



Commercial Poultry On-Farm Field Day

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Background

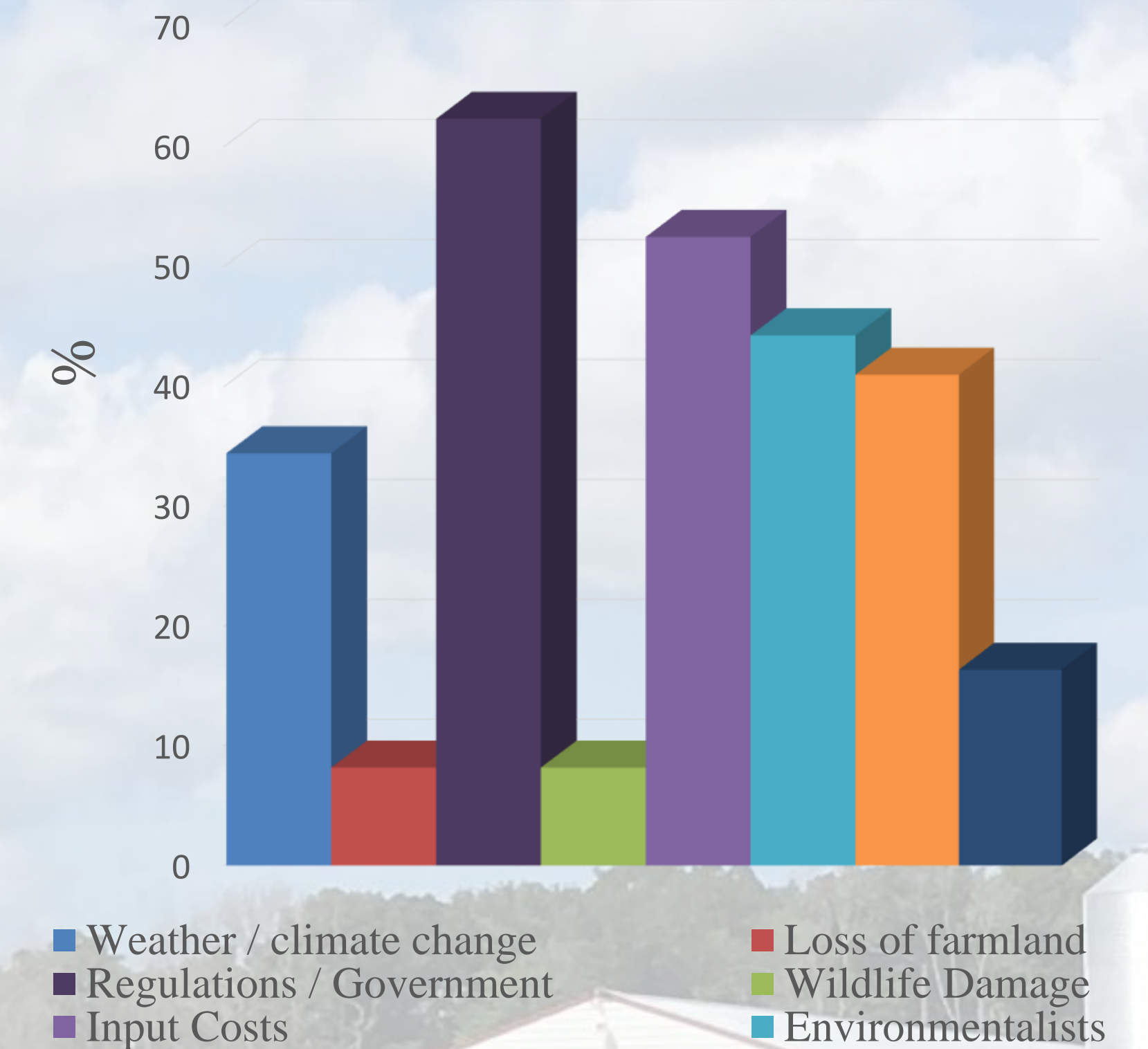
Poultry production is the leading industry on Delmarva (Delaware, and the eastern shores of Maryland and Virginia) accounting for \$3.5 billion in total output and 20,391 jobs. This accounts for approximately 70% of the total economic value of agriculture from the area. Additionally, grain and soybean farmers rely on the poultry industry to purchase their products as they utilize the manure as fertilizer. The success of contract broiler farm production is directly related to the success of the poultry companies and grain farmers located on Delmarva.

