

Biosecurity assessments for broiler and layers units: Irish results

Carla Gomes
Pig HealthCheck Programme Manager

Let's Talk about Poultry – webinar
25th August 2021



Public Private Partnerships

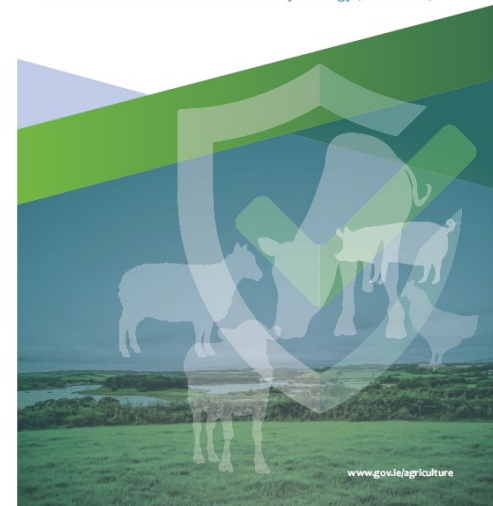
Public-private partnership is a joint approach in which the public and private sectors agree responsibilities and share resources and risks to achieve common objectives that deliver benefits in a sustainable manner.



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine

Keeping Animals Safe from Disease

A National Farmed Animal Biosecurity Strategy (2021-2024)



BENEFITS

1. Stronger national ECONOMY
2. Greater TRUST in government and private partners
3. Reduced BUSINESS risk and increased opportunities
4. Improved public HEALTH
5. Addressing SOCIETAL issues

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



TASAH funded activity (RDP funding)

One assessment funded per year

Delivered by trained PVPs

Biocheck

Free online application: www.biocheck.ugent.be



[Home Ugent](#) [In het Nederlands](#) [中文](#)

[MY BIOCHECK](#) [START THE BIOCHECK](#) [ABOUT BIOCHECK](#) [NEWSLETTER](#) [WORLDWIDE](#) [AUDIT](#) [RESEARCH](#) [INFO & LINKS](#) [CONTACT](#)

BIOCHECK.UGent, prevention is better than cure!

Welkom!

Biocheck.UGent is a risk-based scoring system to evaluate the quality of your on-farm biosecurity in a scientific and independent way.

Fill in the online [questionnaire](#) for free and receive valuable feedback about the biosecurity level of your farm. You get a summarizing and personal report with detailed results. These findings can help you to choose your own suitable biosecurity pathway.

Don't hesitate and get started to lift your farm to a higher biosecurity level!

[Start the Biocheck.UGent!](#)

[How to use Biocheck.UGent?](#)



Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Biocheck

- No protocol suitable for every herd
- A balance between biosecurity and management
- Tool?

→ **scoring system**

Biocheck

= Risk Based Biosecurity Scoring System

Quantification of biosecurity status

- Comparing scores between different herds
- Comparing scores between different countries
- Comparing scores in time
- Taking different risks into account

Biocheck

Weighted scores

- Based on scientific research
- Risk for transmission: direct vs. indirect contact
- Weight factor for each subcategory and each question

Biosecurity assessment



79 questions for broilers
120 questions for the layers

BIOCHECK.UGent, prevention is better than cure!

Welcome!

Biocheck.UGent is a risk-based scoring system to evaluate the quality of your on-farm biosecurity in an scientific and independent way.

Fill in the online questionnaire for free and receive valuable feedback about the biosecurity level of your farm. You get a summarizing and personal report with detailed results. These findings can help you to choose your own suitable biosecurity pathway.

Don't hesitate and get started to lift your farm to a higher biosecurity level!

[Start the Biocheck.UGent!](#) [How to use Biocheck.UGent?](#)



Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Biosecurity assessment



ANIMAL HEALTH IRELAND

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health

Poultry TASAH Biocheck PVP Summary Report

Subcategory	Your score	Country average	World average
External biosecurity			
A. Purchase of one-day-old chicks	N/A	79 %	45 %
B. Purchase of laying hens	85 %	87 %	69 %
C. Depopulation and transport of hens	86 %	65 %	52 %
D. Transport of eggs	52 %	37 %	39 %
E. Feed and water	73 %	68 %	47 %

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Summary Report



ANIMAL HEALTH IRELAND

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health

Poultry TASAH Biocheck PVP Summary Report

3 recommendations provided

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Who has been trained?



