

How Teagasc advisory services can improve engagement with and empowerment of farm women

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Study Objectives

1

- To establish a **profile** of farm women in Co. Wexford

2

- To identify the **knowledge and learning needs** of farm women to **empower** their role on family farms

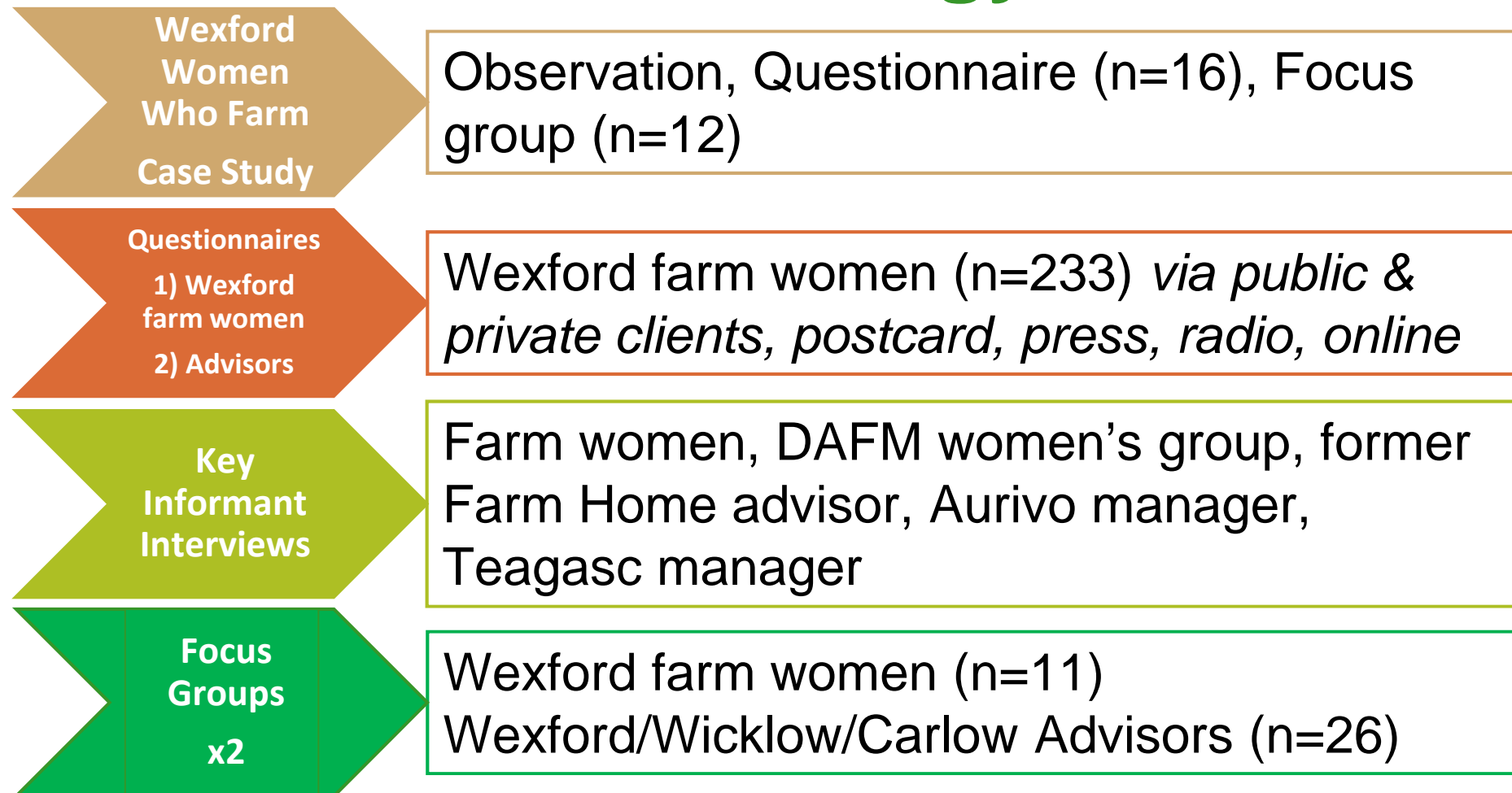
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- To investigate the **barriers** to women's engagement with agricultural advisory services

4

- To propose a strategy to **improve Teagasc's engagement** with farm women

Methodology



Objective 1: Brief profile of farm women in Co. Wexford

- 2,679 farm women
- Teagasc: 235 named female clients
- Average age:
 - 41-55 years
- Average farm size:
 - 51-100 acres
- Working on farm:
 - Full time: 29%
 - Part time: 45%
 - *'Not working on farm'* but carrying out farm tasks: 25%



Objective 2: Knowledge and learning needs

Farm business management	Technical knowledge	Other valuable skills & knowledge
Cash-flow planning	Soil fertility & fertiliser application	Personal development
Business planning	Animal nutrition	Computer skills

