

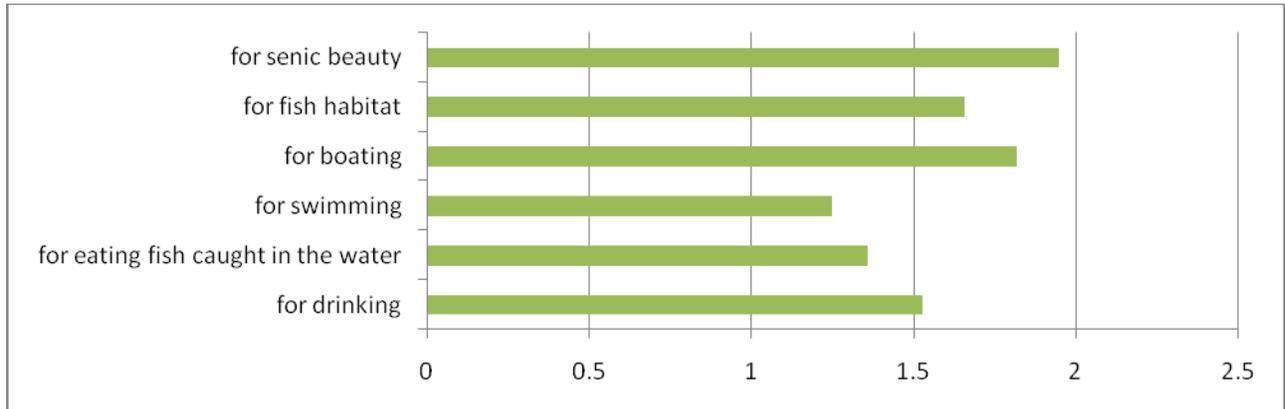
## St. Marys River Watershed Project / Purdue Univ. Social Indicator Survey

### St Mary's Analysis

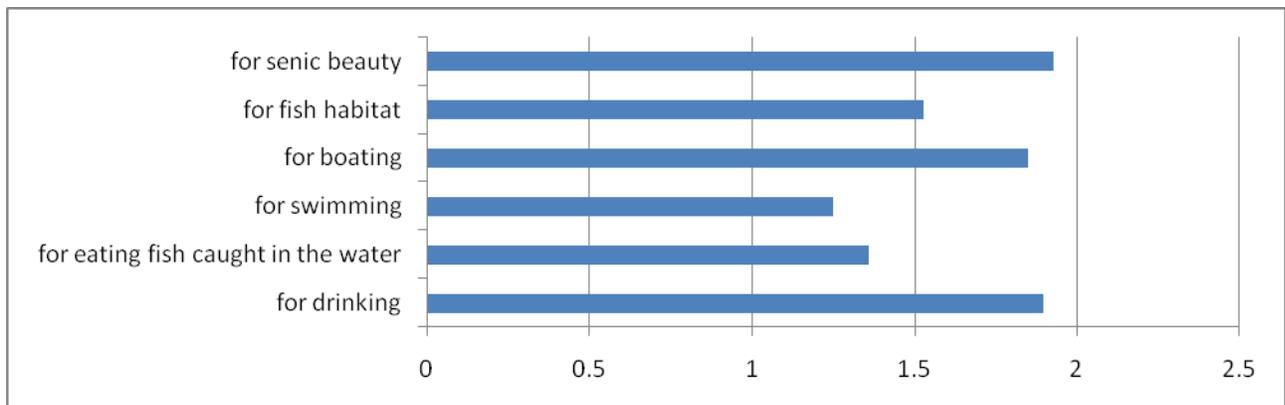
#### 1. Rating of Water Quality:

None for either are "okay" (all averages under 2), swimming is lowest for both

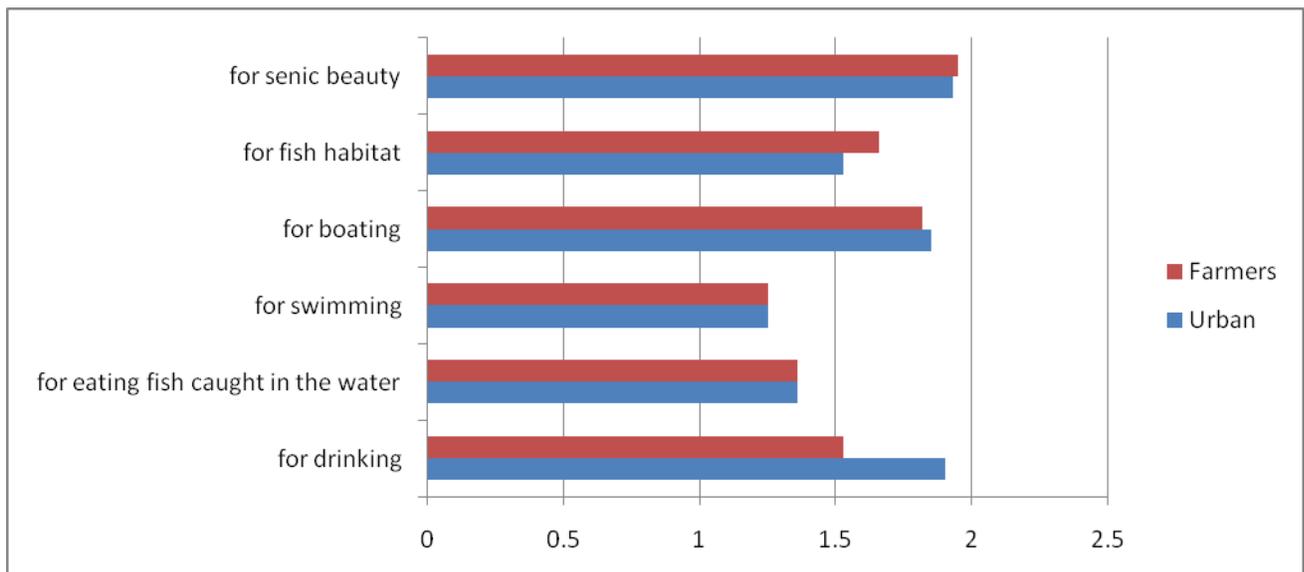
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:

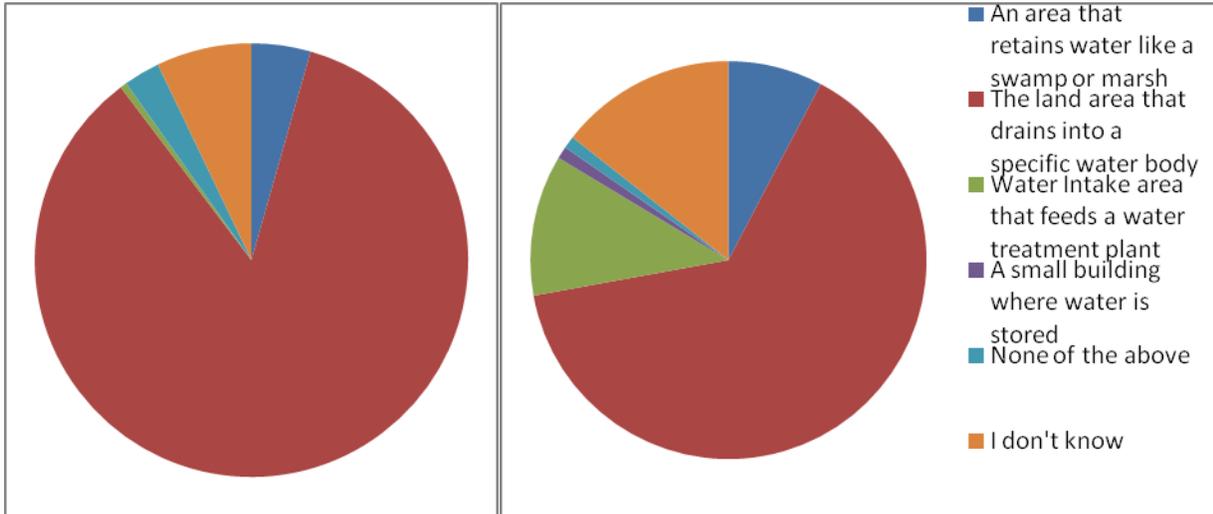


2. Your Watershed:

Farmers were right 85.2% of the time, urban only 64.6%

Farmers:

Urban:

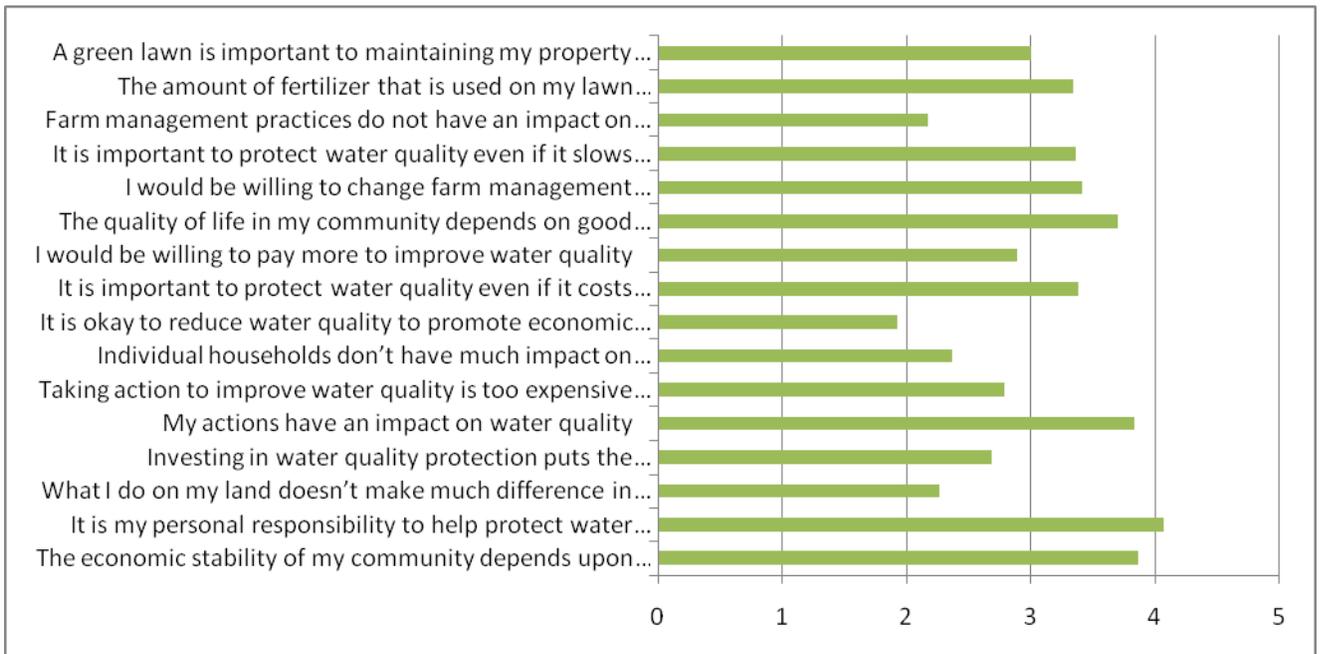


3. General Water Quality Attitudes:

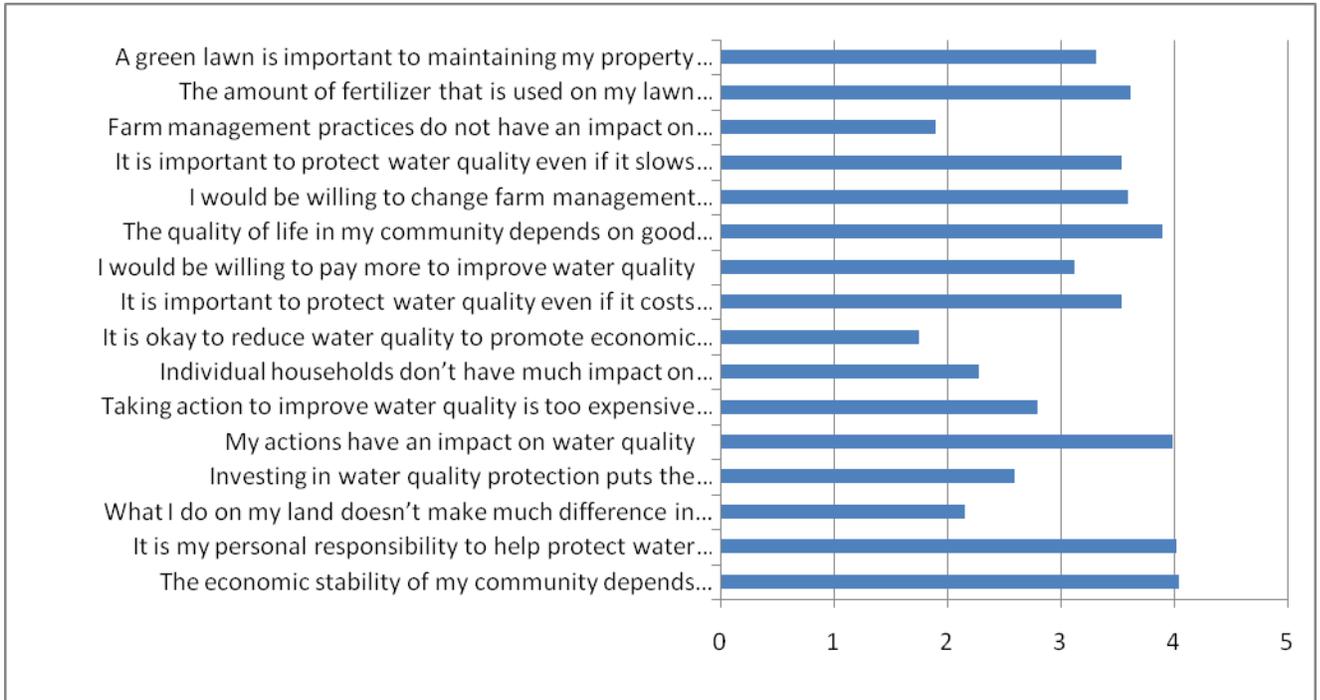
Urban seem to be more concerned about water quality, some examples:

- c. What I do on my land doesn't make much difference in overall water quality, urban disagree more than farmers (2.16 vs 2.26)
- e. My actions have an impact on water quality is higher(3.99 vs 3.83)
- h. It is okay to reduce water quality to promote economic development urban disagree more (1.75 vs 1.93)

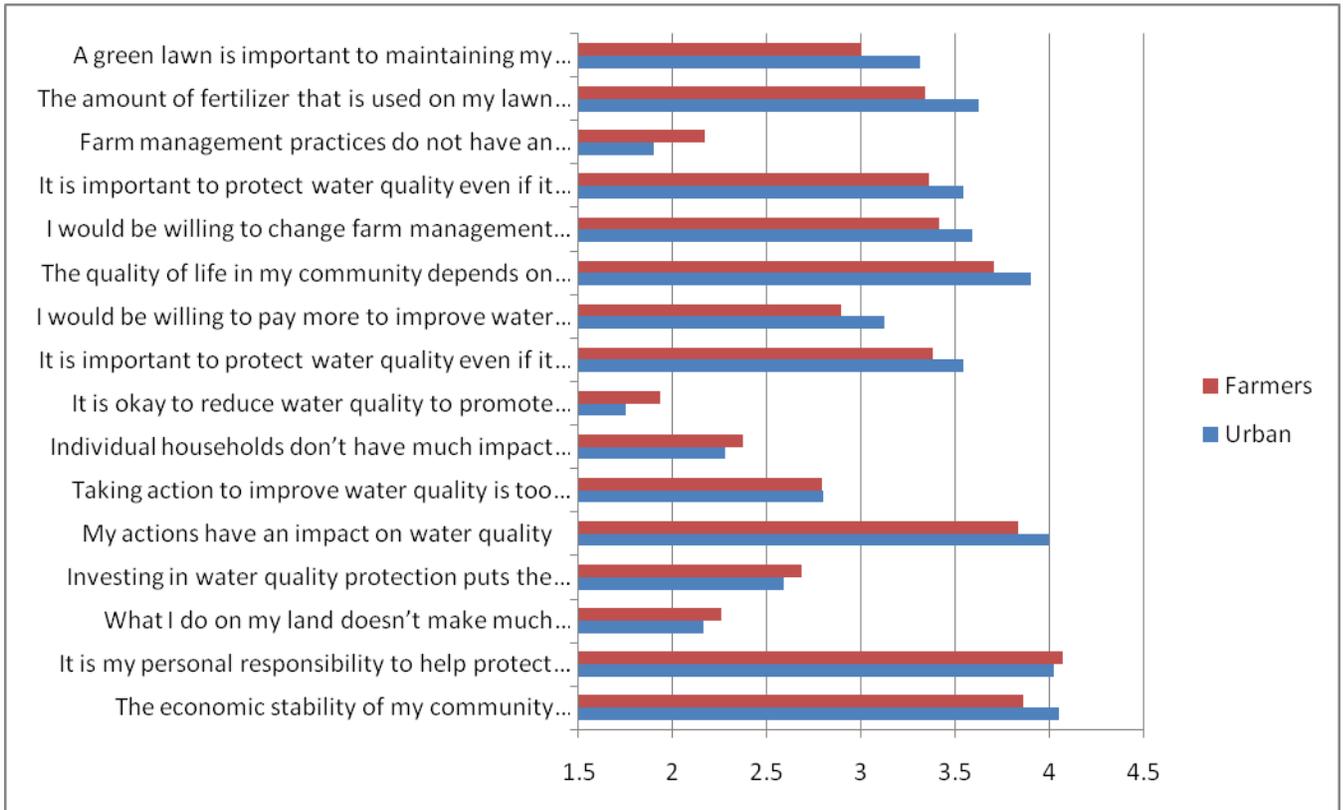
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:



4. Types of Water Pollutants:

Don't know answers are high for both

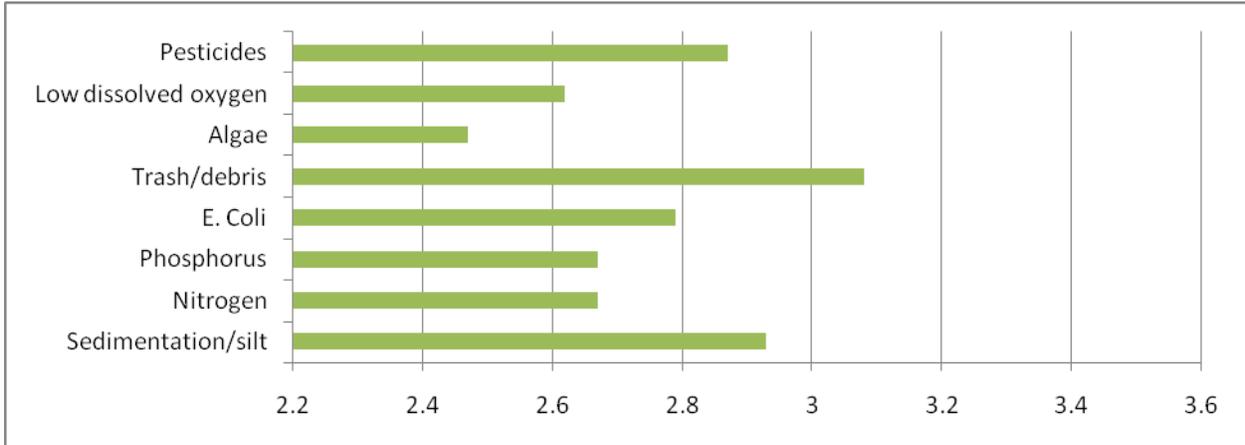
Urban don't know were higher than farmers for all pollutants