PROGRAMMES ▾

TRAINING ▾

NEWS & EVENTS ▾

ABOUT ▾



<https://animalhealthireland.ie/training/poultry-training/>



What is biosecurity?

The combination of all measures taken to reduce the risk of introduction and spread of diseases on herd, region, country,... level



Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health

What is biosecurity?

Complex!

No one size fits all!



Why is biosecurity important?

A better biosecurity may lead to:

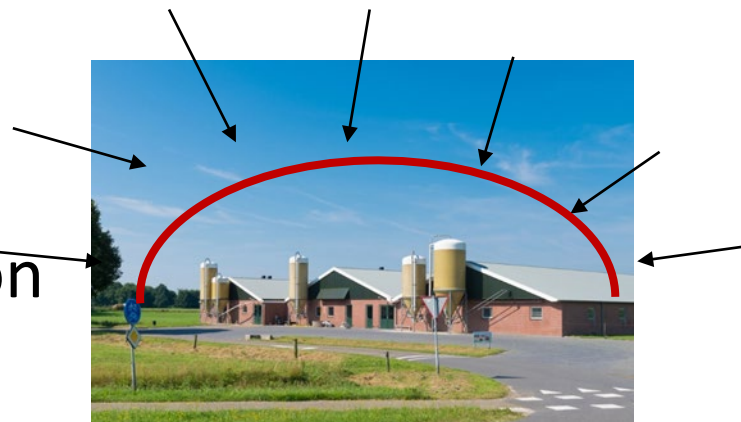
- Higher health status
- Improved production results
 - Growth
 - Feed conversion
 - Uniformity
- Less antimicrobial use
- Economical benefits

What is biosecurity?

Usually divided into:

- External

Stop/reduce introduction

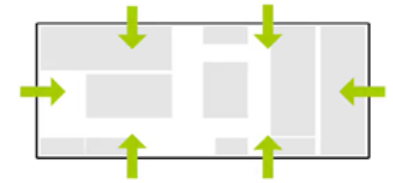


- Internal

Stop/reduce spread



External biosecurity



Broilers	Layers
Purchase of one day old chicks	Purchase of one day old chicks
Depopulation of broilers	<u>Purchase of layers</u>
Feed & water supply	Depopulation of hens
Removal of manure and dead animals	<u>Transport of the eggs</u>
Entrance of personnel and visitors	Feed & water supply
Supply of material	Removal of manure and dead animals
Infrastructure and biological vectors	Entrance of personnel and visitors
Location of the farm	Supply of material
	Infrastructure and biological vectors
	Location of the farm

