

Assessing Biosecurity Compliance and Trends in Irish Broiler Farms from 2019 to 2023

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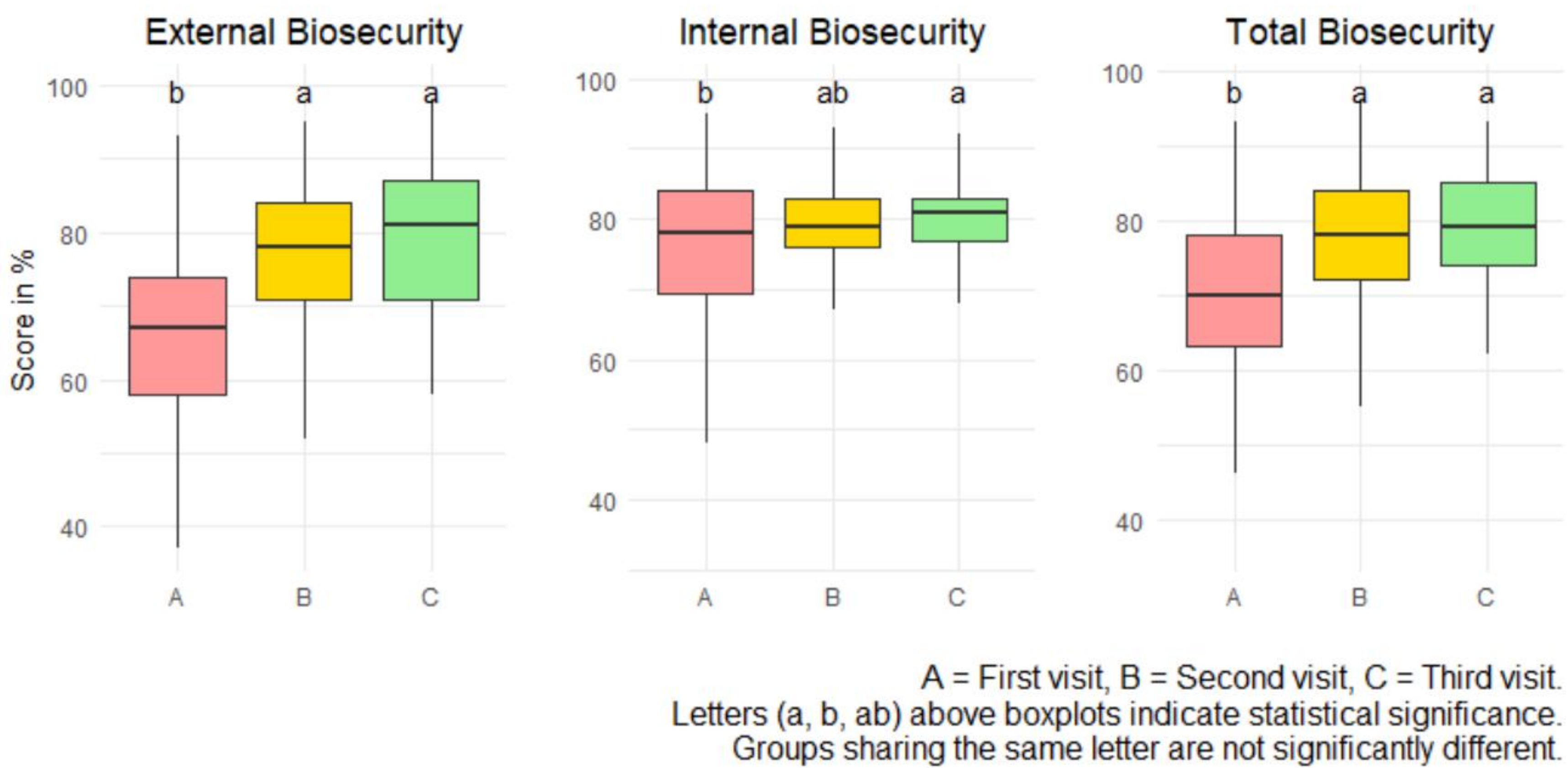


Biosecurity is crucial to prevent the introduction of external pathogens to farms and to curb the spread of pathogens within farms. The broiler sector in Ireland is facing threats of infectious diseases such as highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) and good biosecurity compliance is key to maintaining animal health in broiler farms.