Urban said ALL were more of a problem than farmers

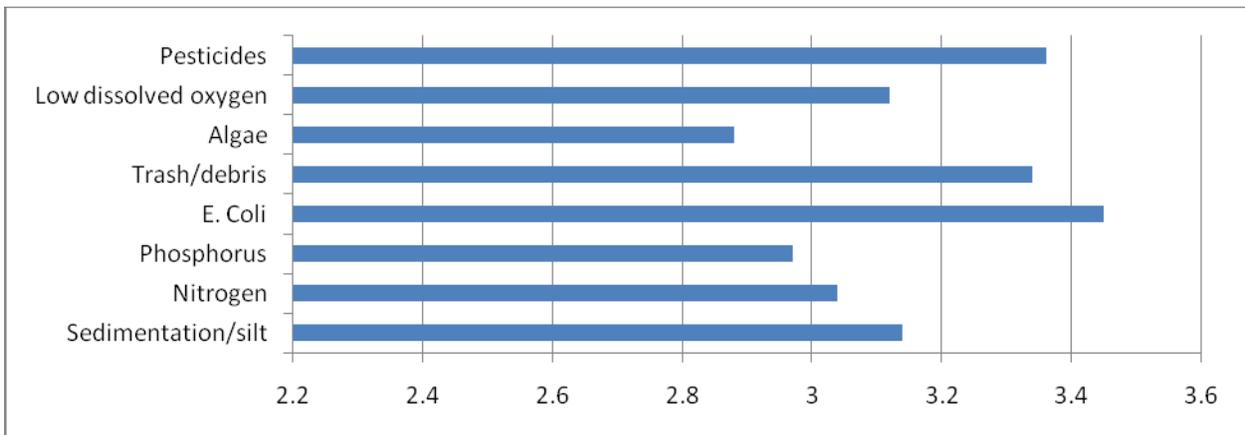
Farmers thought that trash/debris was the biggest problem (3.08) while urban

thought that E. coli was the biggest problem (3.45)

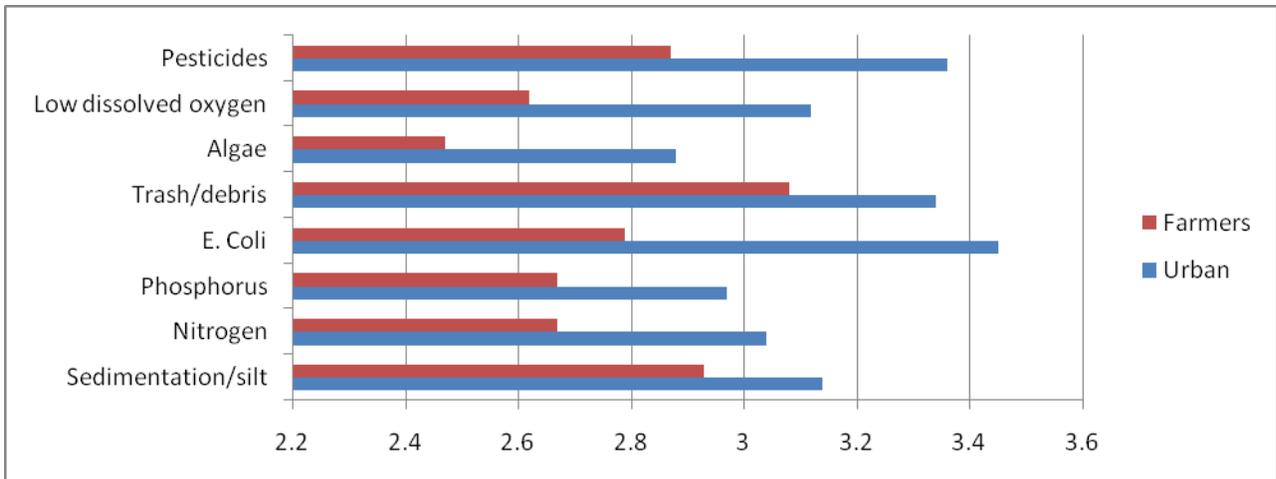
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:



5. Consequences of Poor Water Quality:

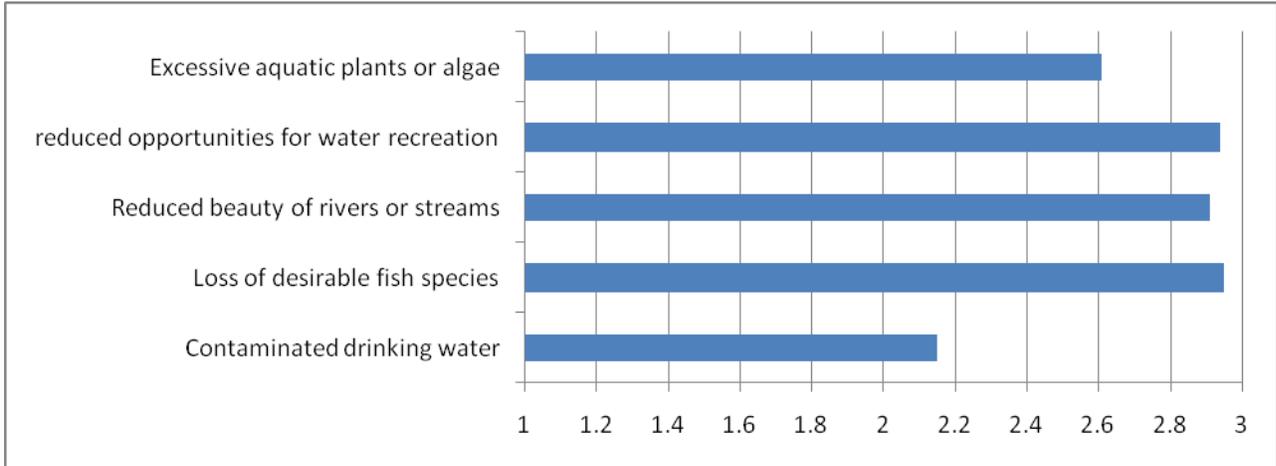
Don't know answers are high for both (but not as high as for types of water pollutants)

Urban don't knows were higher than farmers for all consequences

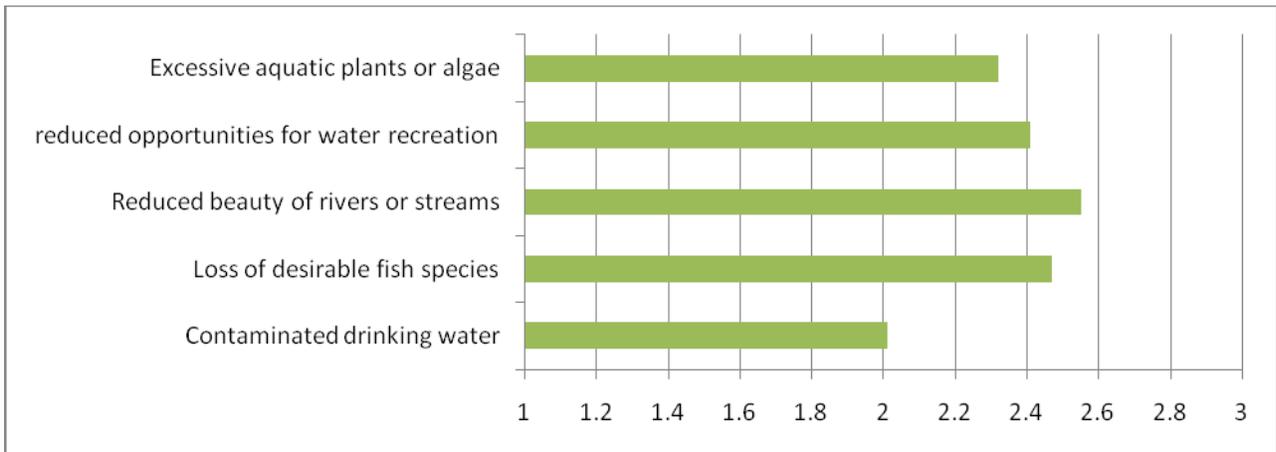
Urban said ALL were more of a problem than farmers

Both listed contaminated drinking water as the least problem

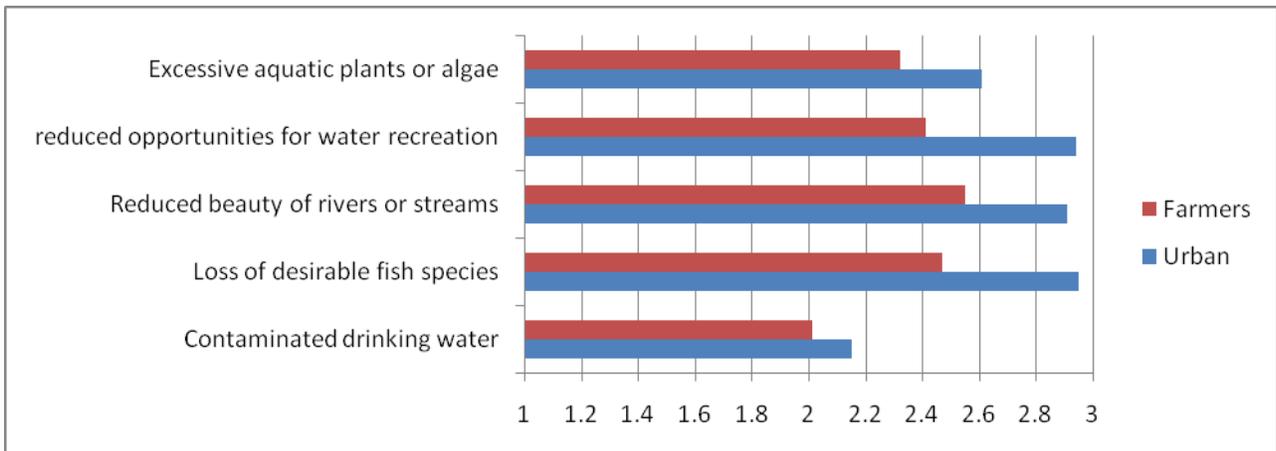
Urban:



Farmers:



Both:



6. Sources of Water Pollutants:

Don't know answers are high for both

Urban don't knows were higher than farmers for all sources

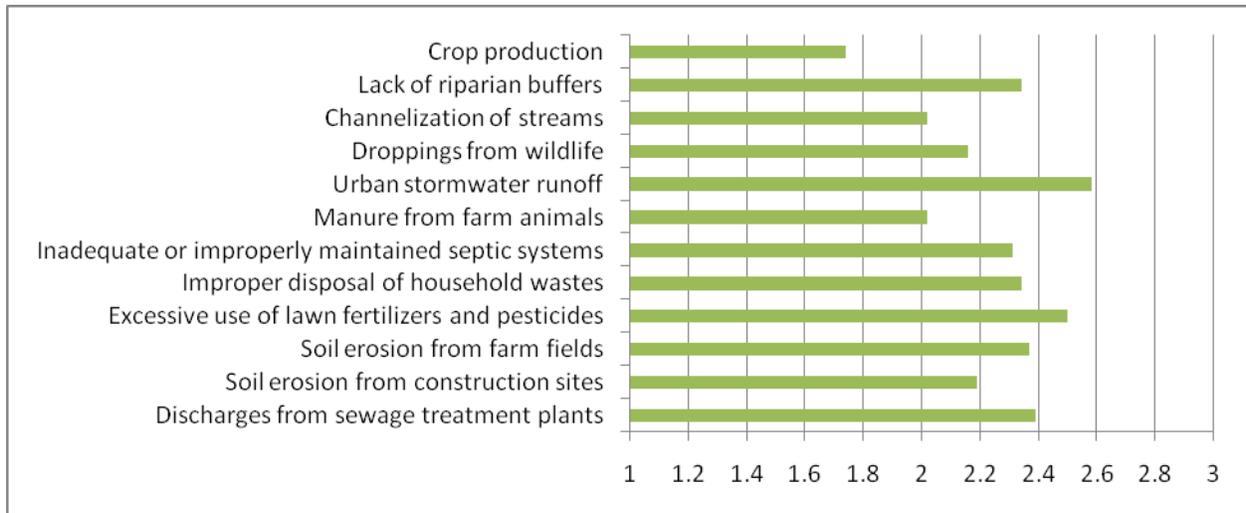
Urban said all were more of a problem except for k. Lack of riparian buffers

Farmers said urban stormwater runoff was the most severe problem (2.58)

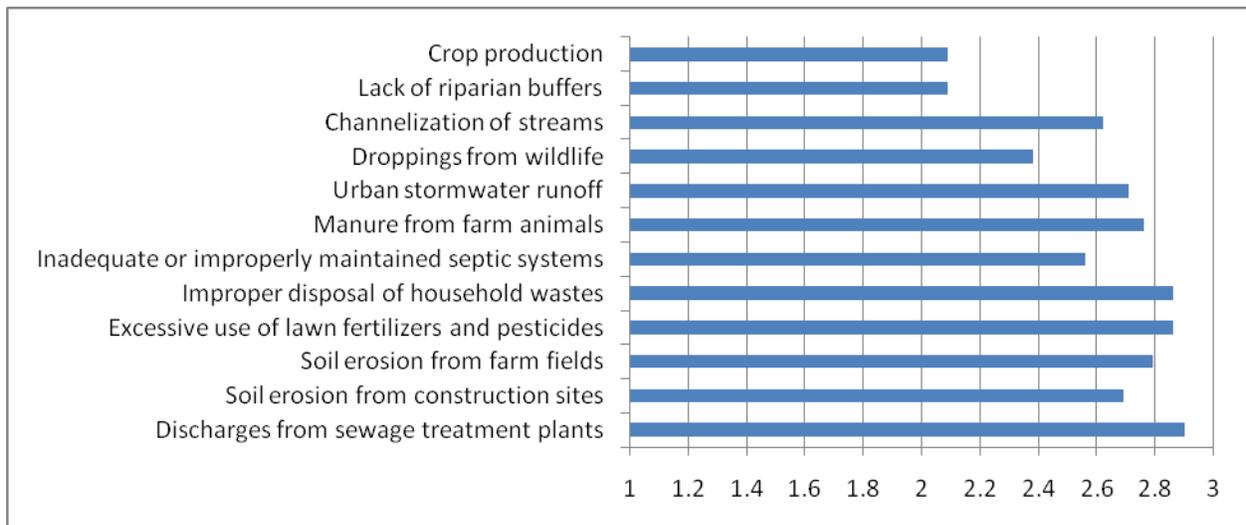
Urban said most severe were improper disposal of household wastes and excessive use of lawn fertilizers and pesticides were the most severe (2.86)

Farmers listed crop production as the lowest source of water pollutants (1.74) as did urban (2.09, tied with lack of riparian buffers)

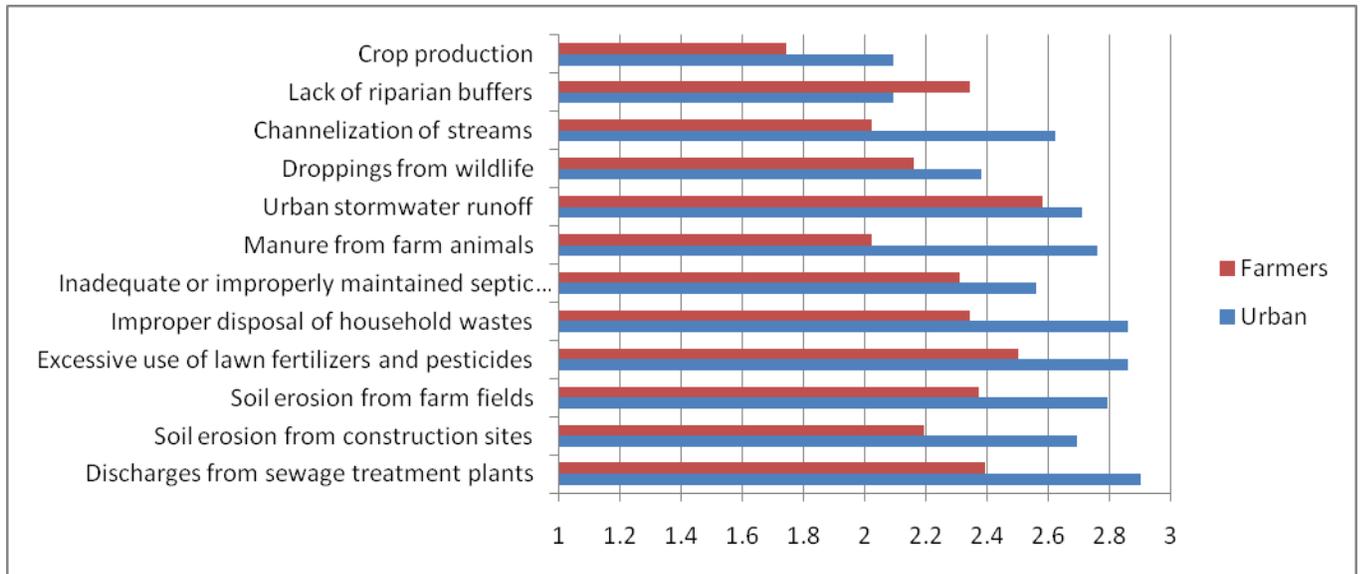
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:



7. Practices to Improve Water Quality:

Generally farmers were higher in the "I currently use it" column

c. Using phosphate free fertilizer is very low for both (16.6%U & 17.4%F), and has lower willing to try responses

h. Regular maintenance of septic system much higher for farmers (73.9%) than urban (31%), however "does not apply" is 51.6%

f.&h. For both are low for using it (all under 25%) but higher for willing to try (highest no is 17.6%)

Farmer only part:

-i. Only 23.9% use manure in accordance with its nutrient content, but only 6% said no for willing to try

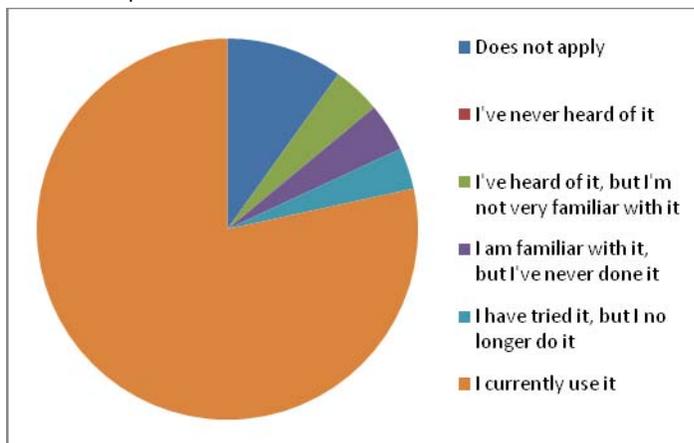
-n. Only 38.6% use cover crops, but only 9.7 said no for willing to try