Internal biosecurity

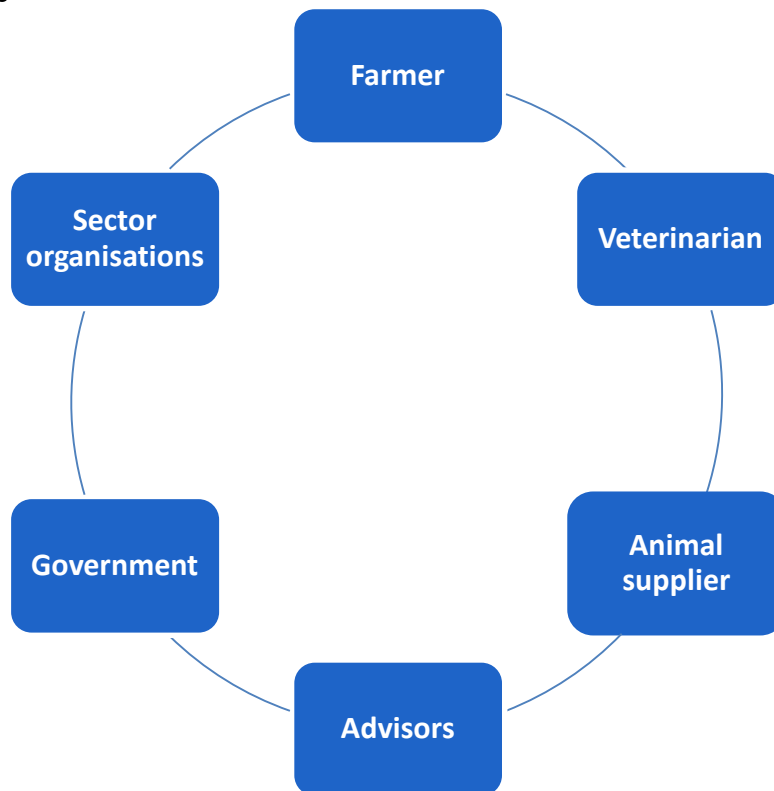


Broilers	Layers
Disease management	Disease management
Cleaning and disinfection	Cleaning and disinfection
Materials and measures between houses	Materials and measures between houses
	<u>Egg Management</u>