Output

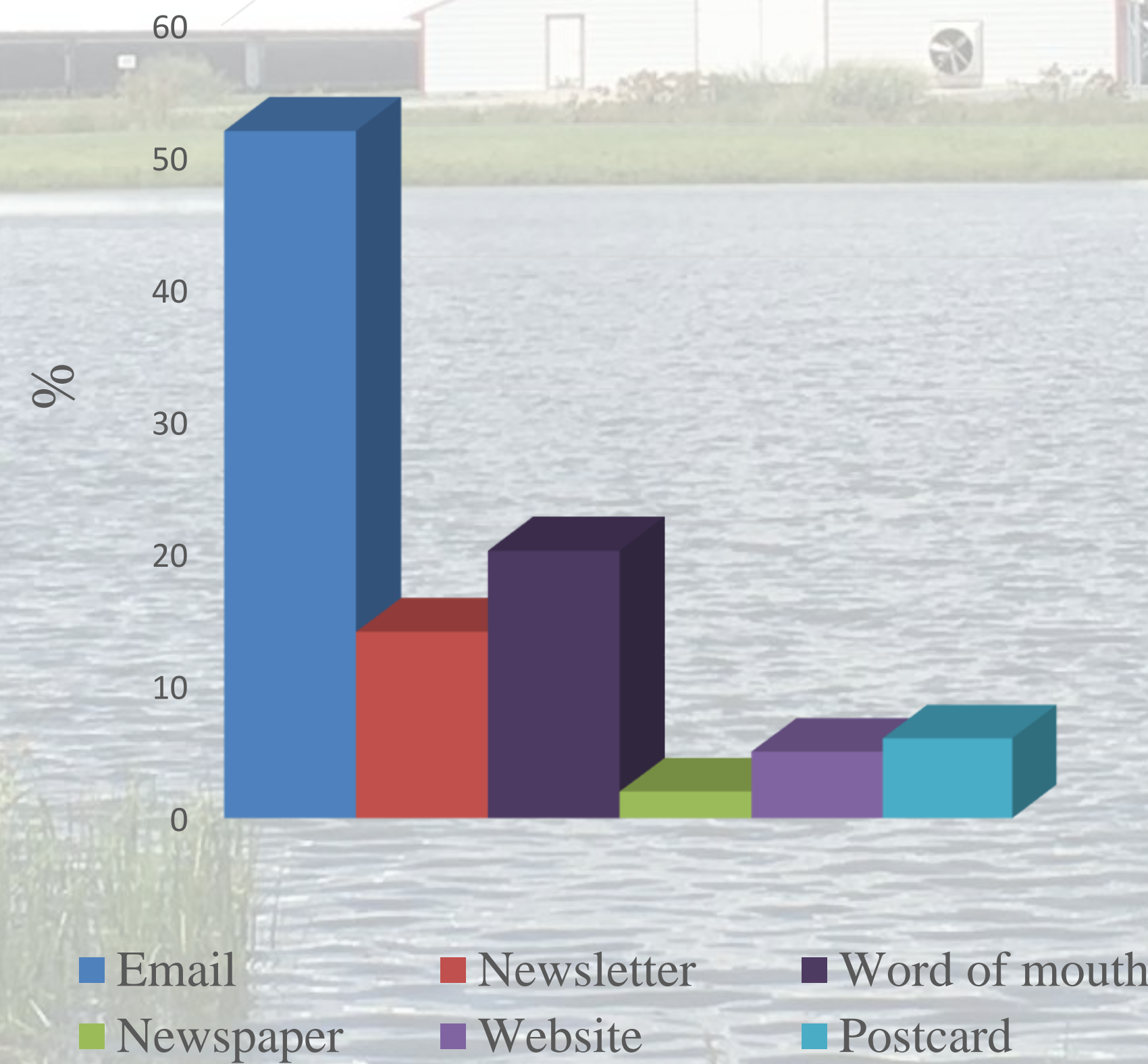
In order to help poultry farmers be more competitive, efficient, environmentally safe, and comply with current government regulations, a team made up of University of Maryland Extension, University of Delaware Extension, University of Maryland Eastern Shore Extension and members of the Delmarva Poultry Industry, Inc. conducted an On-Farm Field Day for commercial poultry growers.