-Only 16.5% use fencing with livestock, but only 16.7% said no for willing to try

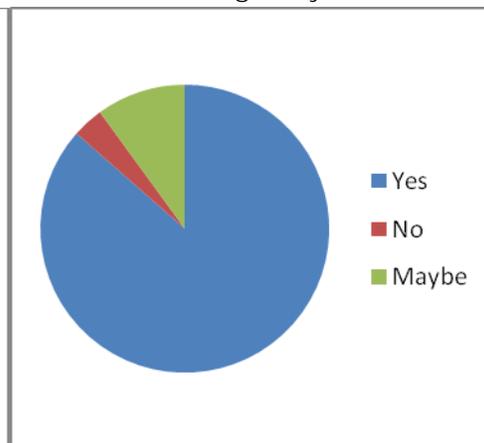
a. Following manufacturer's instructions when fertilizing lawn or garden:

Farmers:

Experience:

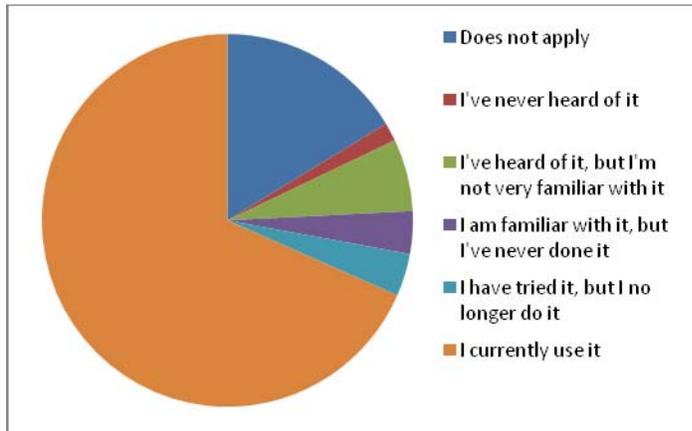


Willing to try:

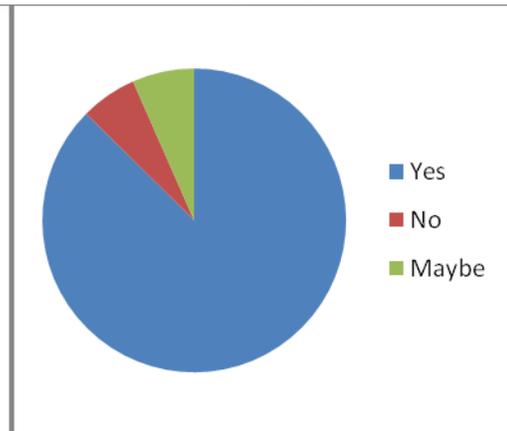


Urban:

Experience:



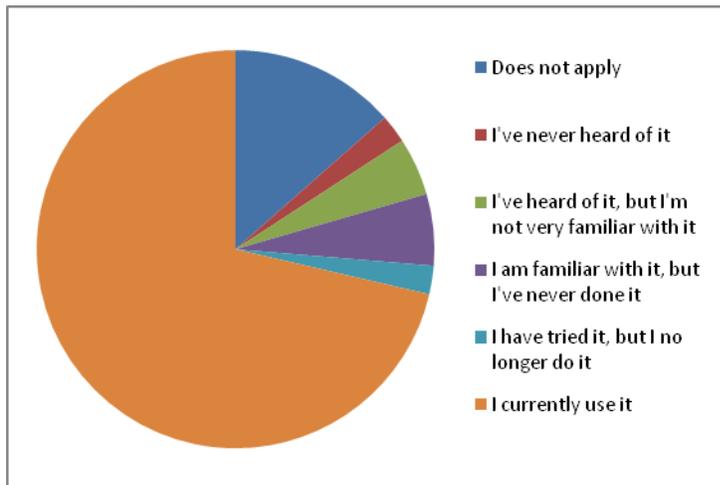
Willing to try:



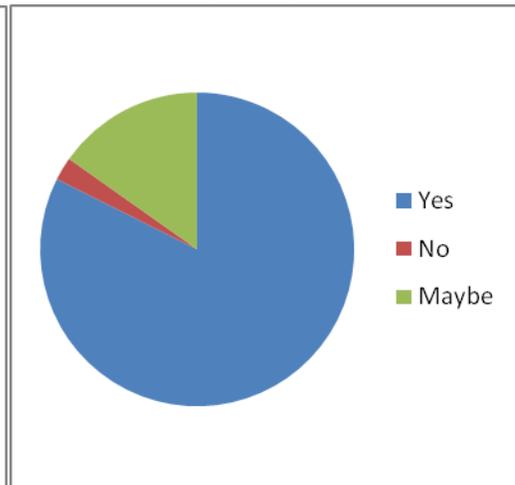
b. Keeping grass clippings and leaves out of storm drains, roads, ditches and gutters:

Farmers:

Experience:

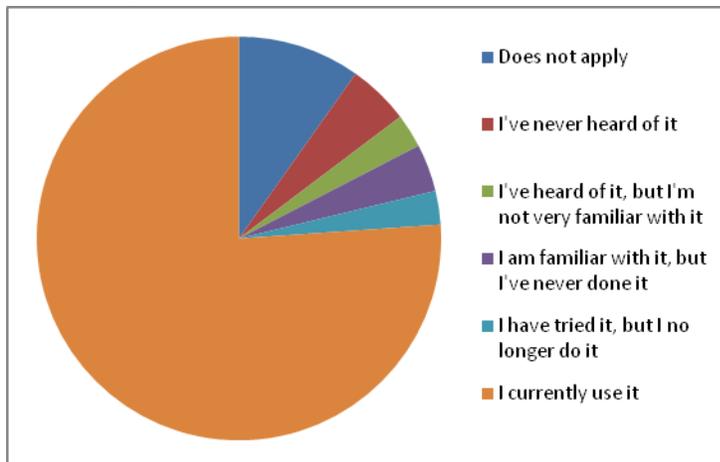


Willing to try:

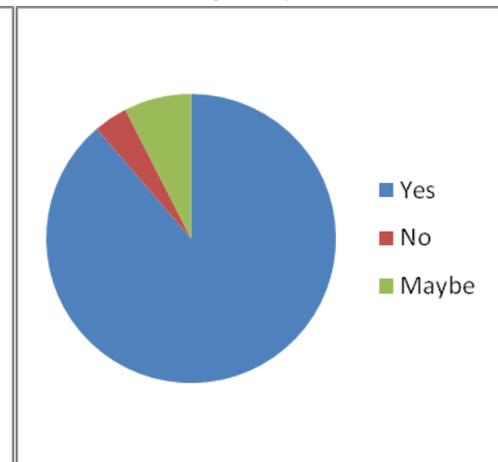


Urban:

Experience:



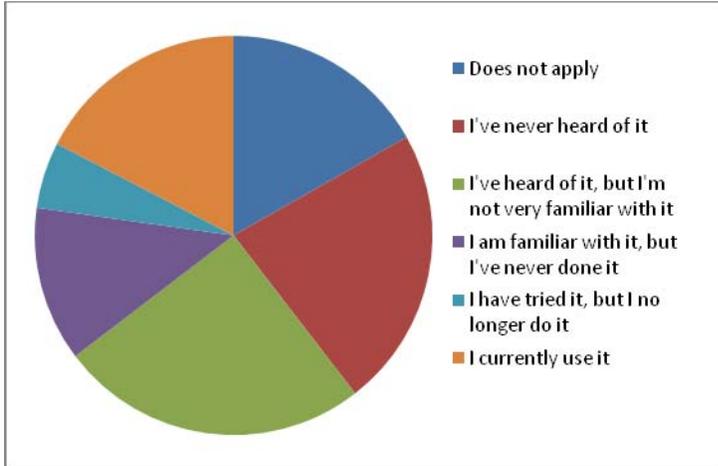
Willing to try:



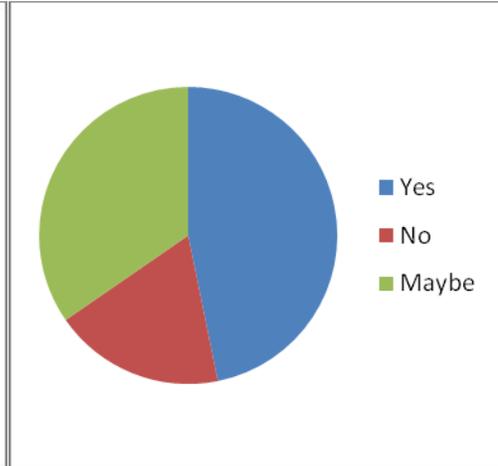
c. Using phosphate free fertilizer:

Farmers:

Experience:

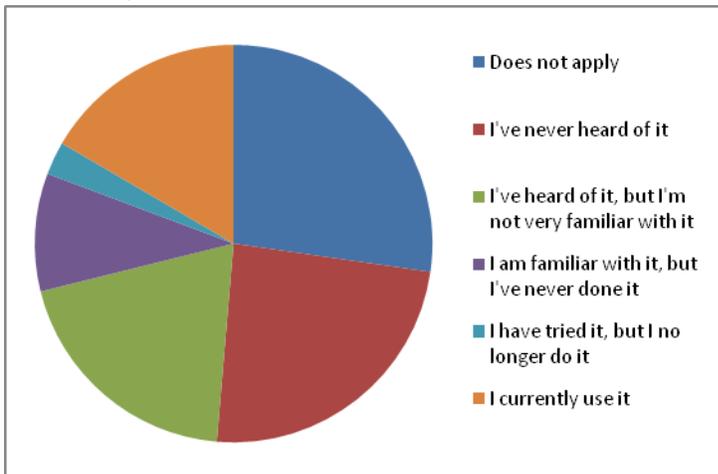


Willing to try:

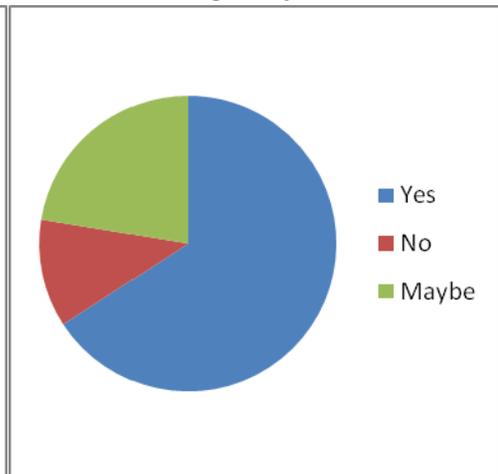


Urban:

Experience:



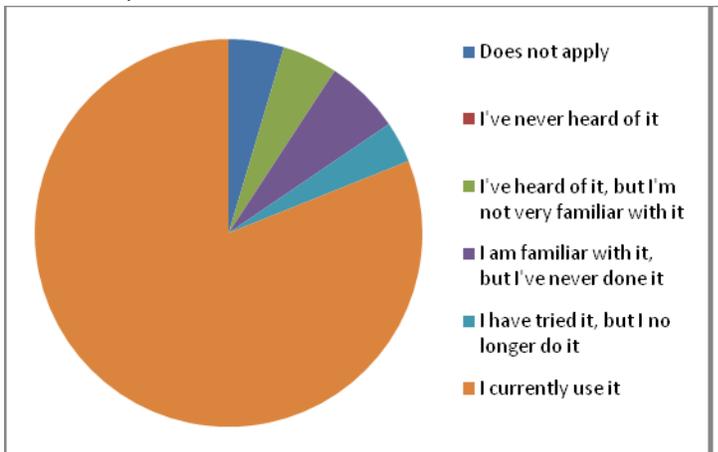
Willing to try:



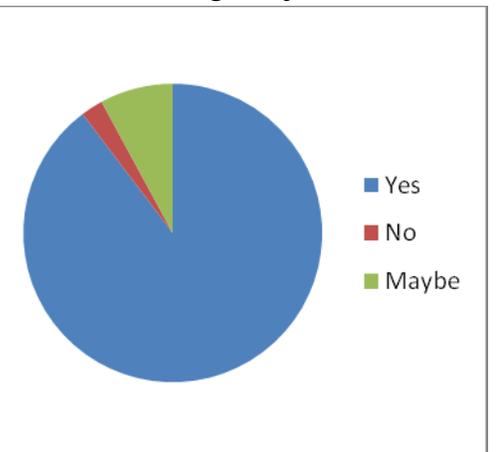
d. Properly disposing of household waste (chemicals, batteries, florescent light bulbs):

Farmers:

Experience:

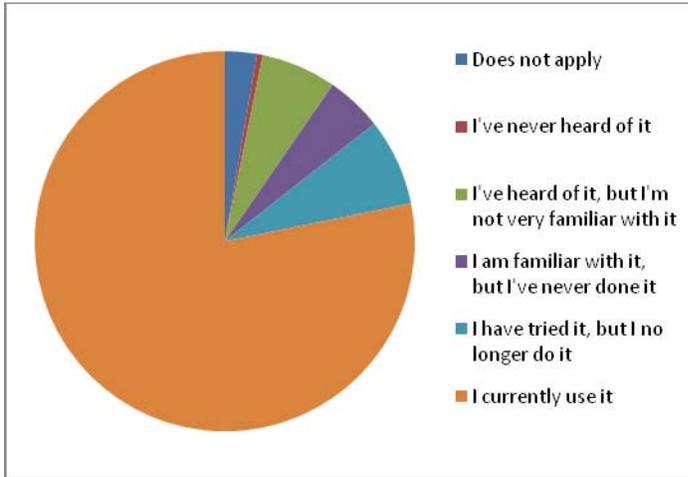


Willing to try:

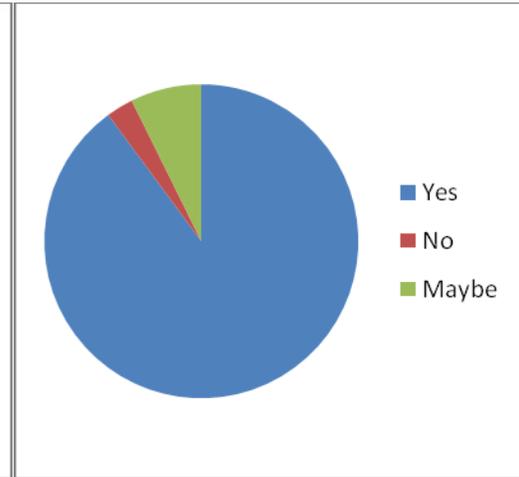


Urban:

Experience:



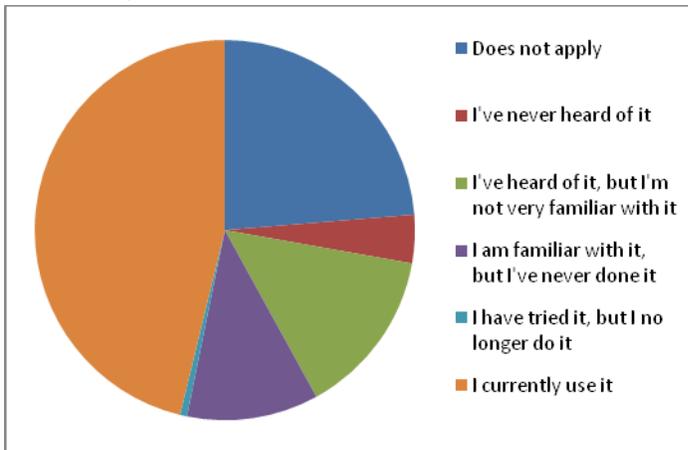
Willing to try:



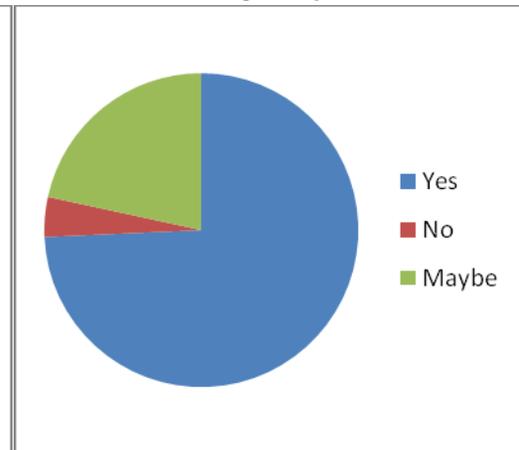
e. Stabilizing and protecting stream banks:

Farmers:

Experience:

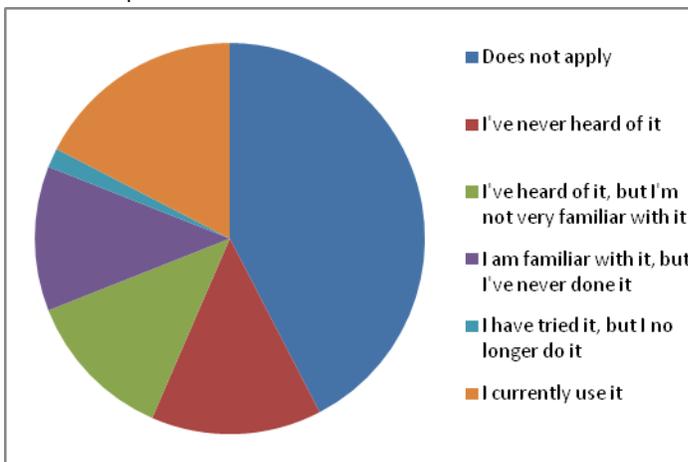


Willing to try:

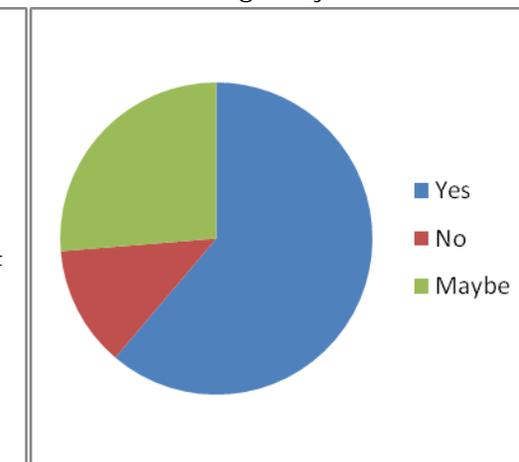


Urban:

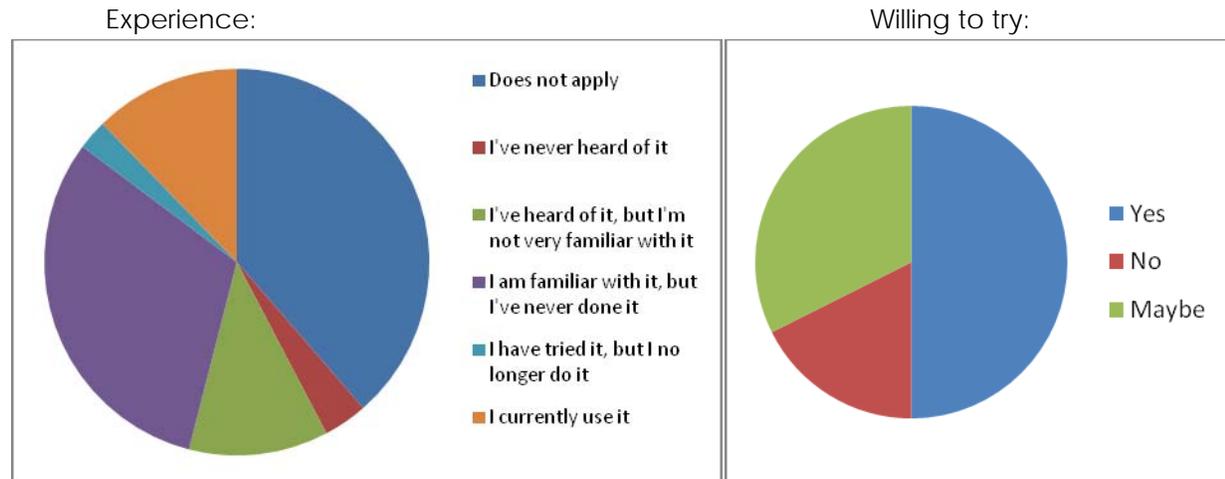
Experience:



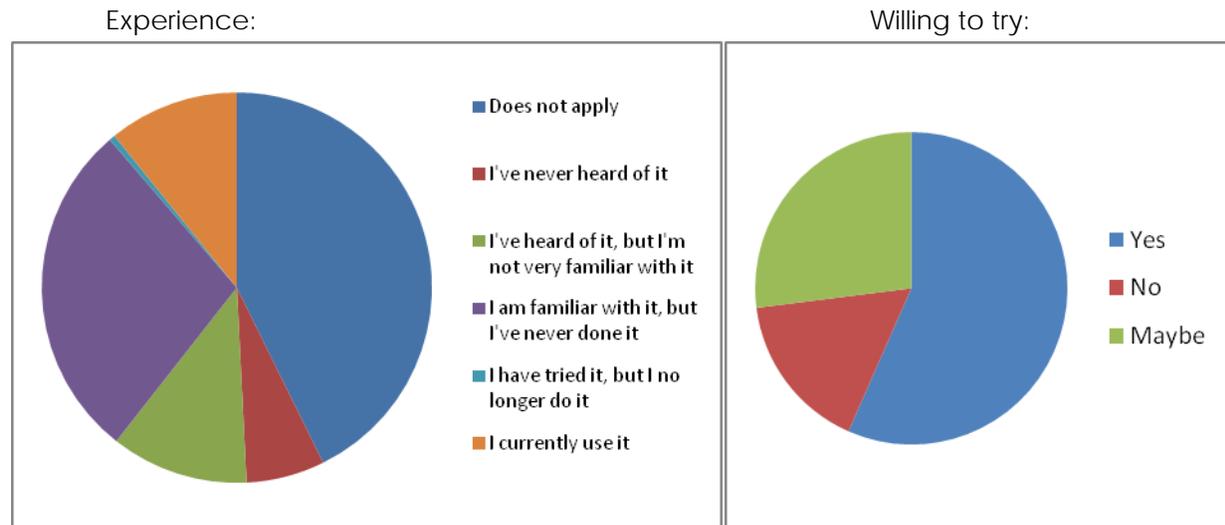
Willing to try:



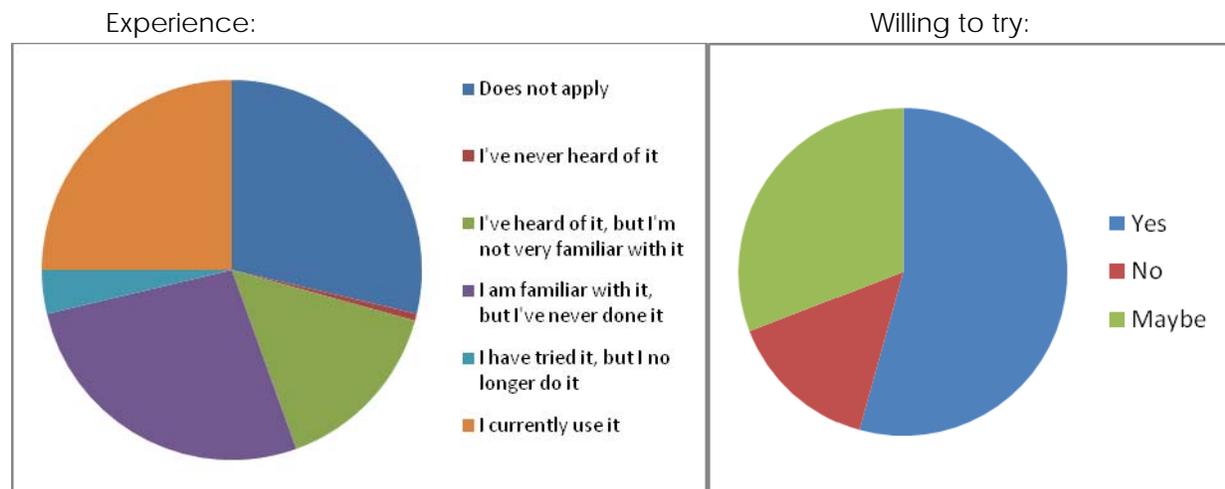
f. Restoring/enhancing wetland:  
Farmers:



Urban:

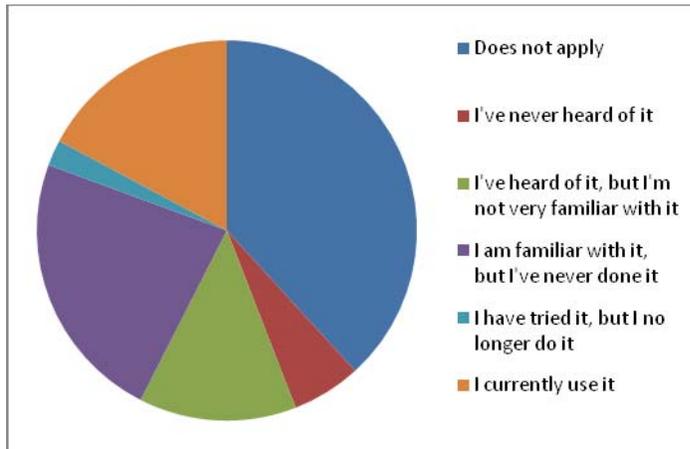


g. Restoring and/or managing declining wildlife habitats:  
Farmers:

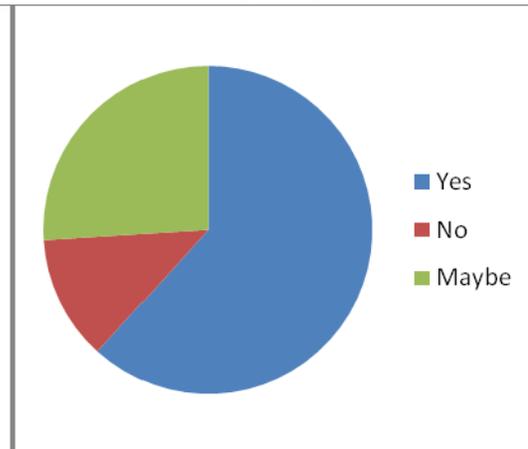


Urban:

Experience:



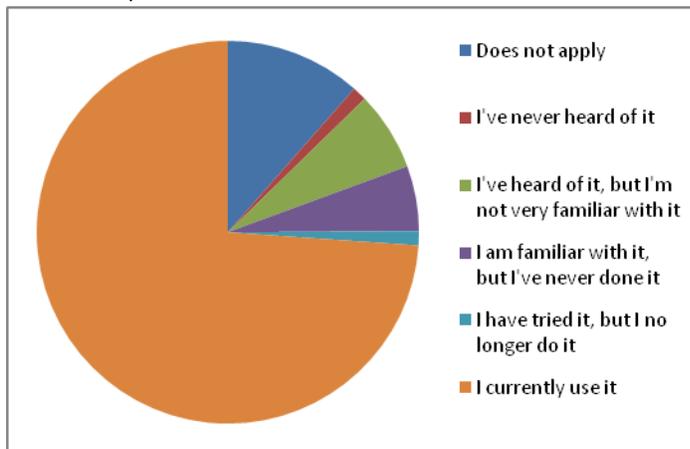
Willing to try:



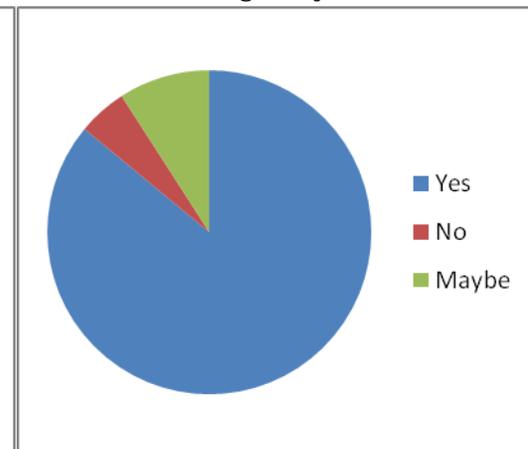
h. Regular maintenance of septic system:

Farmers:

Experience:

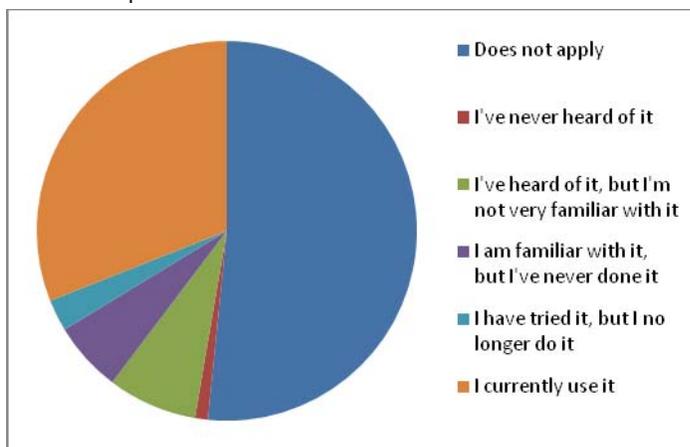


Willing to try:

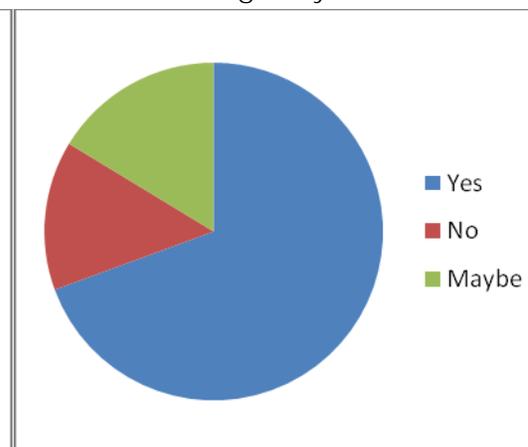


Urban:

Experience:



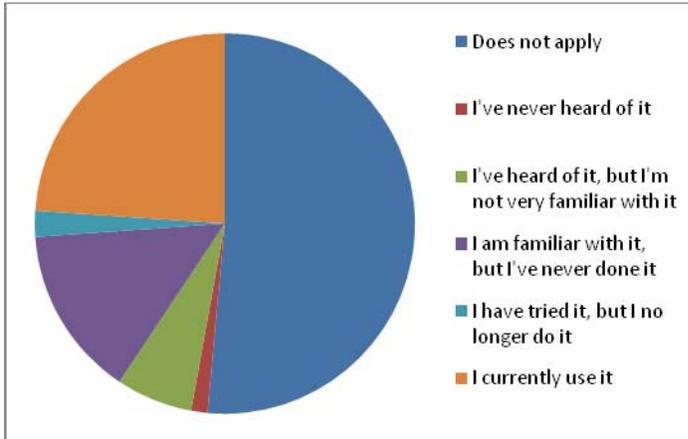
Willing to try:



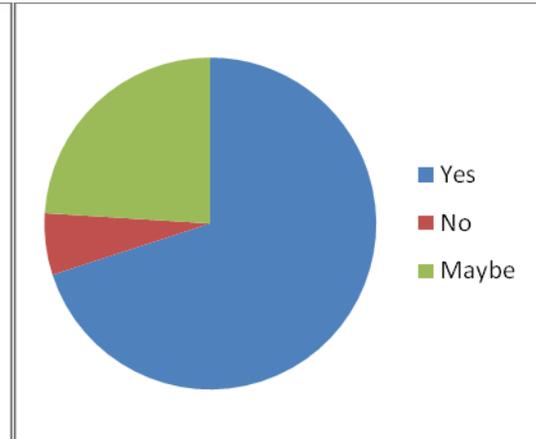
The rest of the questions in this section apply to farmers only:

i. Using manure in accordance with its nutrient content:

Experience:

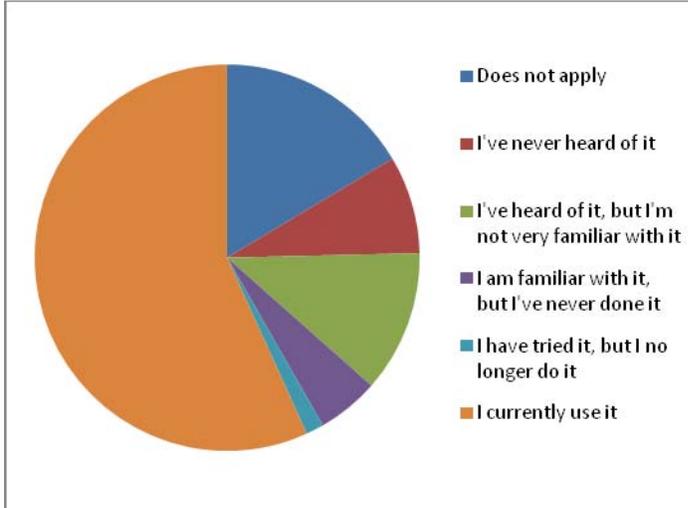


Willing to try:

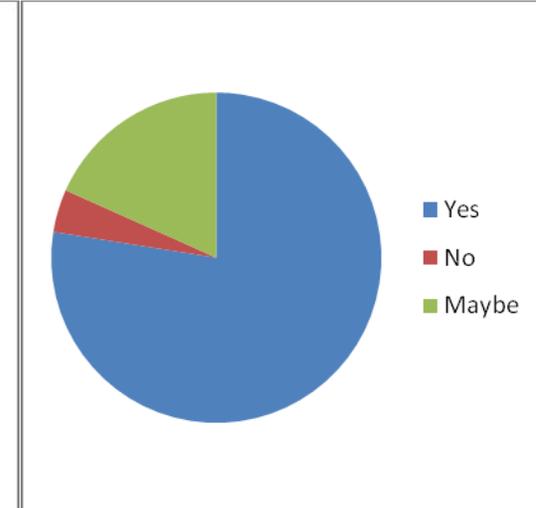


j. Following university or CCA recommendations for fertilization rates:

Experience:

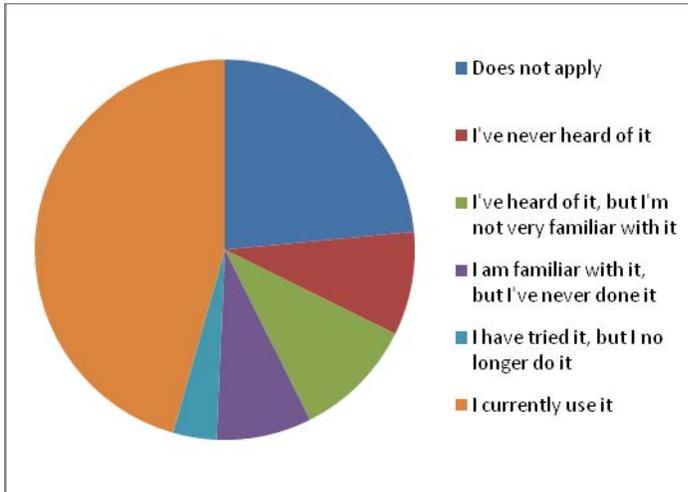


Willing to try:

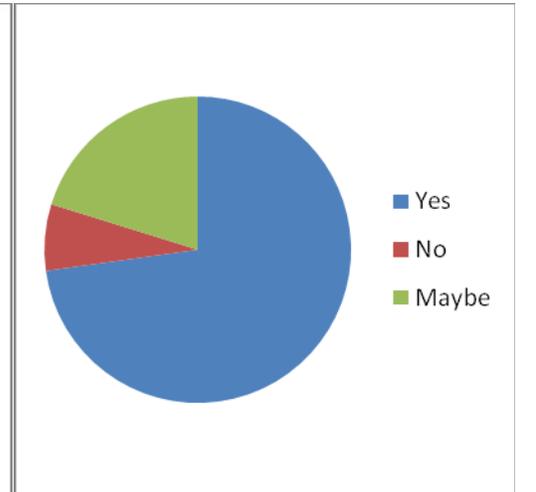


k. Using field records of crops, pests and pesticide use to help develop pest control strategies:

Experience:

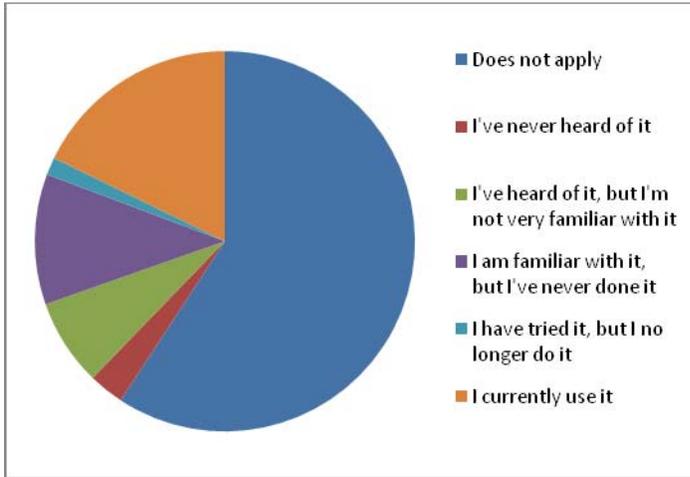


Willing to try:

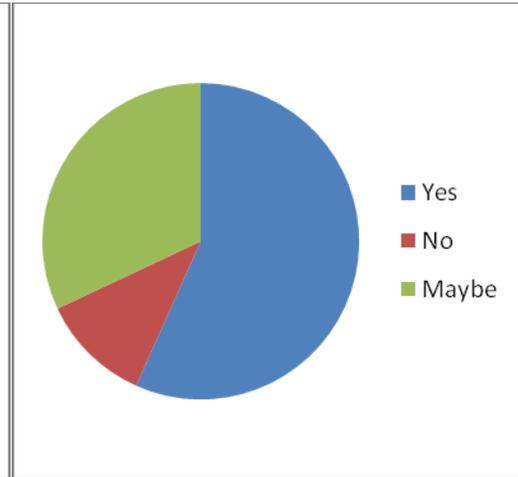


l. Constructing facilities to ensure adequate waste storage:

Experience:

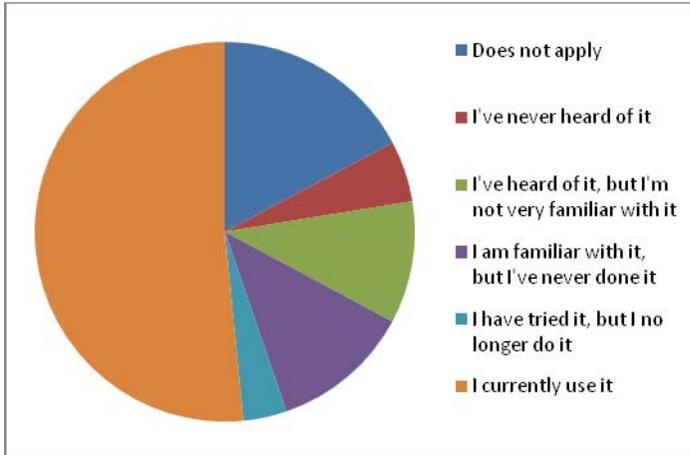


Willing to try:

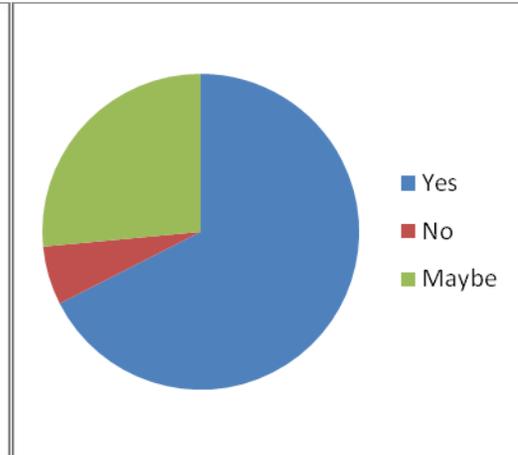


m. Using high residue tillage system to reduce erosion:

Experience:

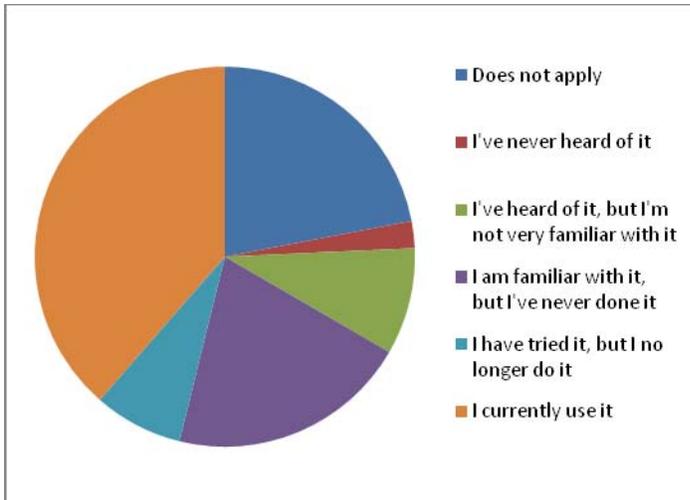


Willing to try:

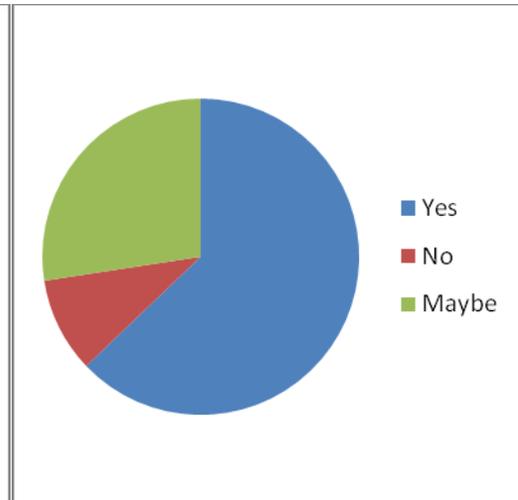


n. Using cover crops:

Experience:

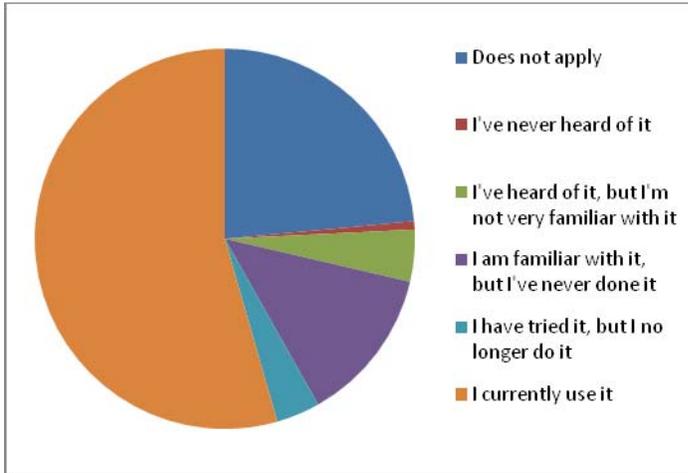


Willing to try:

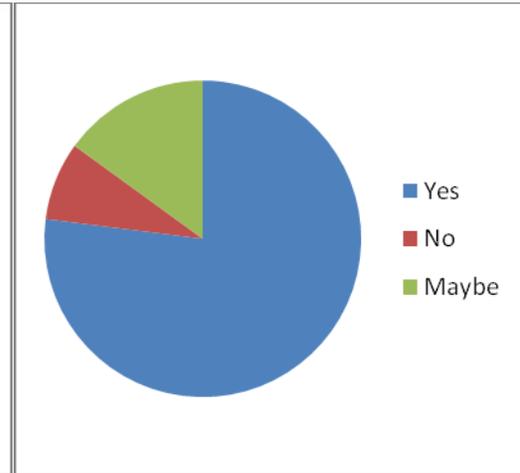


o. Using grassed waterways or filter strips:

Experience:

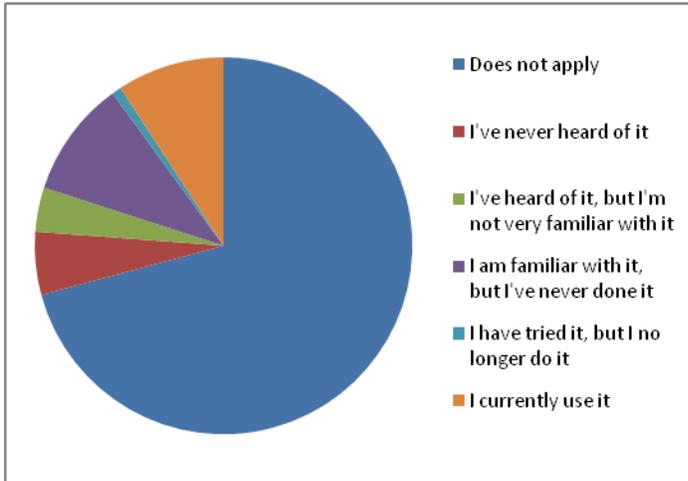


Willing to try:

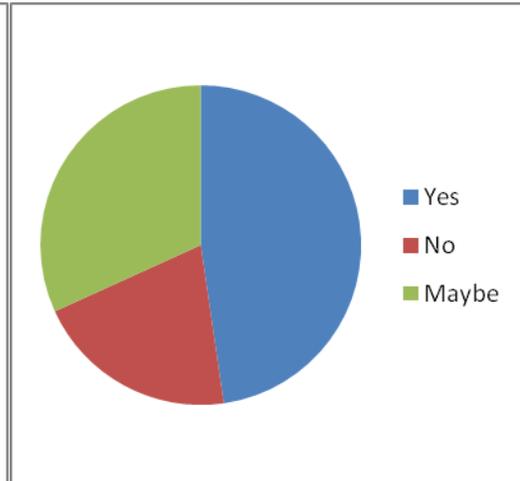


p. Following an approved grazing plan:

Experience:

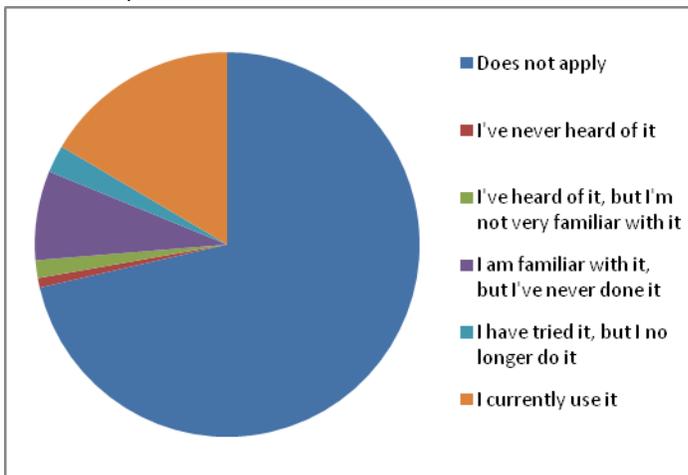


Willing to try:

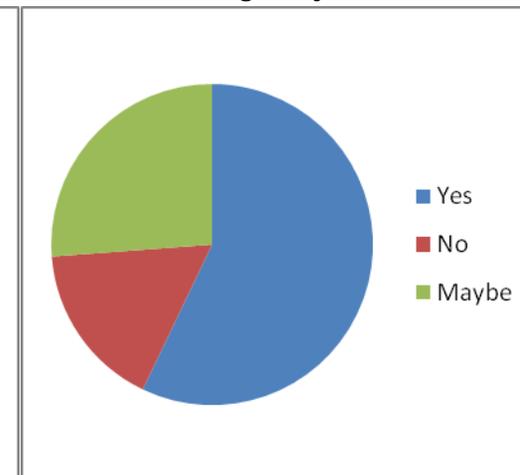


q. Using fencing to exclude livestock from critical areas:

Experience:



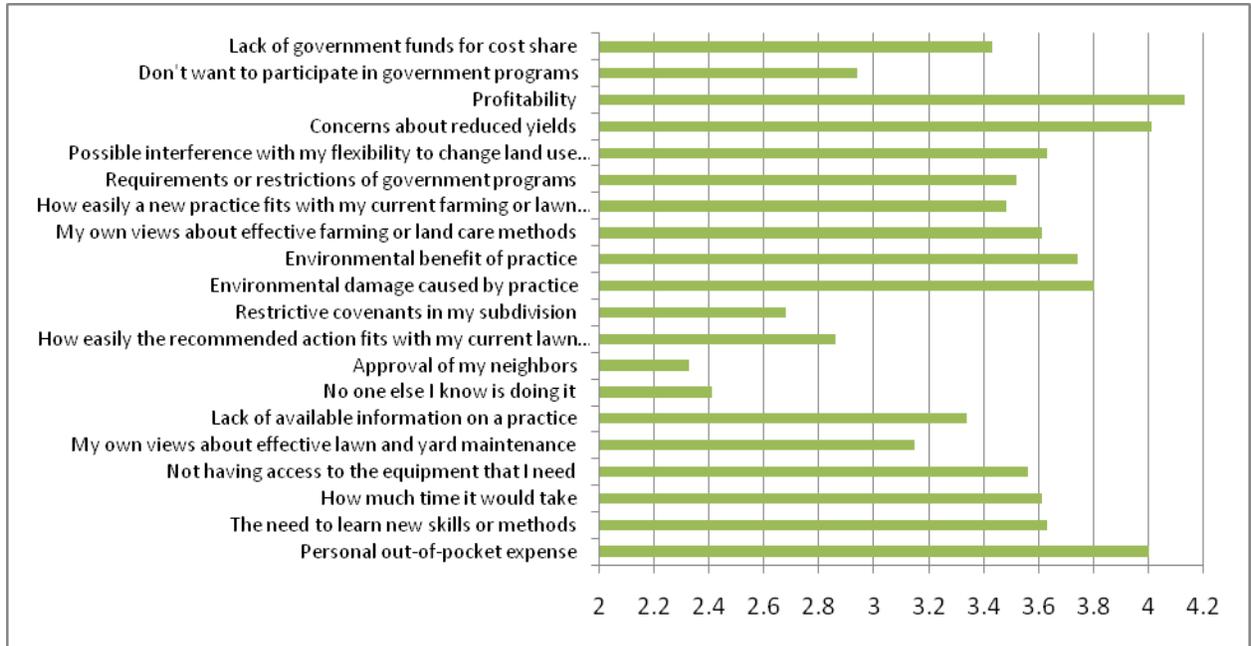
Willing to try:



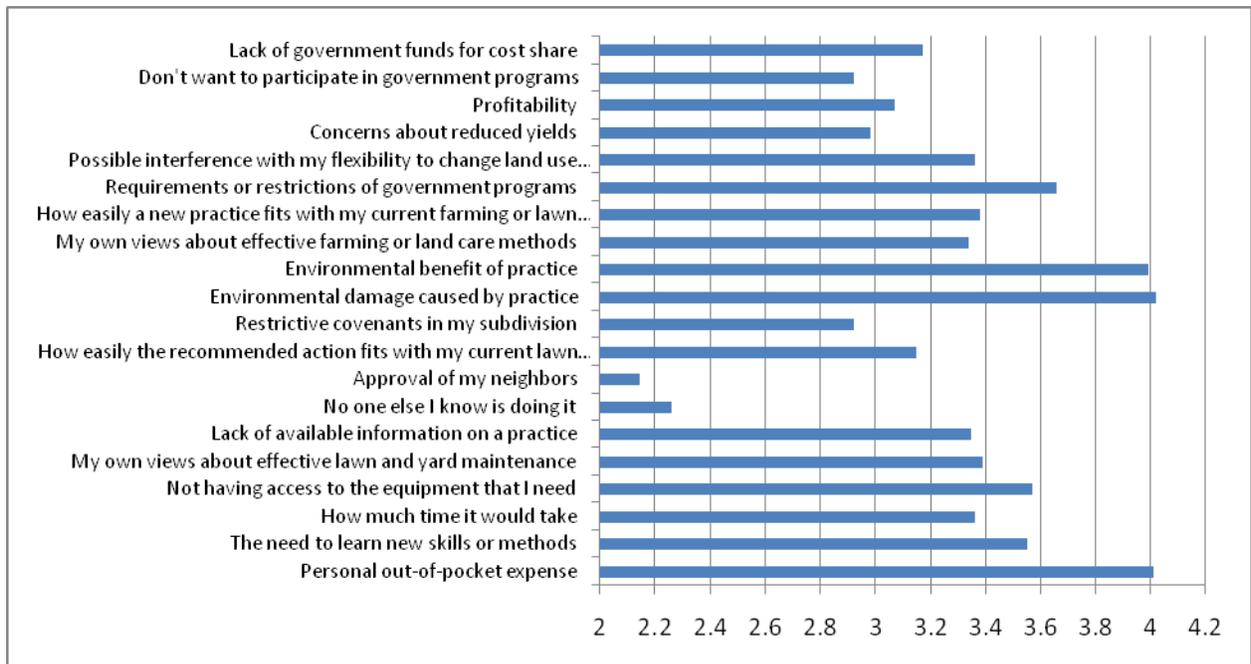
8. Challenges Associated with Improving Water Quality:

Both farmers and urban said personal out of pocket expense, environmental damage and environmental benefit were among the most important  
 Farmers rated profitability(4.13=highest) and concerns about reduced yields (4.01) highly where urban rated them more neutral (3.07 & 2.98)  
 Farmers rated approval of my neighbors 2.33 and no one else I know is doing it 2.41 (the two lowest for both farmers and urban) which conflicts with what was said at the Clifty meeting about farmers catching on to practices through their neighbors

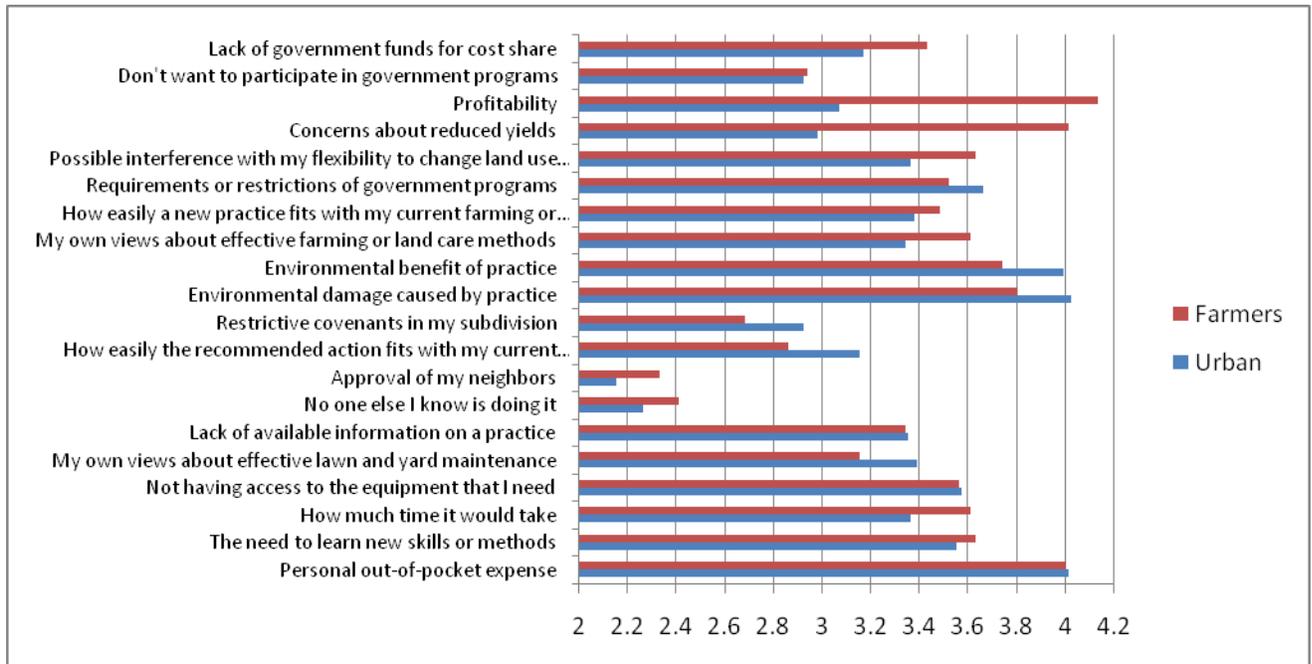
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:



9. Trust in Various Sources:

Farmers trust SWCD most (3.86) but also rated NRCS (3.76), University Extension (3.75), and Indiana State Department of Agriculture (3.75) high