Biosecurity is a joint venture

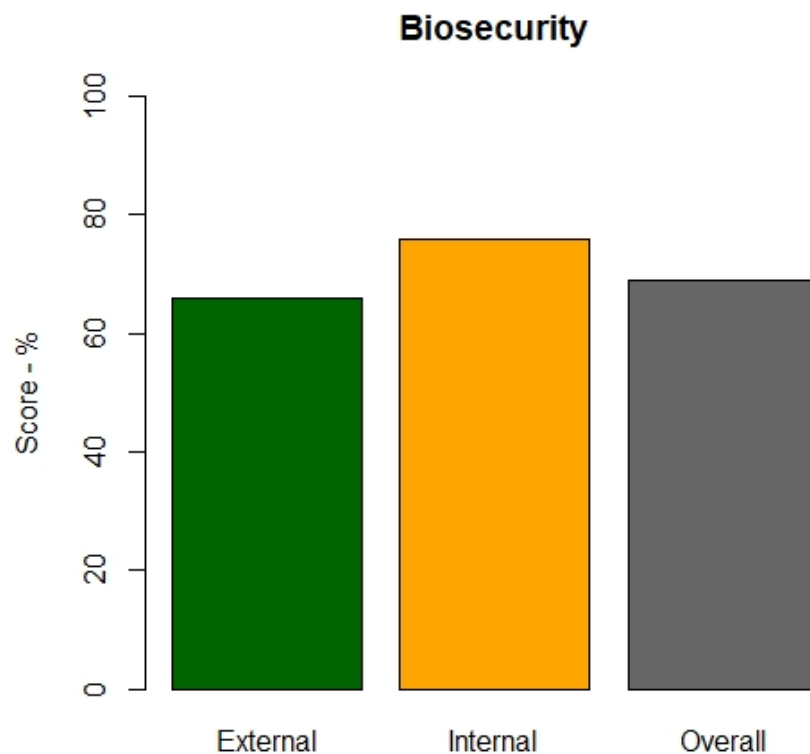
...often threatened by lack of time



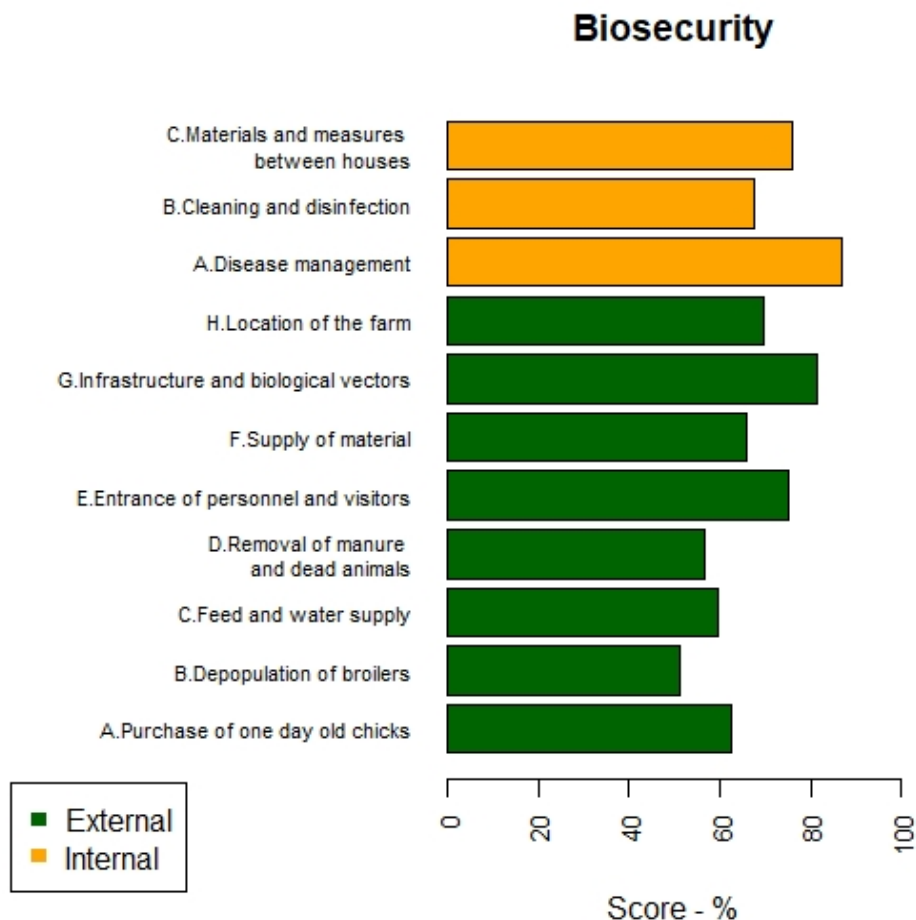
Results

- October 2019 to 23rd August 2021
- 337 surveys from 214 broilers farms
- 82 surveys from 68 layer farms

Broilers – national data



Broilers – results per section



Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health

External biosecurity

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Depopulation of broilers

Is the transport vehicle taking the poultry to the slaughterhouses/ traders/ individuals always empty on arrival at the farm?

	Freq	%
Always	23	21.3
Sometimes	72	66.7
Never	13	12.0

Depopulation of broilers

Are individuals and traders allowed to enter the stables where direct contact is possible with the animals?

	Freq	%
Always	66	31.0
Sometimes	114	53.5
Never	33	15.5

Feed and Water Supply

Is the farm site divided into a clean and dirty area?

	Freq	%
No	123	57.7
Yes	90	42.3

Supply of material

Are specific preventive measures taken for material supply (e.g. UV-disinfection unit, alcohol disinfection)?

	Freq	%
No	142	66.7
Yes	71	33.3

Internal biosecurity

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Cleaning and disinfection

Do vehicles enter the farm after passing through disinfection baths?

	Freq	%
No	201	94.4
Yes	12	5.6

Is there a FARM-hygiene lock present?

