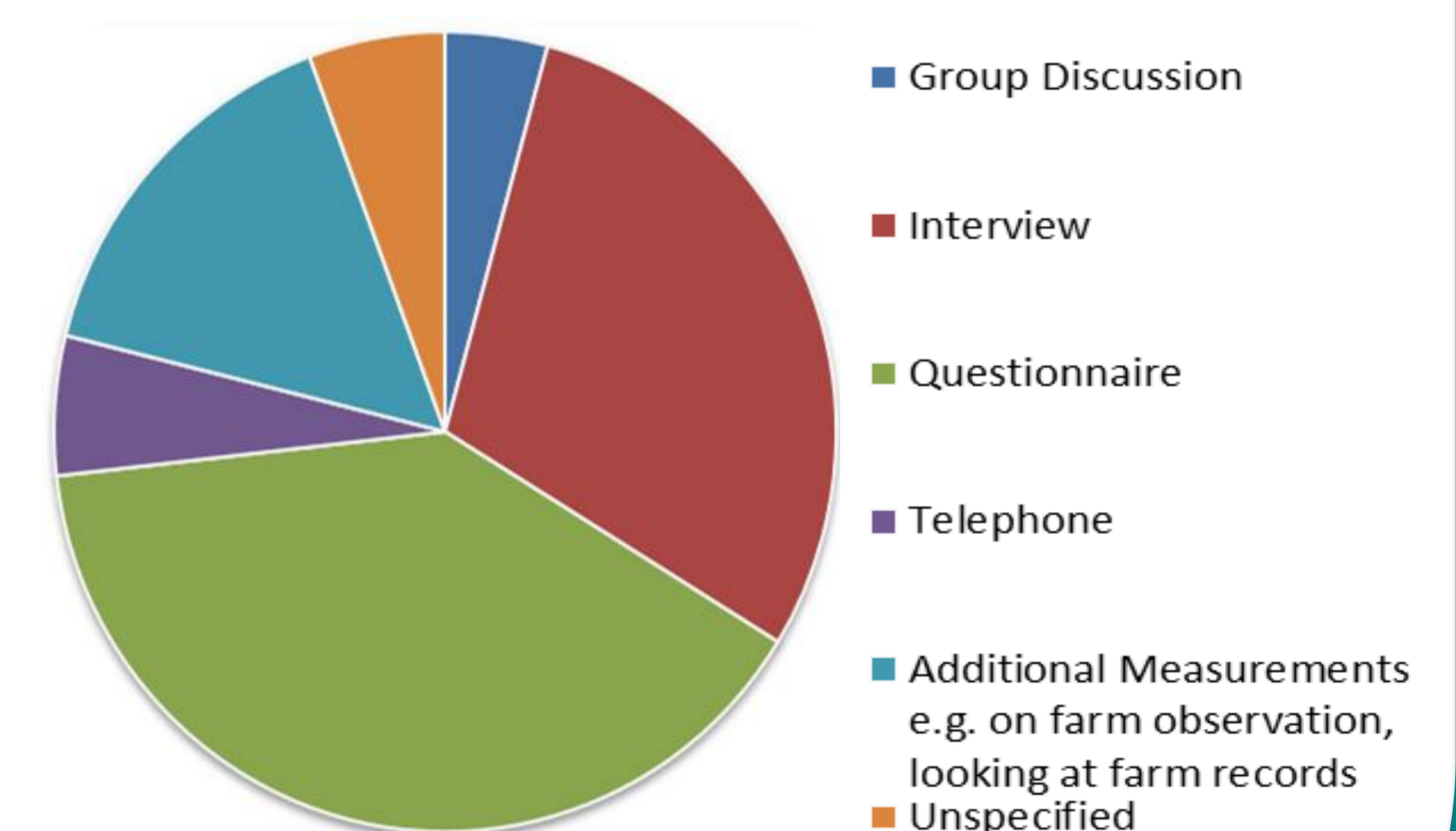
Main topic of the papers included



Type of analysis performed



Method of data collection



A more in depth analysis and critical appraisal will be presented in the final manuscript.

References

Ganann, R., Ciliska, D. & Thomas, H. (2010). Expediting systematic reviews: methods and implications of rapid reviews. *Implementation Science* 5(56)
Defra. (2008). Understanding behaviours in a farming context. Accessed from: <http://archive.defra.gov.uk/>. Last accessed on: 07/03/2013

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