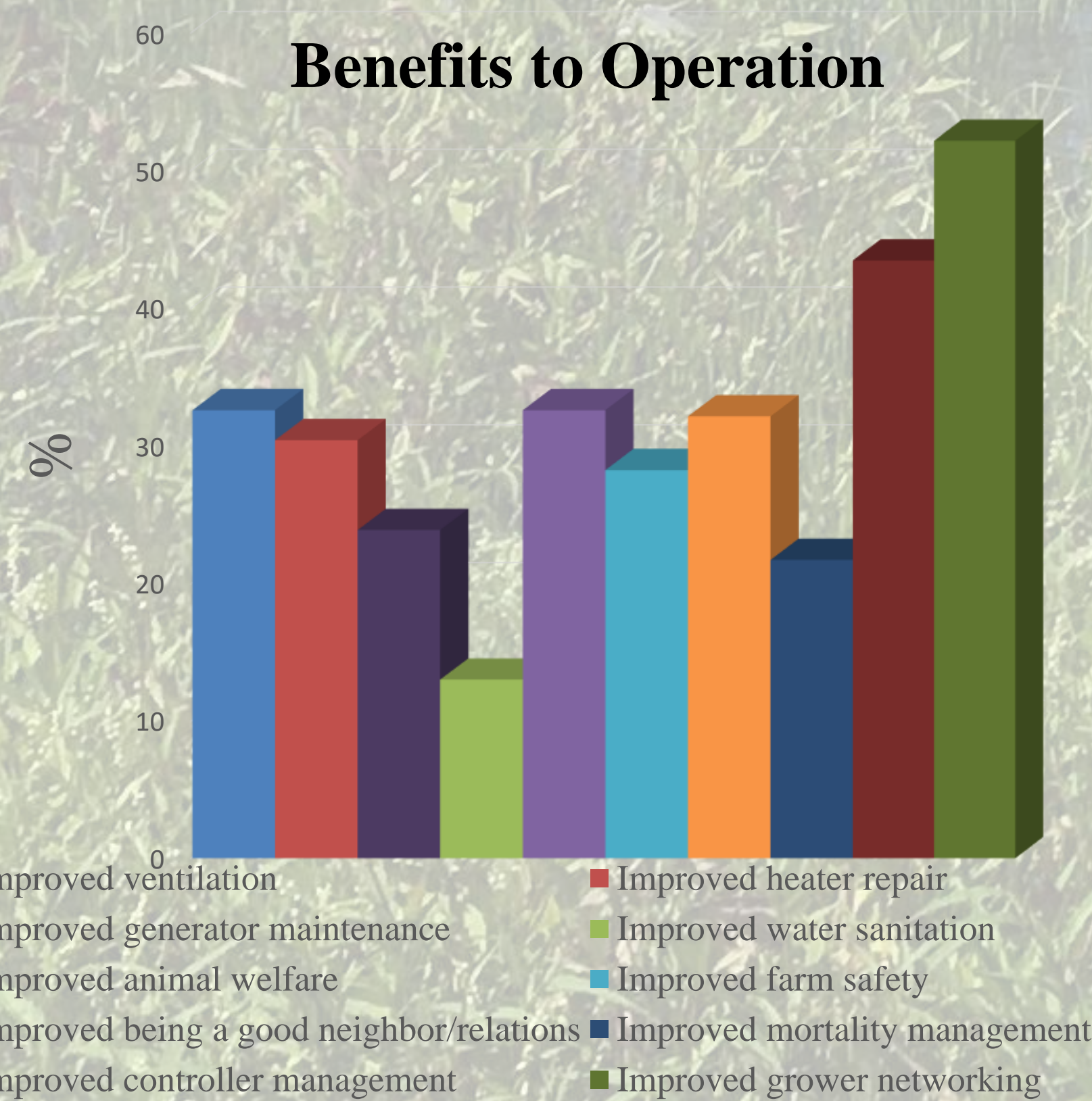
Greatest Challenges to Your Operation



How Did You Learn About This Event



Benefits to Operation



Results

- The Field Day was attended by approximately 425 people consisting of poultry farmers, personnel from poultry companies, government agencies and allied industries.
- In addition, 66 vendors sponsored the event and provided demonstrations of their products.
- A short survey after the event found all participants (that responded) reported it benefited their farm or business, with 98% reporting a knowledge increase.
- Additionally, 93% reported they would likely participate in future Field Days.
- The survey also found the greatest concern for the future of their farms was “government and regulations” followed by “input costs” and “environmentalists”.
- Having multiple breakout sessions and repeating them is a good way to allow participants to seek out the information that is most beneficial to them.
- Poultry growers will benefit from attending On-Farm Field Days.