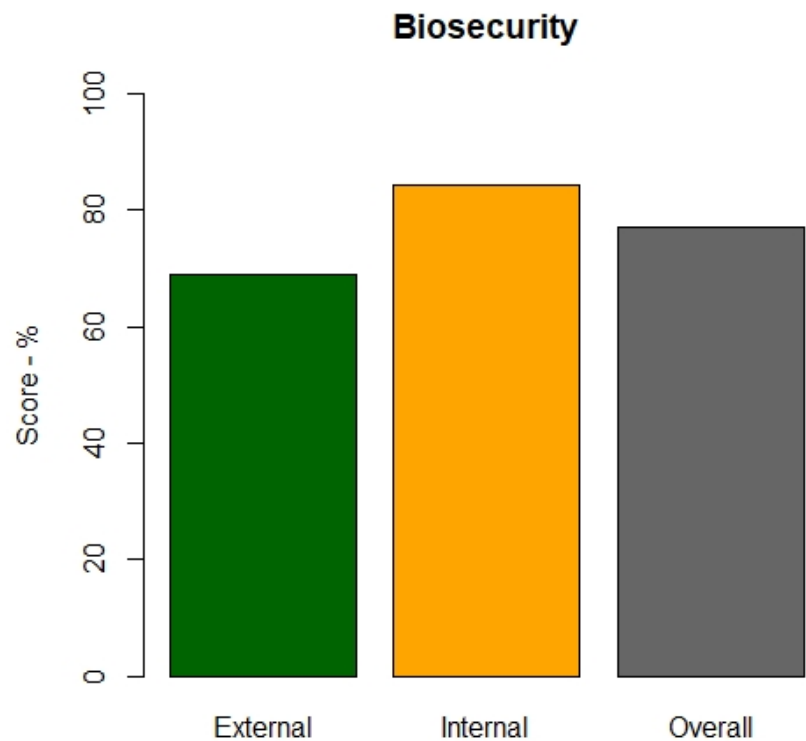
	Freq	%
No	166	77.9
Yes	47	22.1

Materials and measures between compartments

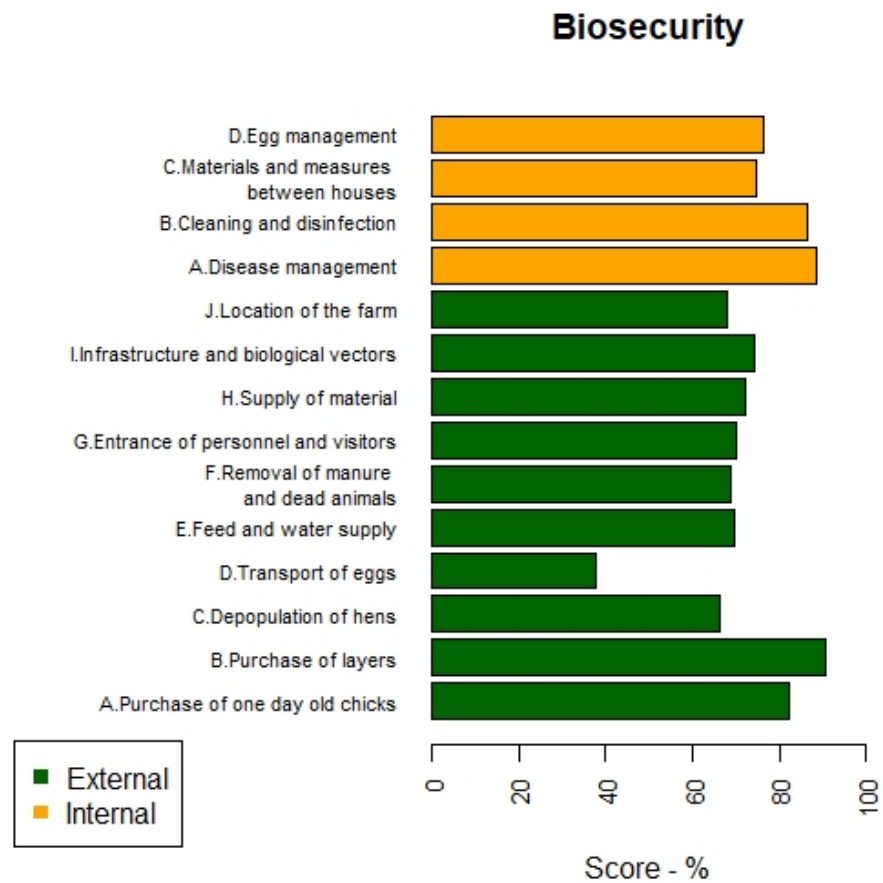
Is house specific clothing (incl. boots) available?

	Freq	%
No	68	43.9
Yes	87	56.1

Layers– national data



Layers– results per section



External biosecurity

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



Transport of eggs

Does the driver have access to the egg facilities of the farm?

	Freq	%
No, the driver doesn't have access at all	10	14.7
Yes, but only to the egg room	19	27.9
Yes, but only to the specific store room	26	38.2
Yes, the driver has access to both the egg room and specific store room	13	19.1

Is the transport vehicle for the eggs empty on arrival at the farm?

	Freq	%
Always	15	22.1
Never	12	17.6
Sometimes	41	60.3

Supply of material

Are specific measures taken for the introduction of material (e.g. UV-disinfection unit, alcohol disinfection)?