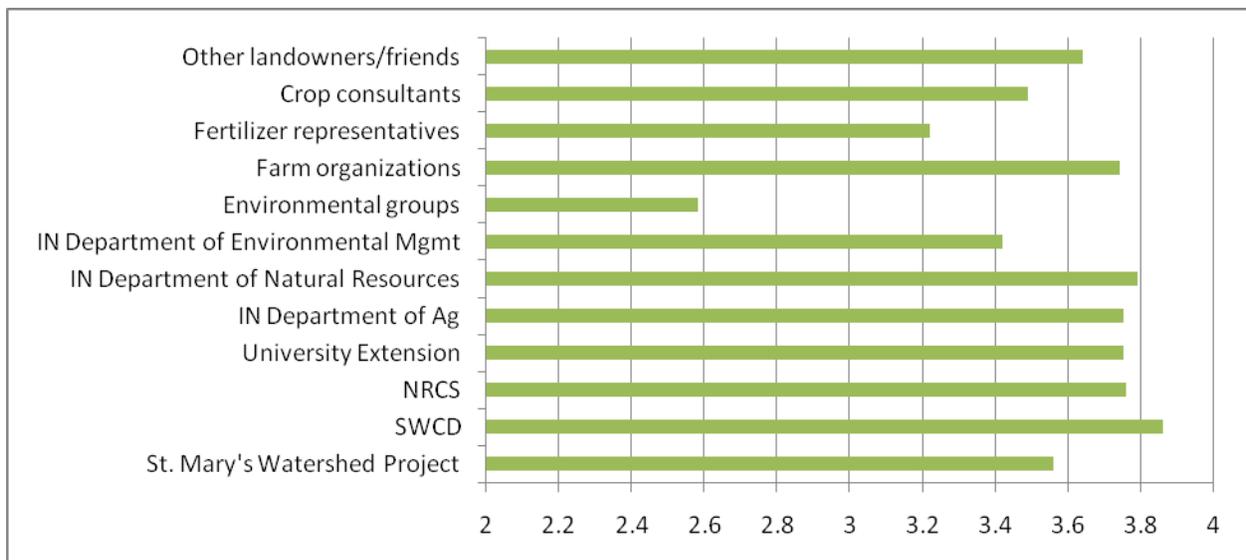
Urban trust University Extension(3.83) most but also rated Indiana Department of Natural Resources(3.81) highly

Farmers trust environmental groups the least (2.58) which is also low for urban (2.86)

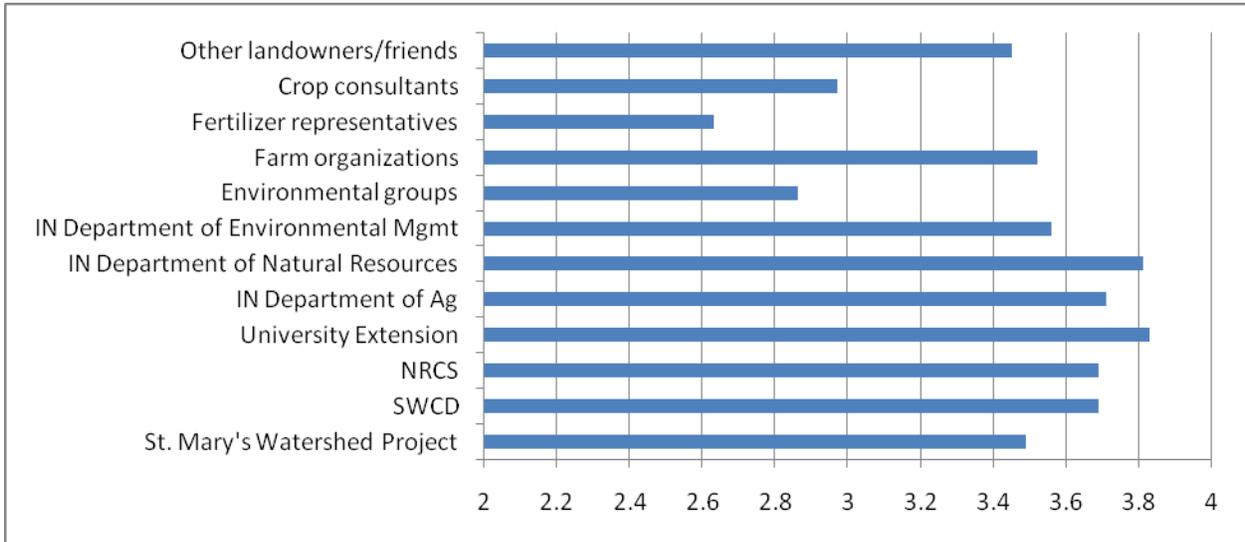
Urban rated fertilizer representatives as the least trustworthy (2.63)

Urban selected never heard of more often than farmers for all sources

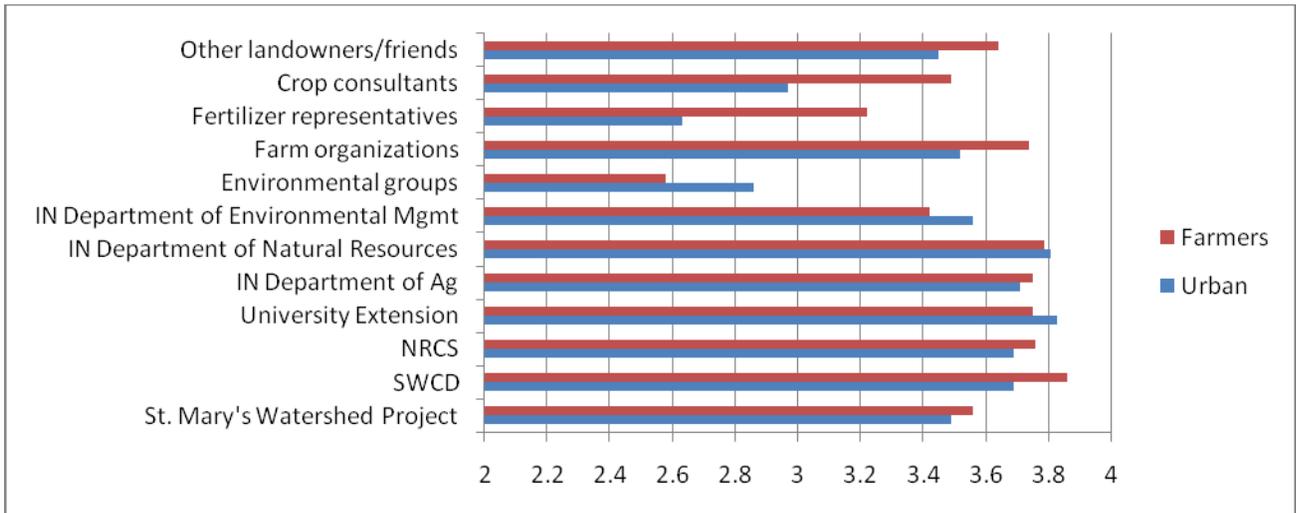
Farmers:



Urban:



Both:



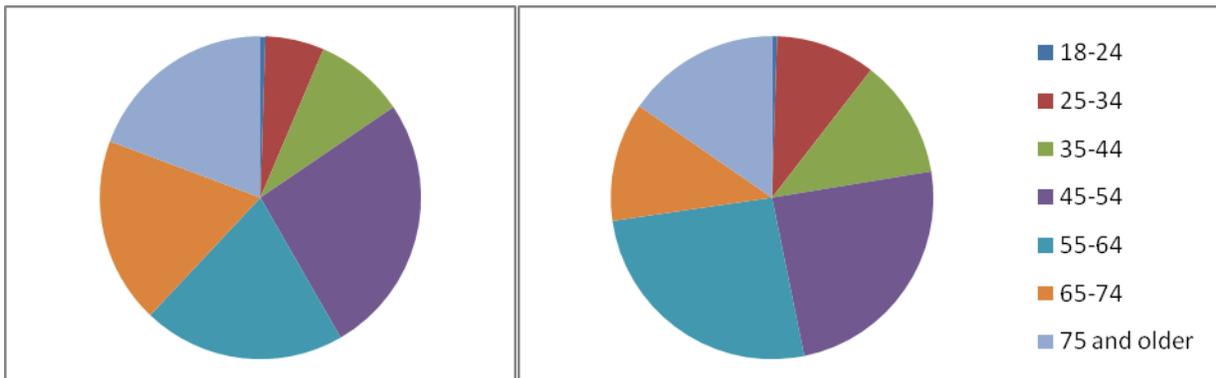
10. About You

a. What is your age:

Farmers had the most in the 45-54 age group, Urban 55-54, but farmers had more people 58.3% 55 or older where urban had 53.2%

Farmers:

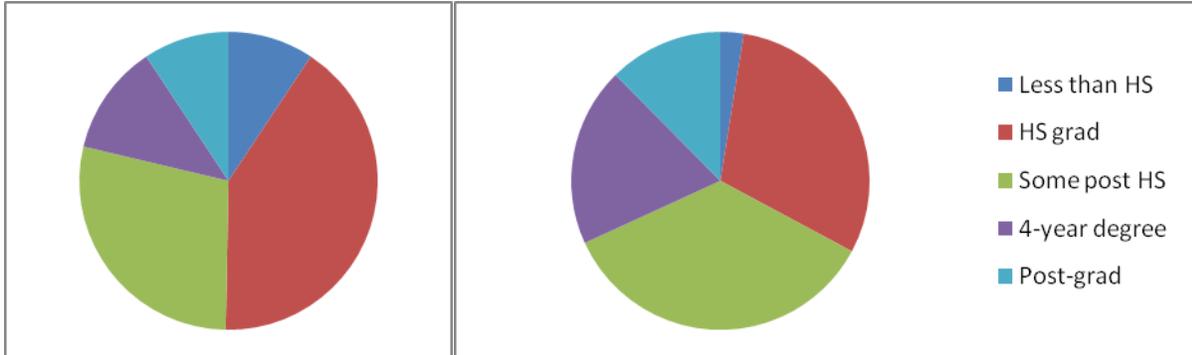
Urban:



b. What is the highest level of education you have achieved:  
 Only 46.7% of farmers had a higher level of education than high school where  
 61.4% of urban said they had at least some college or higher

Farmers:

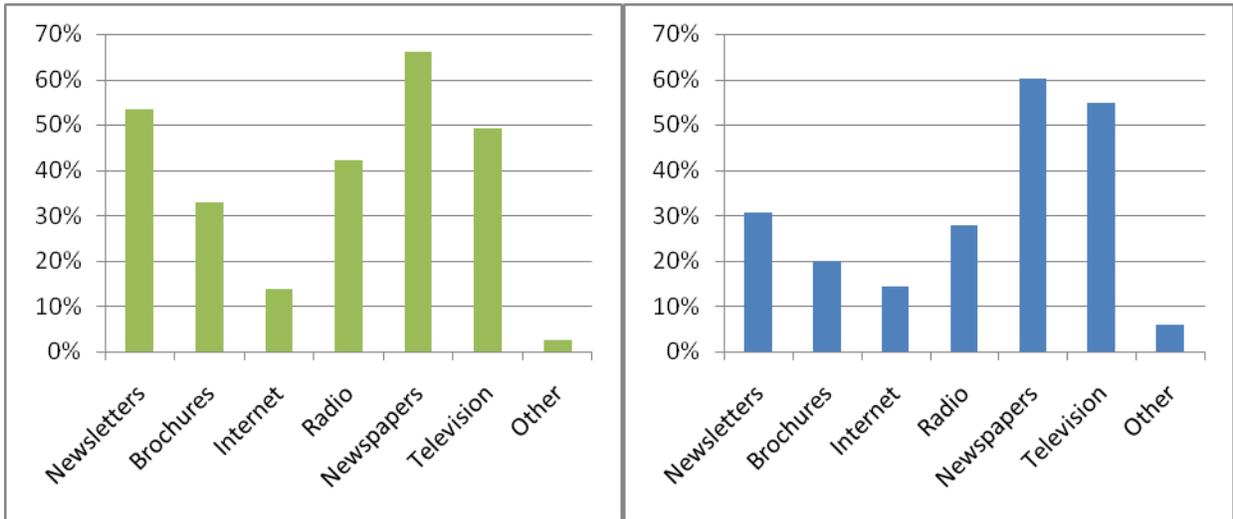
Urban:



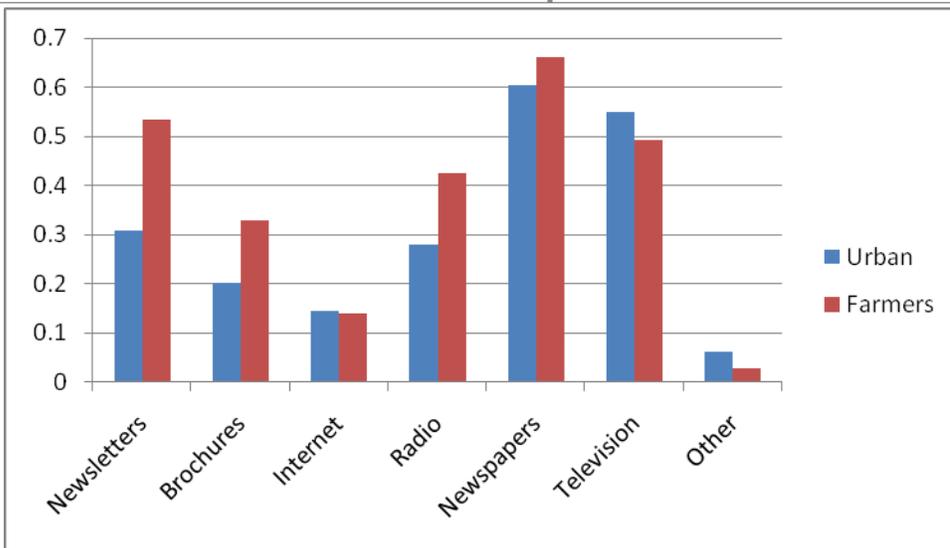
c. Where hear about water quality issues:  
 Both farmers and urban rated newsletters, newspapers and television the highest

Farmers:

Urban:



Both:

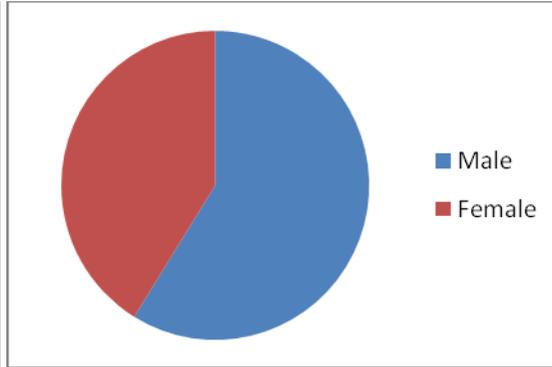
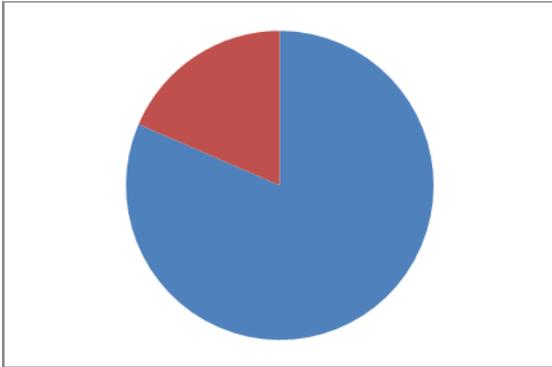


d. What is your gender:

81.5% of the farmers were male while urban was more even with 58.8% male

Farmers:

Urban:

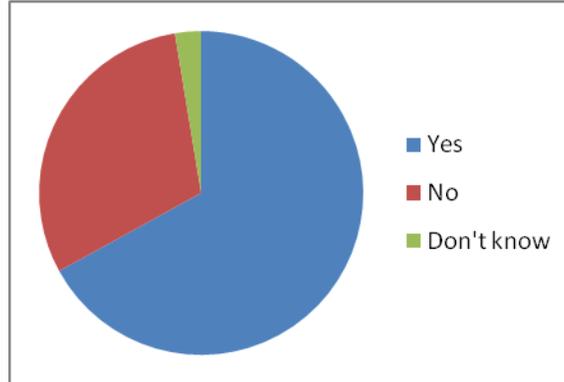
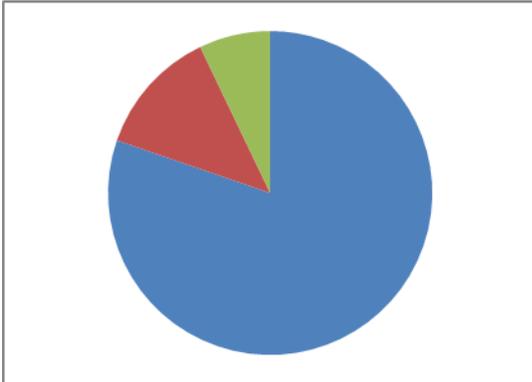


e. Do you have a septic system:

80.2% of farmers said yes while only 67% of urban did

Farmers:

Urban:

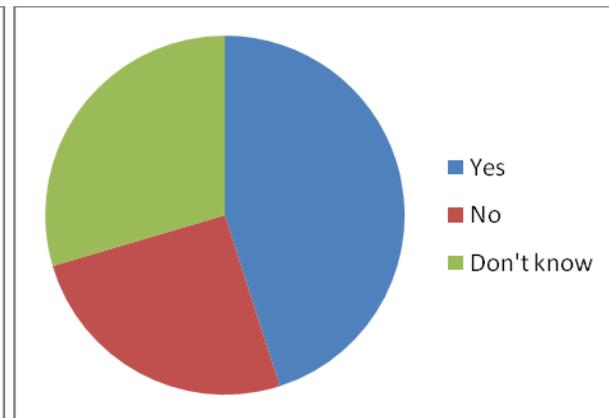
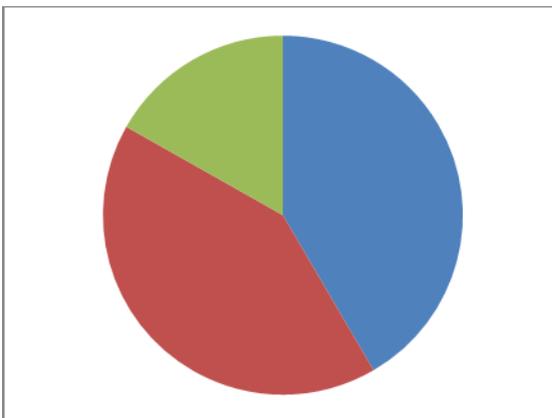


f. Does your septic system have an absorption field?