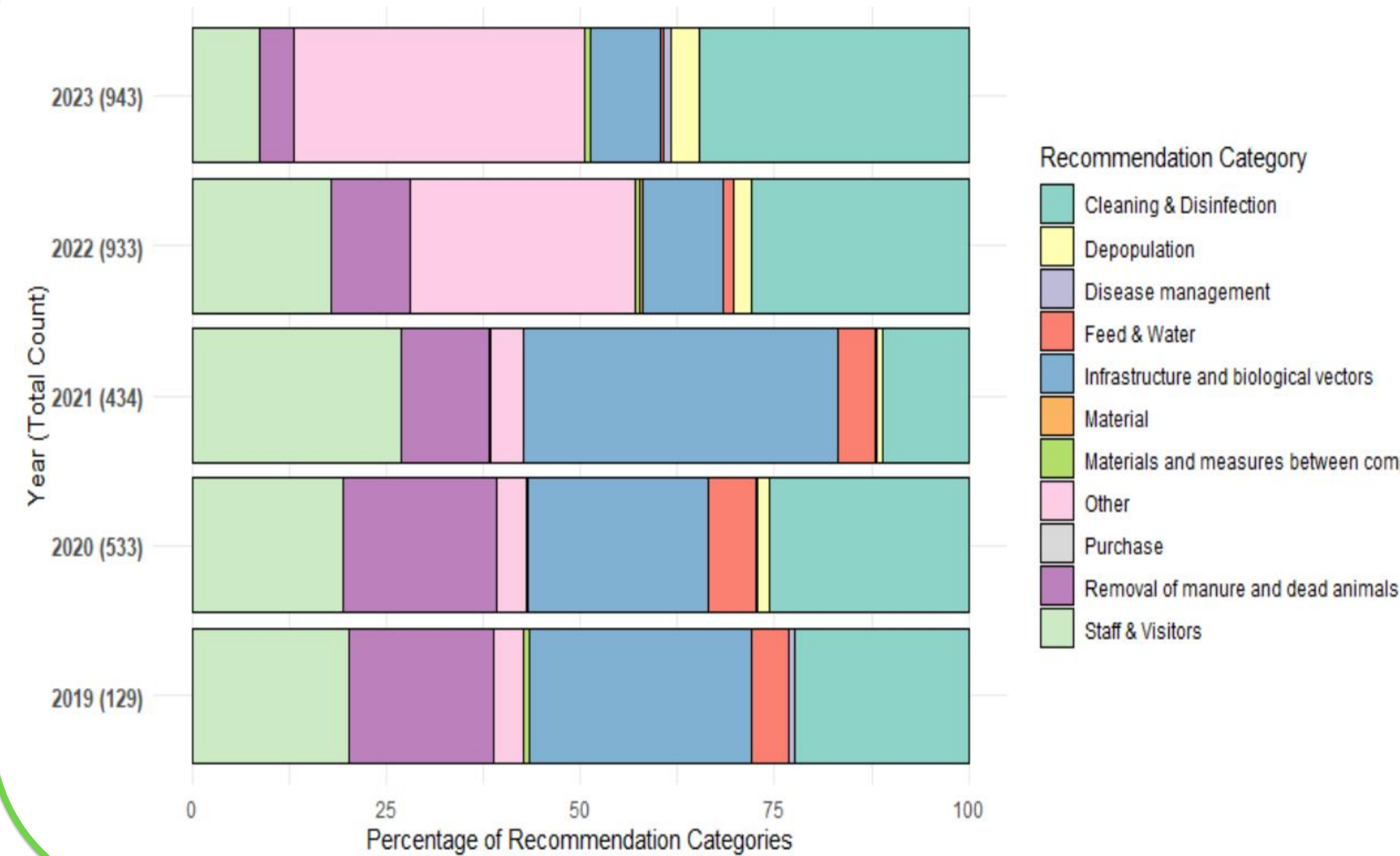


Changing trends on biosecurity compliance

- 403 broiler farms were assessed at least one time from 2019 to 2023.
- 171 farms were visited at least three times.
- The most recent three assessments were considered to analyse changing trends.