	Freq	%
No	46	67.6
Yes	22	32.4

Internal biosecurity

Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health



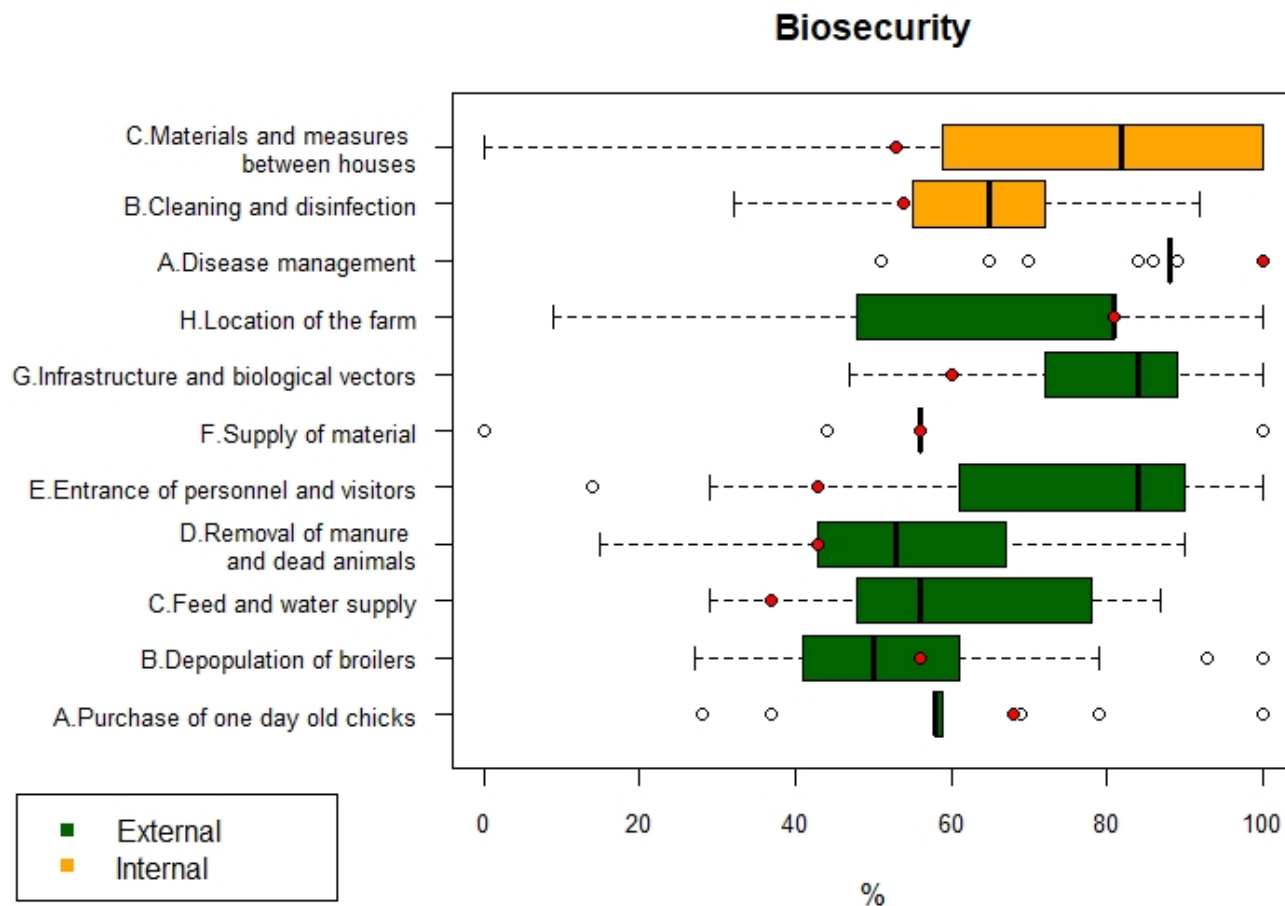
Materials and measures between houses

Is there a house hygiene lock present at every poultry house?

