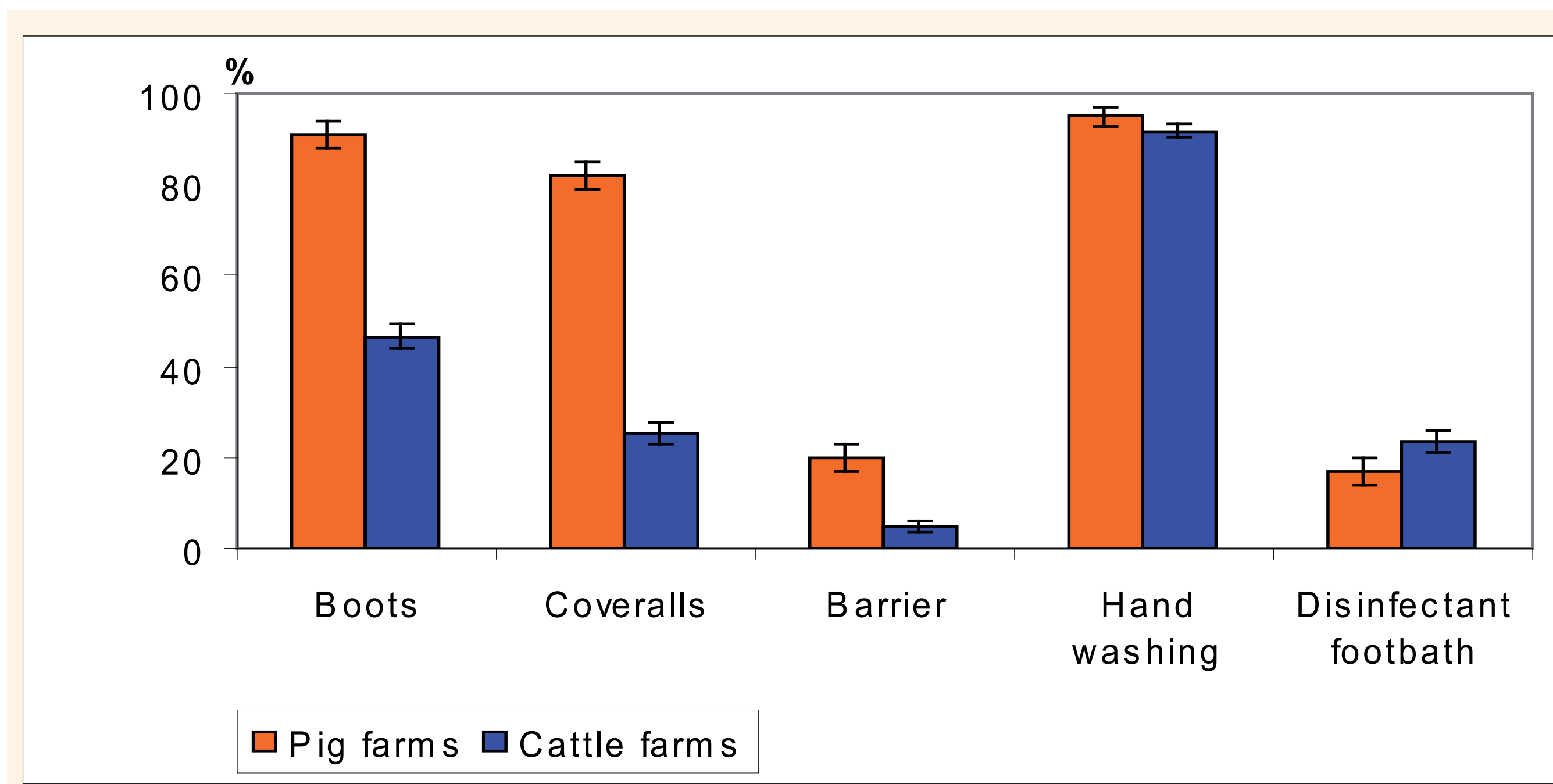


Biosecurity in cattle and pig farms in Finland

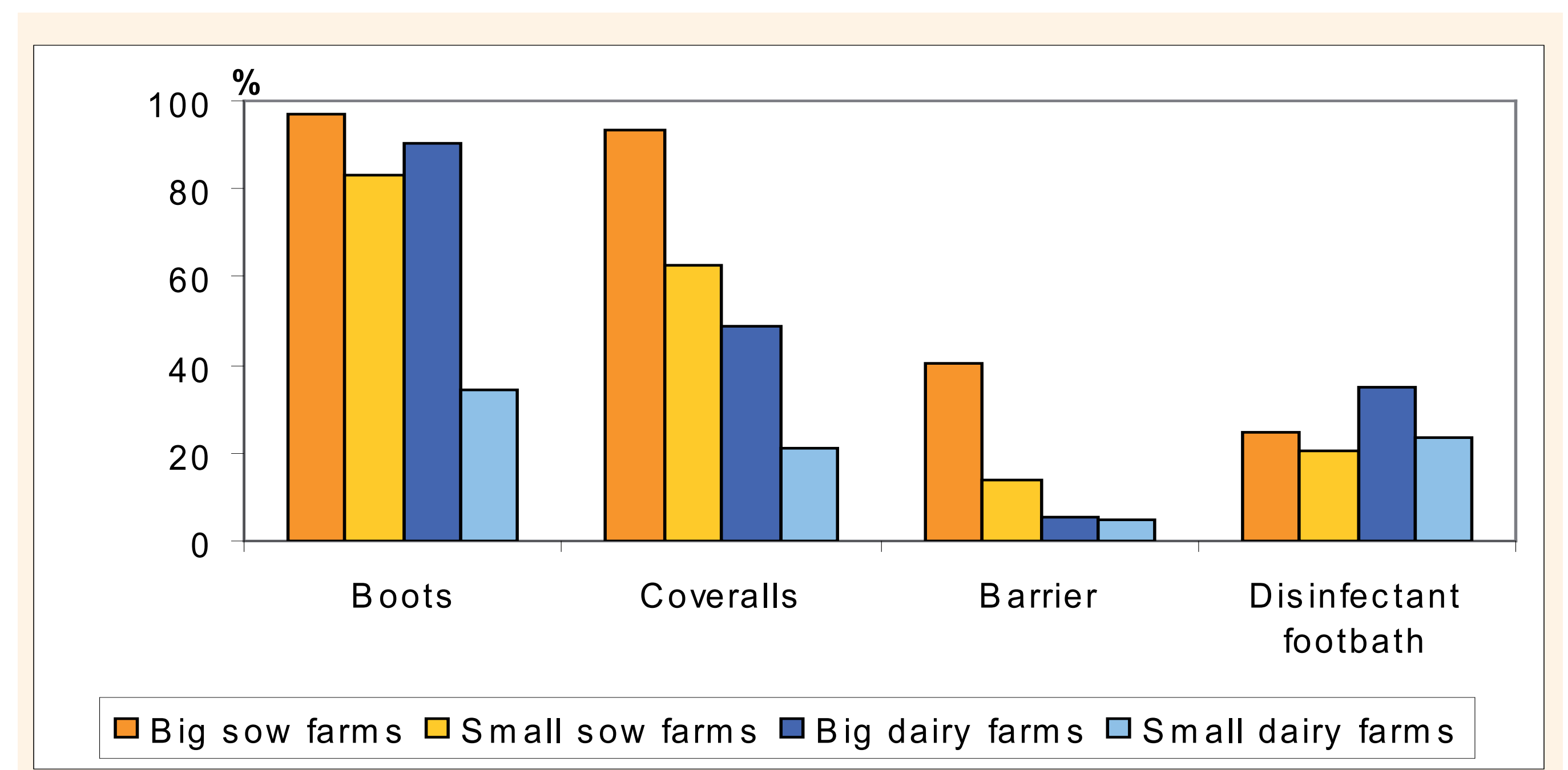
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Biosecurity differs between cattle and pig farms



In Finland, the biosecurity measures are better taken care of among pig farmers compared to cattle farmers. Error bars show the 95% confidence interval.

Farm size matters



In Finland, the biosecurity is better taken care of in large than small farms. All differences are significant ($p < 0,05$) except the use of barrier at dairy farms.

Data based on questionnaires

The results are based on surveys to cattle and pig farmers in Finland. The surveys were answered by 48% ($n=538$) of contacted pig farmers and by 42% ($n=1128$) of contacted cattle farmers. The results were verified by a survey to veterinarians (134 answers).

To analyse the implications of the farm size, the use of biosecurity measures on the largest and the smallest farms were compared. The biggest 10% of farms had on average 55 cows or 490 sows and the smallest 10% of farms had 7 cows or 30 sows. The use of biosecurity measures at different sized farms were estimated by logistic regression.



Studied biosecurity measures

- Possibility to wash hands
- Clean coveralls and boots provided for visitors by the farmer
- Physical barrier (eg. a bench) that separates the “clean” area from the “dirty”
- Use of a disinfectant footbath

Conclusions

- In Finland, the biosecurity measures are better taken care of on pig than on cattle farms
- Large farms maintain a better biosecurity level than small farms
- The disease risk could be decreased by focusing on the biosecurity of small farms