Objective 2: Knowledge and learning needs

- Mainly through:
 - Training courses (24.1%)
 - Online courses (15.6%)
 - Seminars/workshops (14%)
 - Discussion groups (14%)
- And:
 - After 6p.m. on weekdays (21.9%)
 - Weekday mornings (17.3%)

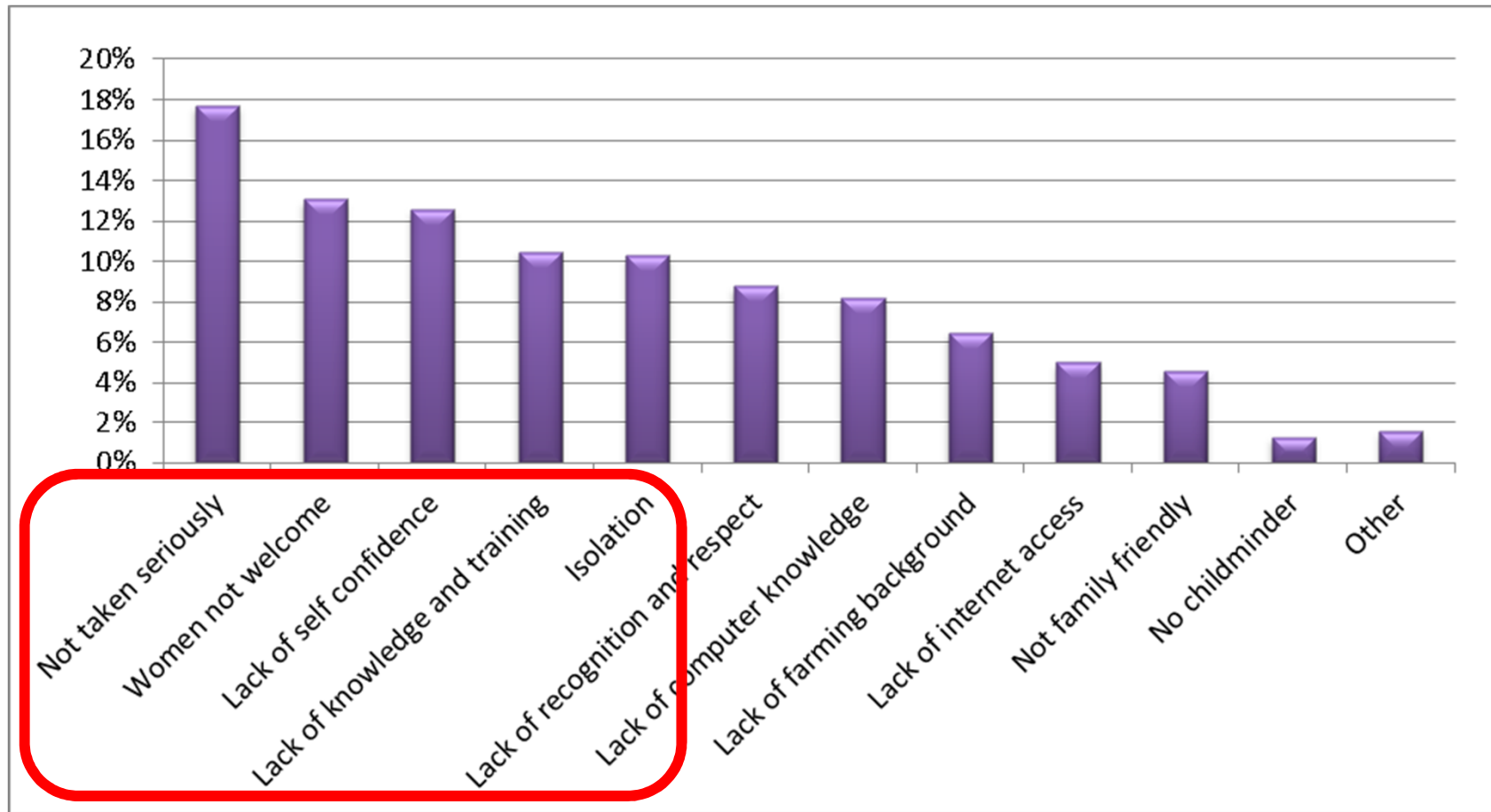
Objective 2: Knowledge and learning needs

- Aware of **6/23** services provided by Teagasc



Objective 3: Barriers

Barriers to engagement with advisory services (n=233)



Objective 4:

Recommendations

1. Teagasc advisory service needs to make a more conscious effort to include farm women
2. Consider farm women's needs when designing advisory programmes
3. Collaborate with other farming groups
4. Marketing of advisory services provided

Steps to Completion

Finish corrections & submit



- Prepare paper & presentation for ESEE Conference
- Farm women event
- Possibility of agricultural training modules for farm women and men in autumn

Thank you for your attention!