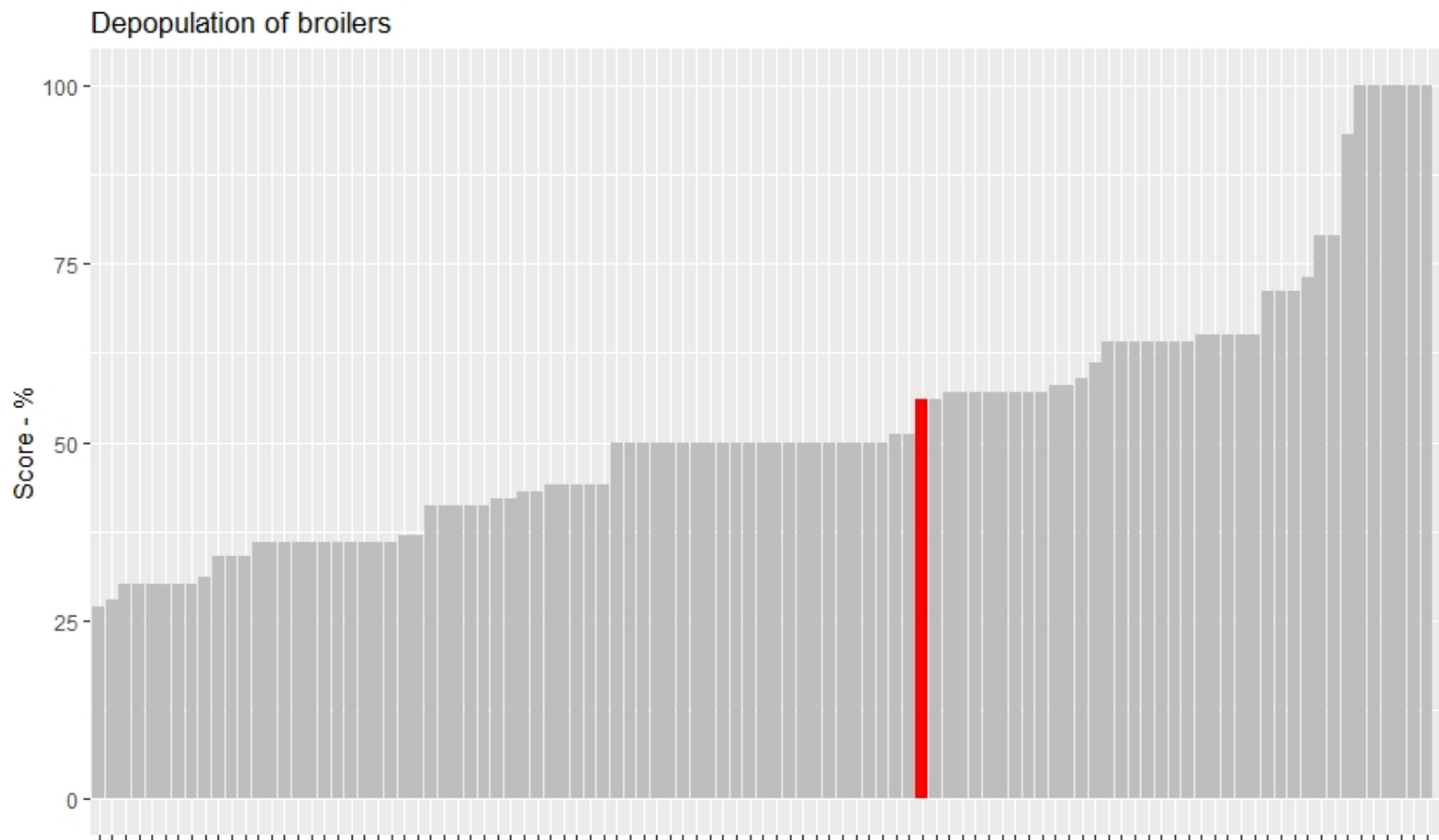
	Freq	%
No	12	40
Yes	18	60

What can be done with these data?