Both had a little over 40% say yes, but urban had almost 30% say they don't know

Farmers:

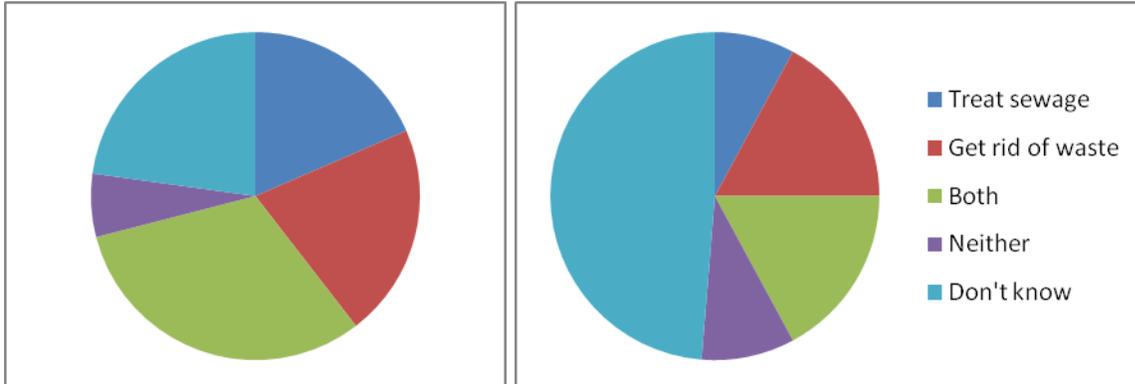
Urban:



g. Was your septic system designed to get rid of waste or treat sewage?  
 48.7% of urban said they didn't know

Farmers:

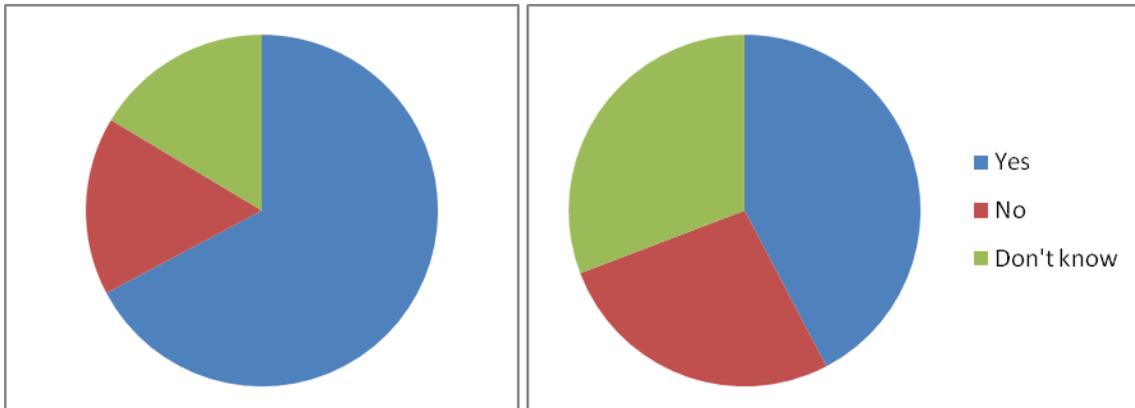
Urban:



h. Do you think a local government agency should handle inspection and maintenance of septic systems?  
 Farmers had a high yes of 67.3% while only 42.3% of urban said yes (and 30.8% said they didn't know)

Farmers:

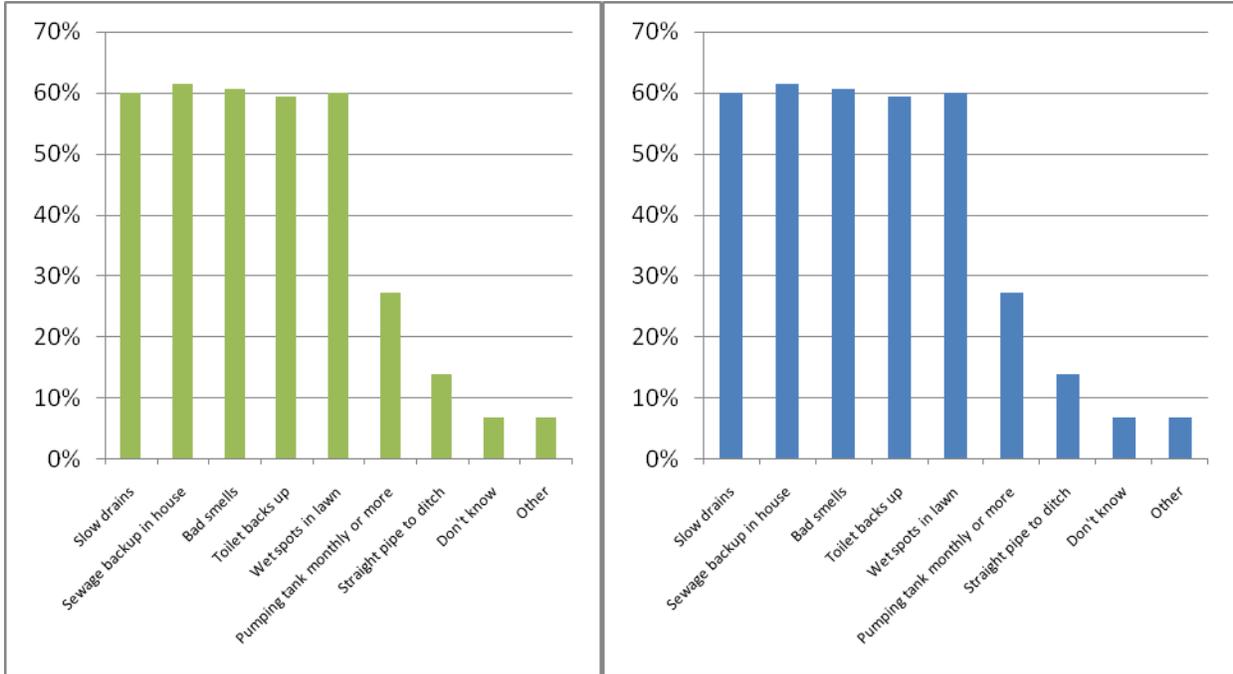
Urban:



- i. How would you know if your septic system was NOT working properly?  
 Lowest two for both were by pumping tank monthly or more and straight pipe to ditch, don't know was low for both as well

Farmers:

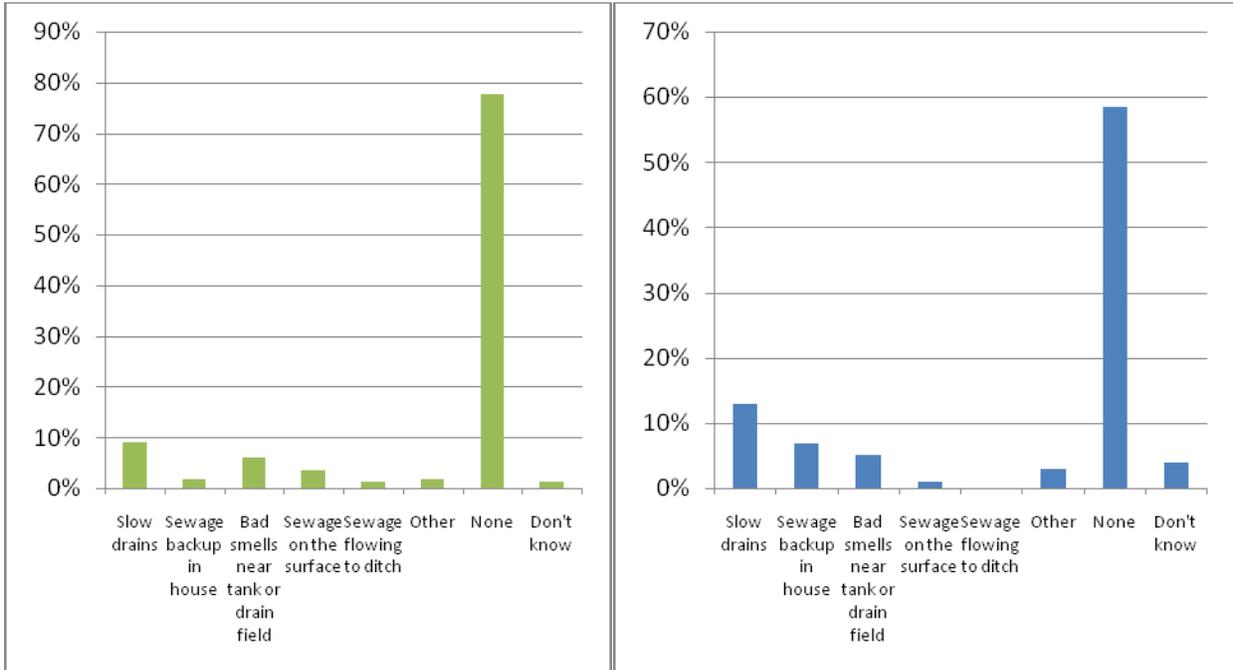
Urban:



- j. Within the last five years have you had any of the following problems?  
 Both had high none responses (58.4% of urban and 77.8% of farmers)

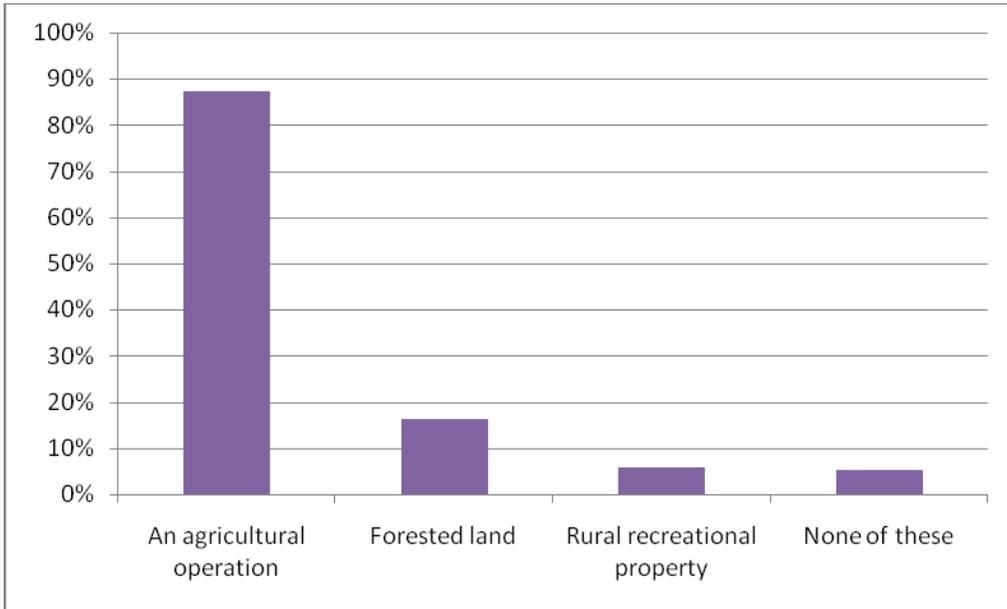
Farmers:

Urban:

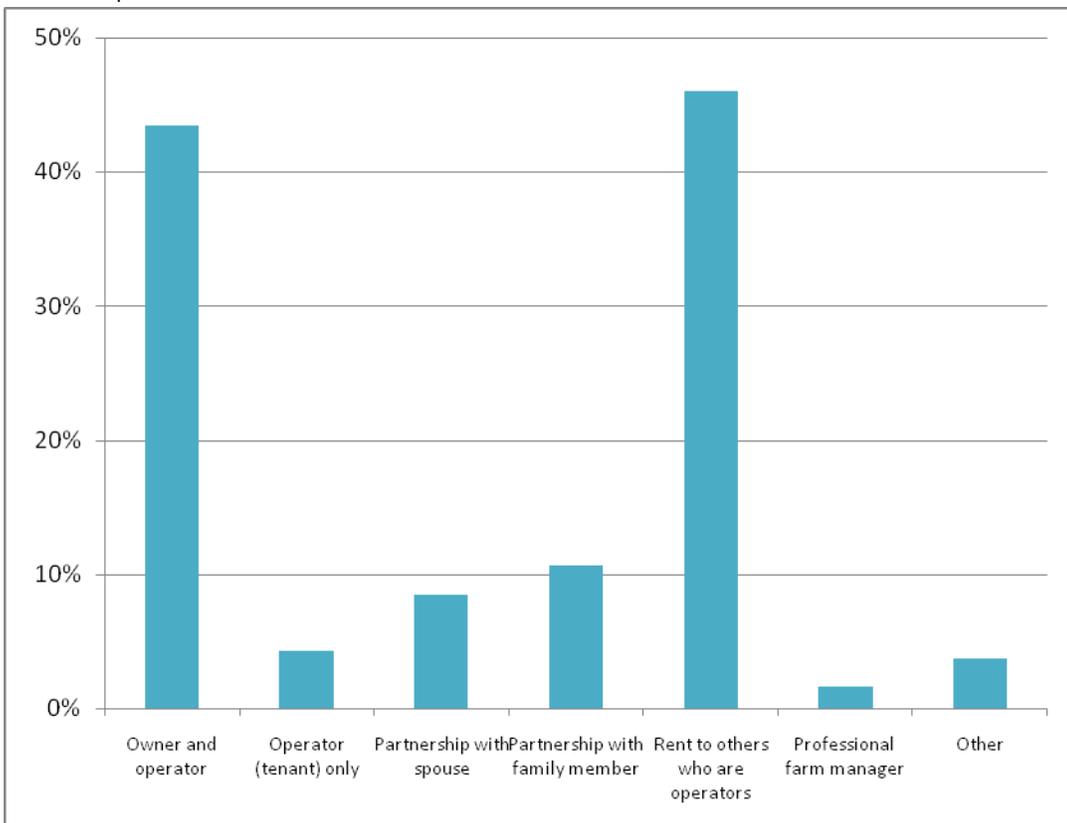


11. About Your Farm Operation: (only analyzing responses from farmers)

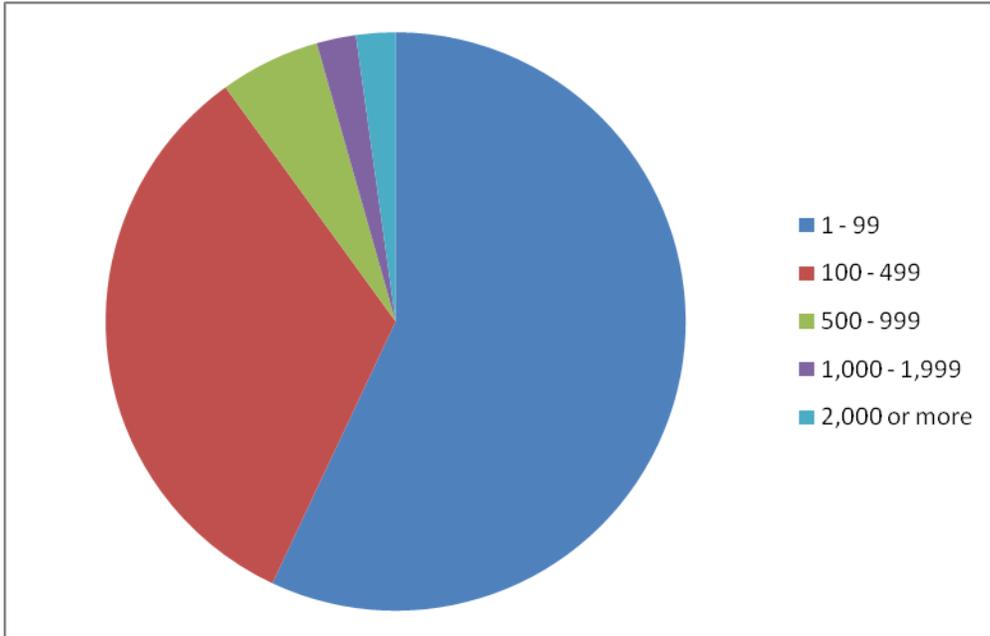
- a. In addition to your residence which of the following do you own or manage?  
87.3% own an agricultural operation



- b. Which of the following best describes your position as farm operator?  
46% rent farmland to others who are farm operators and 43.2% are owner and operators

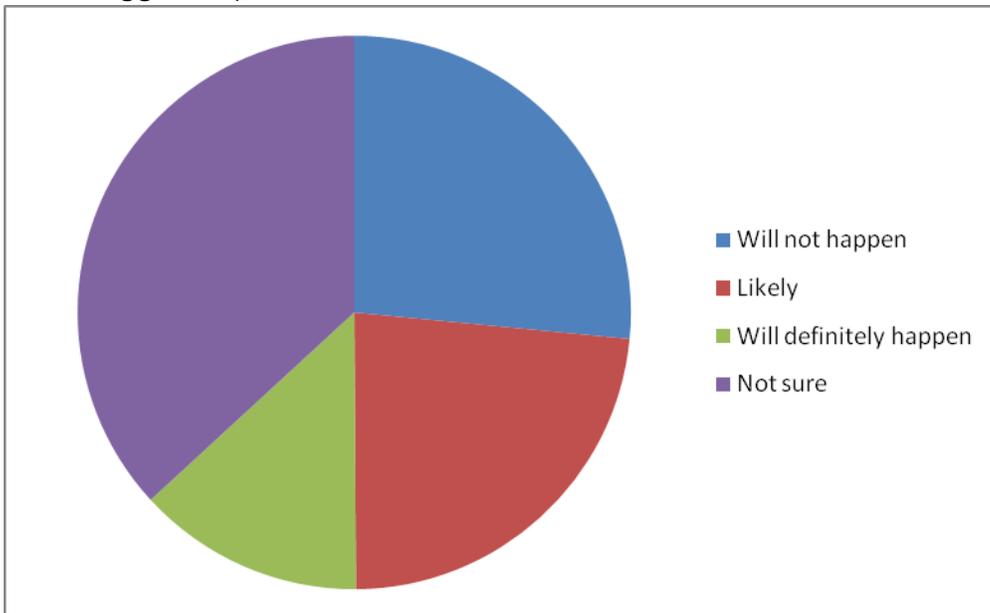


c. Please estimate the tillable acreage of your farming operation this year:  
57% own 1-99 acres and 33% own 100-499 acres (mostly small farms)



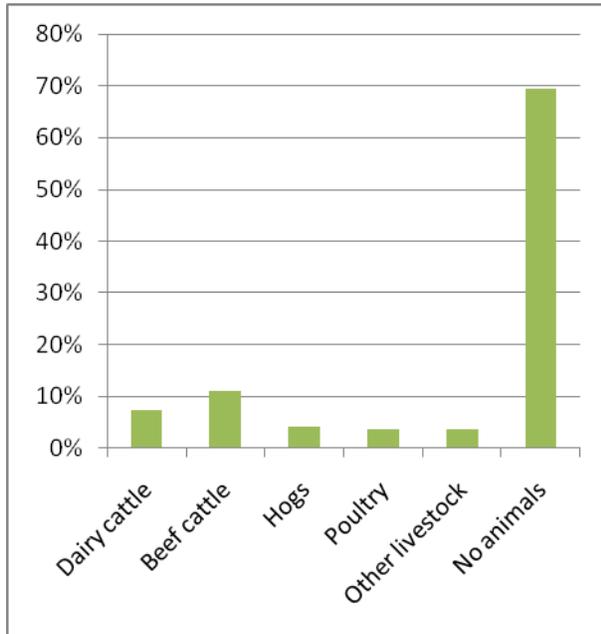
d. How likely is it that any family member will continue farm operations when you retire or quit farming?