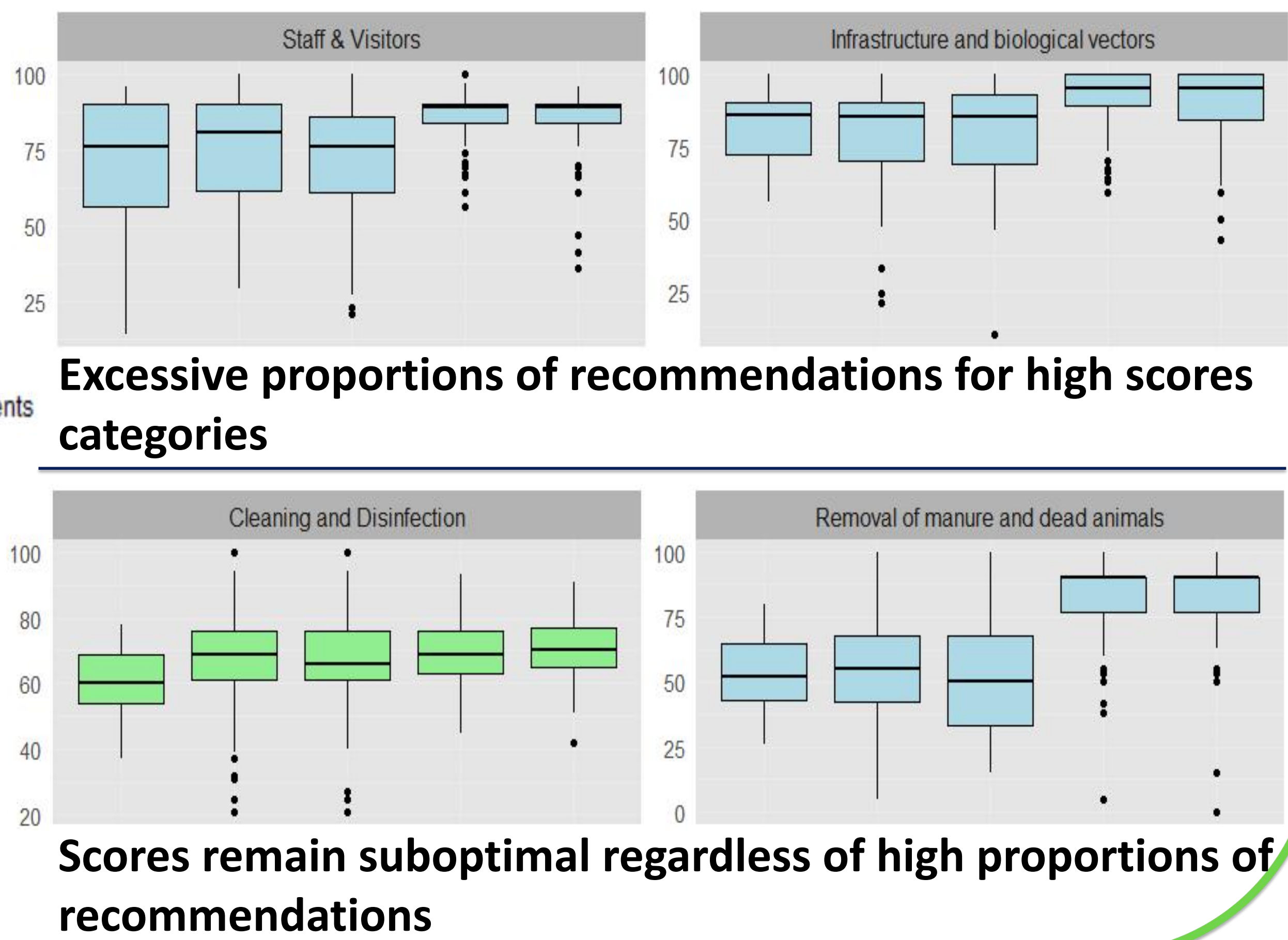


Recommendations for compliance improvement



- Recommendations are derived from biosecurity scores, which pinpoint areas requiring improvement

HOWEVER...



Improvement was found both in external and internal biosecurity compliance, with significant differences observed over the studying period. There was some mismatch between recommendations provided and improvements of scores for some categories. This suggest that further training should be provided to veterinarians to give more targeted recommendations, and more support is needed for farmers to implement recommendations.