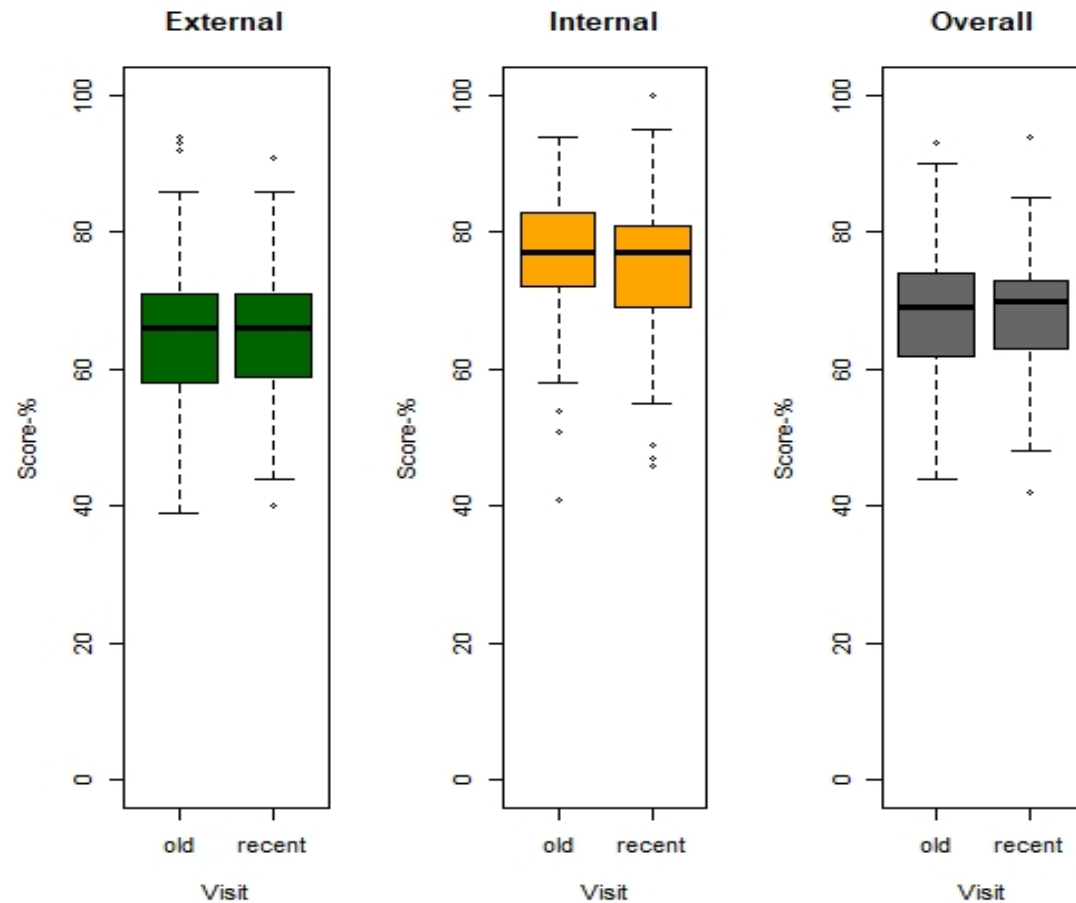
Benchmarking



Benchmarking



Over time



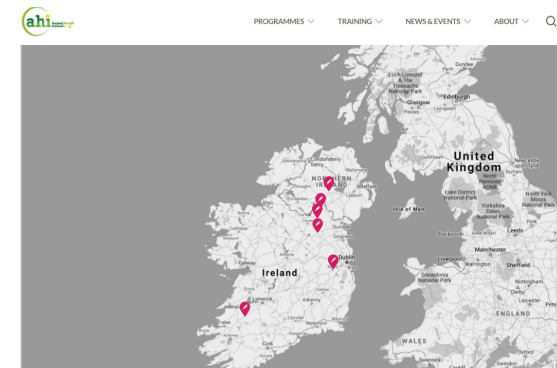
Contributing to a profitable and sustainable farming and agri-food sector through improved animal health

Biosecurity assessments

TASAH funds trained PVPs to deliver Annual biosecurity assessments free-of-charge.

A list of trained PVPs is available on <https://animalhealthireland.ie/training/poultry-training/>

Herd owners should contact their PVP to avail this annual service.



Biosecurity assessments for broiler and layers units: Irish results

Carla Gomes

Pig HealthCheck Programme Manager

**Let's Talk about Poultry – webinar
25th August 2021**