Biggest response was not sure - 37%

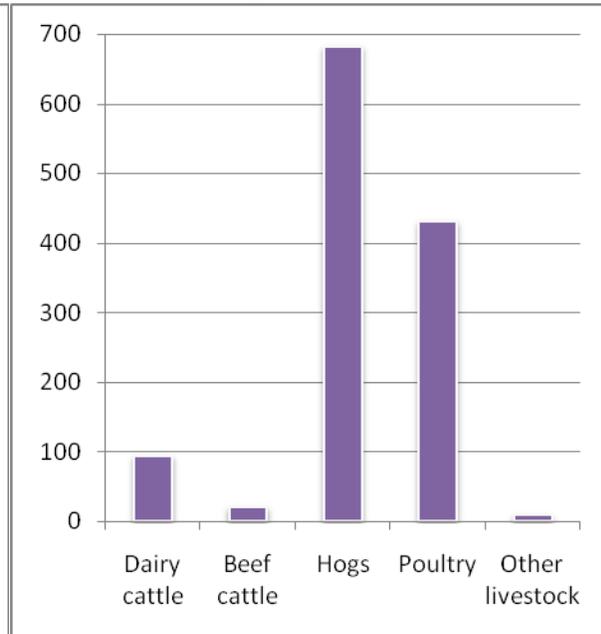


e. How many of the following animals are part of your farming operation?  
69.3% selected no animals

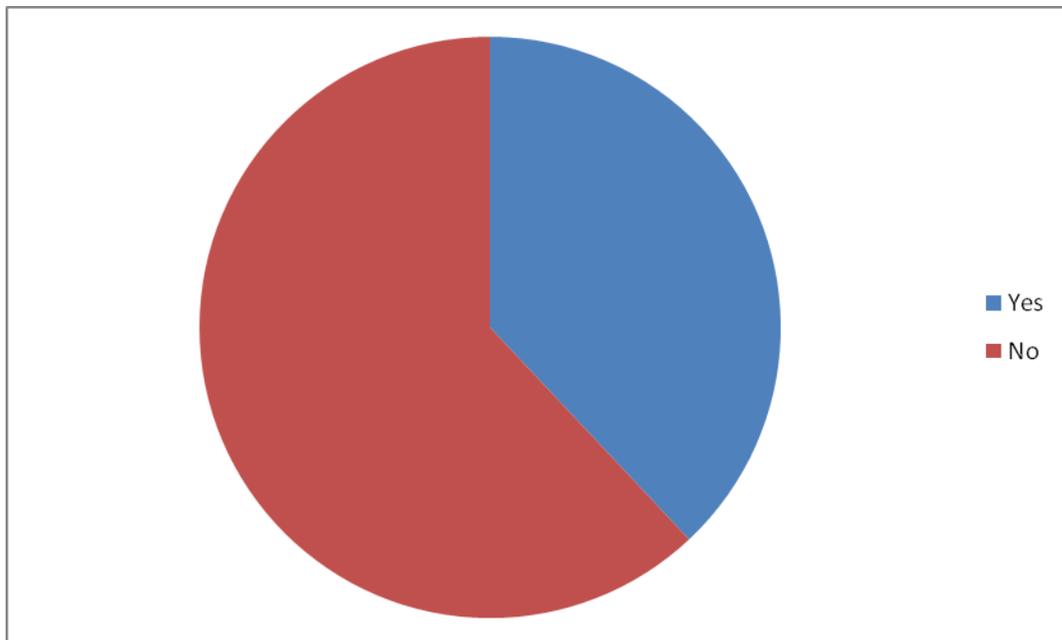
Percent Owned:



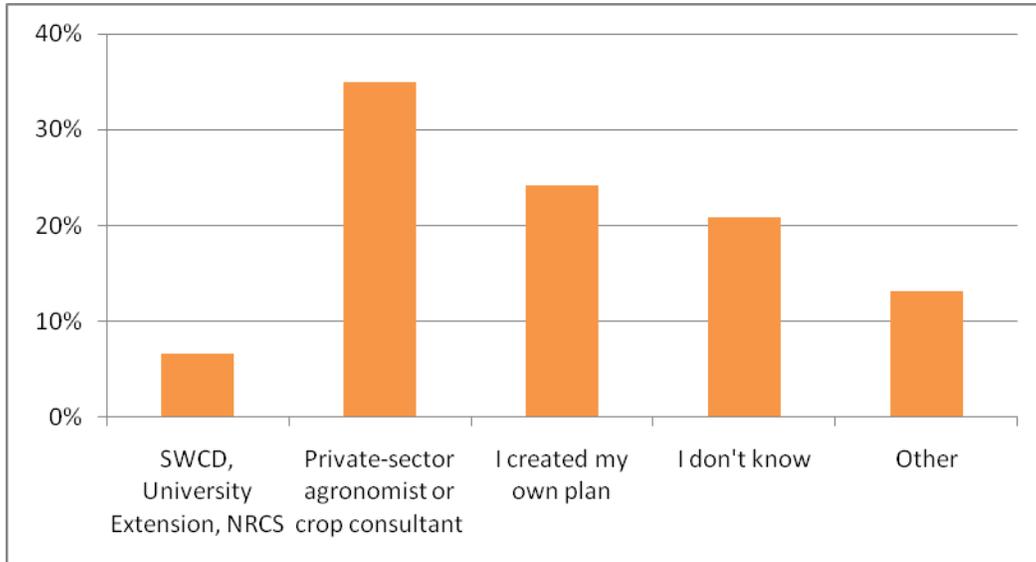
Average Herd Size:



f. Do you follow a nutrient management plan for your farm operation?  
62% said no!

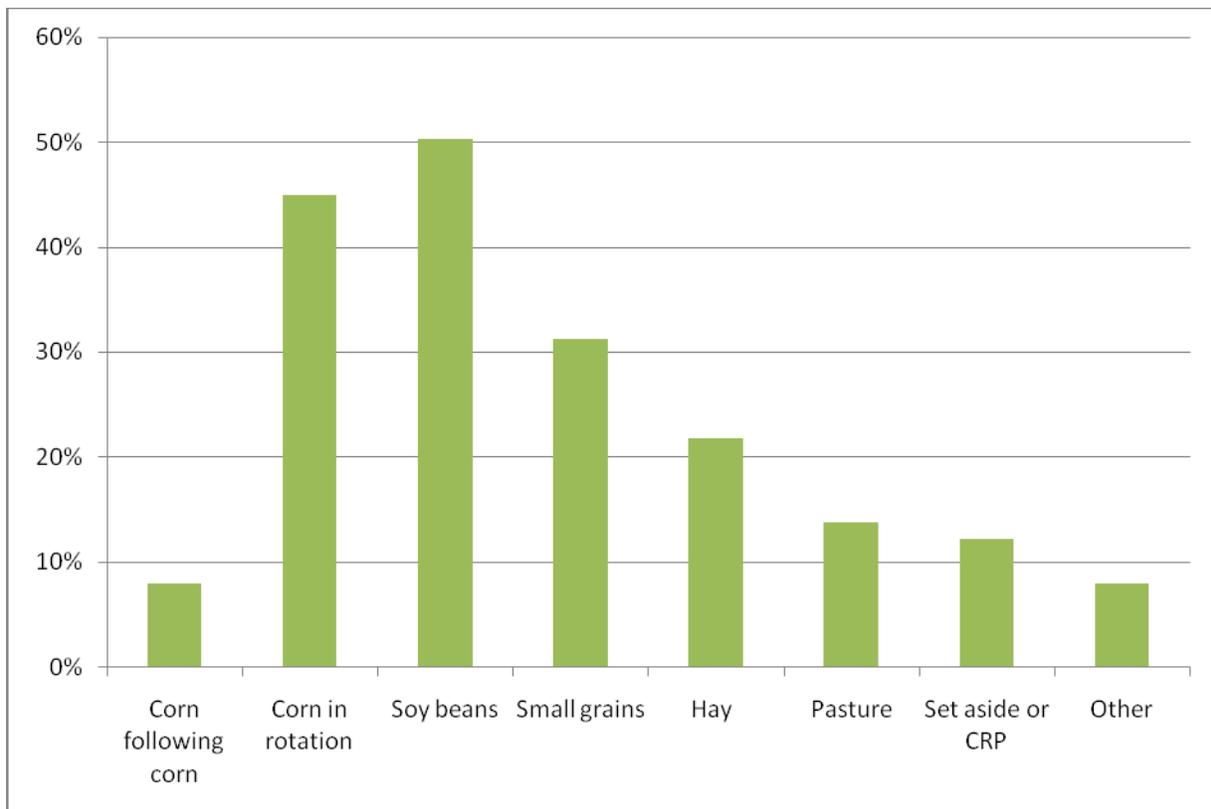


g. Who developed your current nutrient management plan?  
 More people answered this question(91) than said yes for f.(62) even those who said no were instructed to skip question. Also the largest response was 35% said a private-sector agronomist or crop consultant.

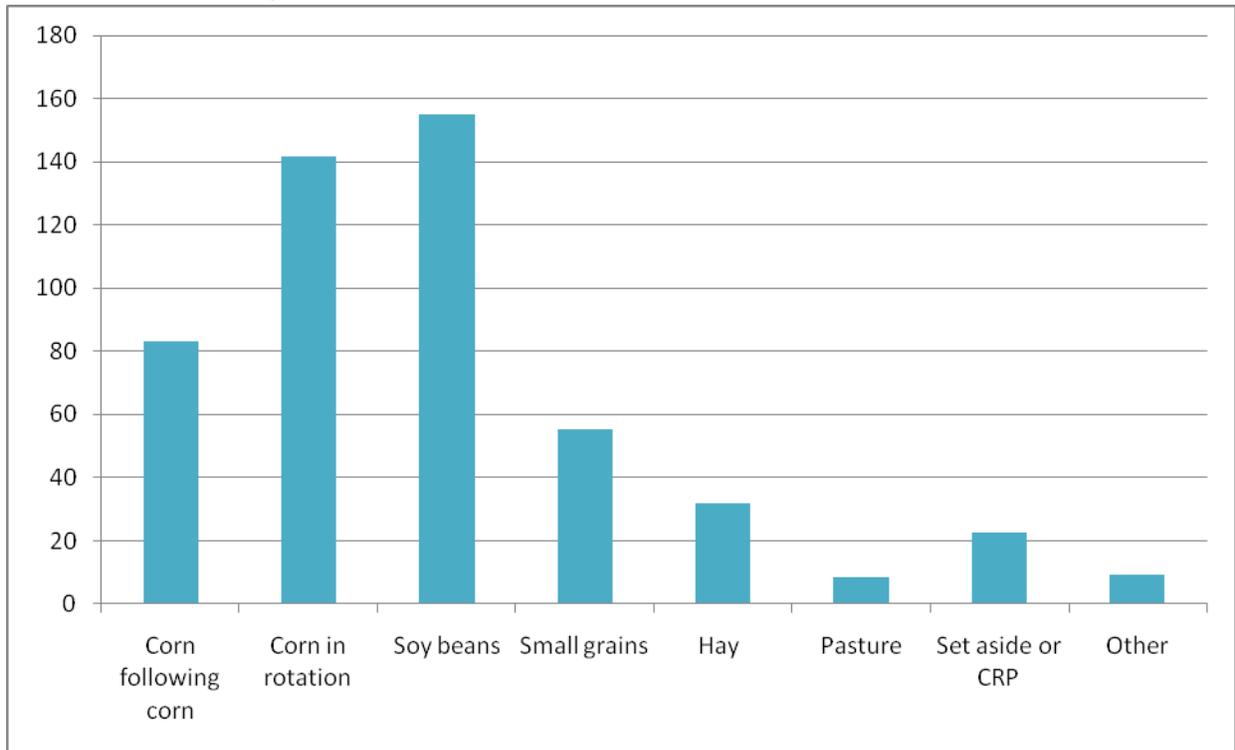


h. This year how many acres of the following do you manage?  
 Largest number of people (95) said soybeans and this was also the highest average acres (154.98)

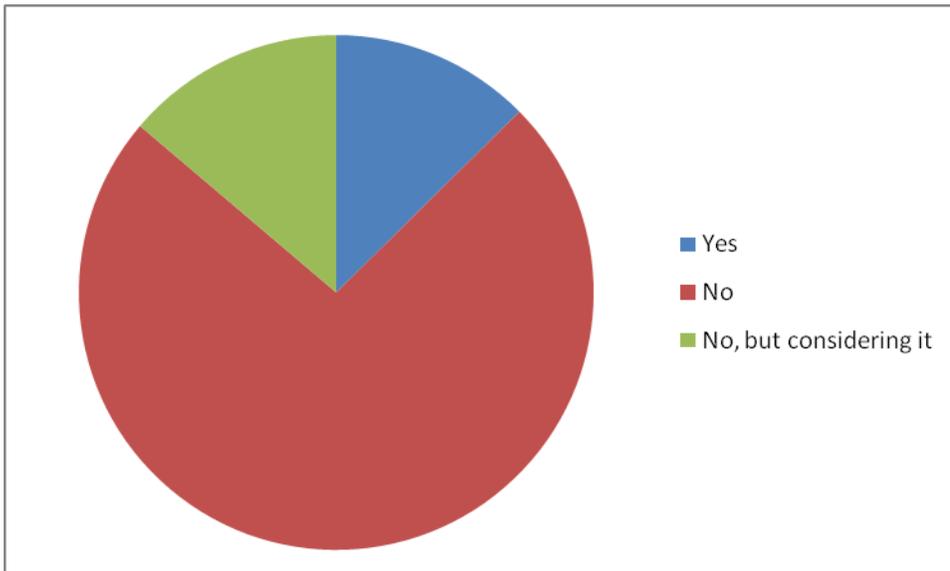
Percent Own:



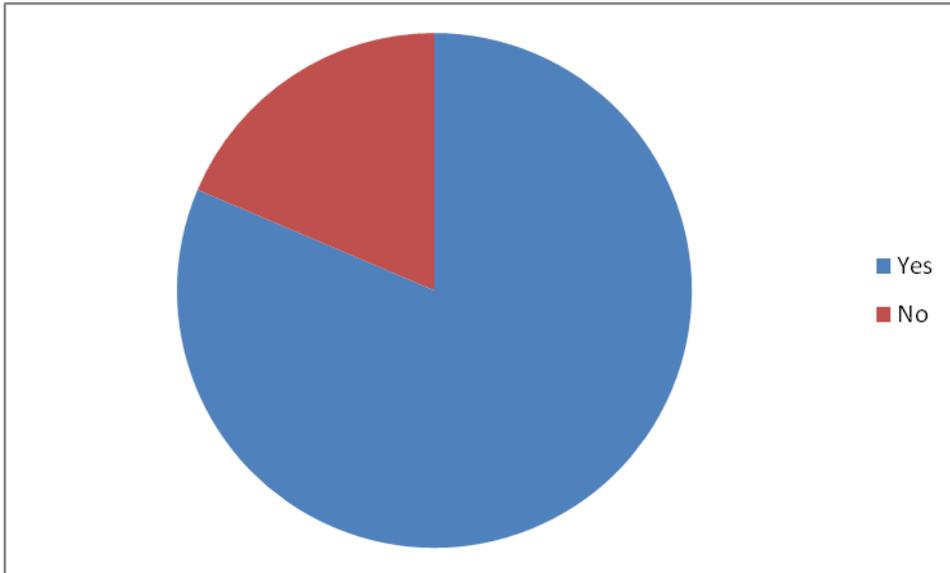
Mean Acreage:



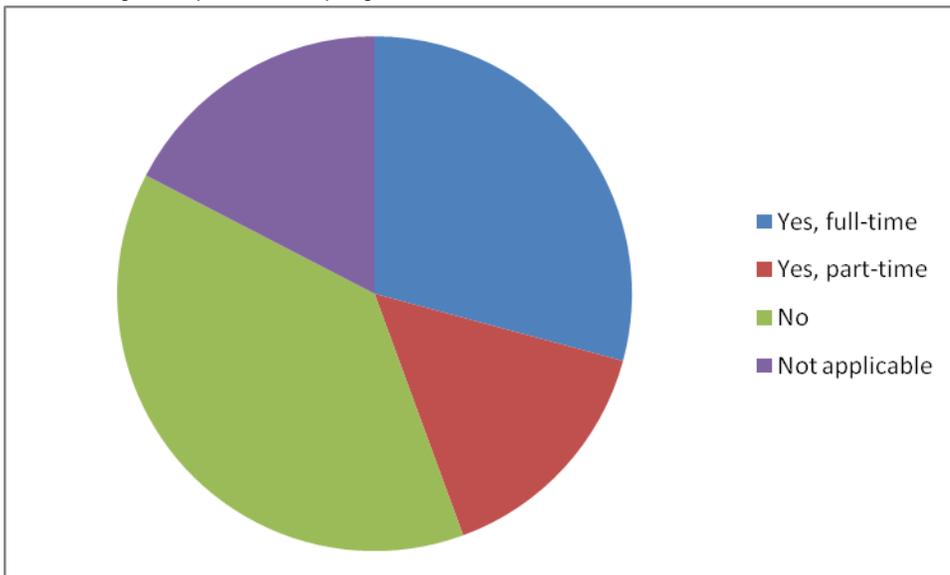
- i. Have you changed your planned crop rotation because of increased crop prices do to energy or ethanol production?  
73.6% said no



- j. Do you personally derive income from any other source other than your grain and/or livestock operation?  
A lot of farmers (81.4%) said yes!



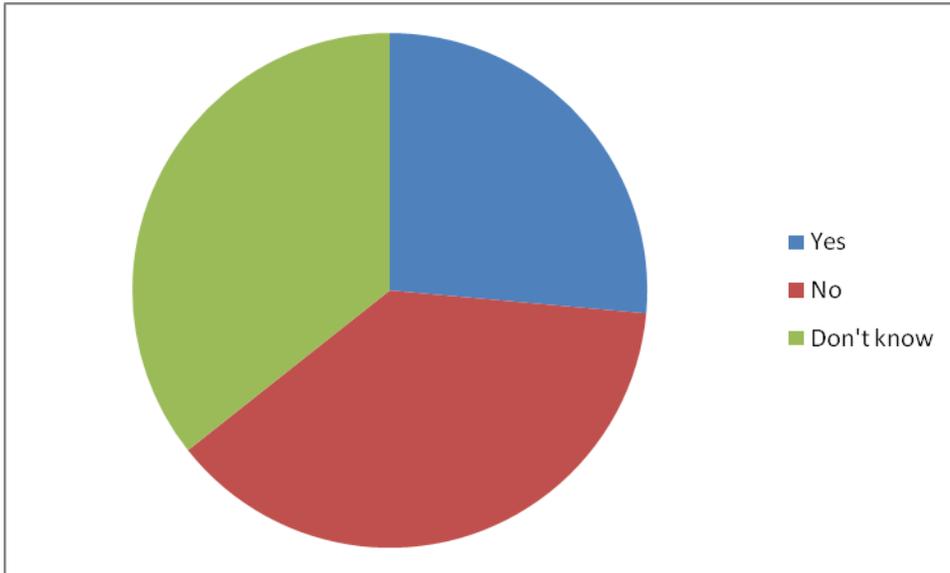
- k. Is your spouse employed off-farm?



- l. How many years have you been farming at your current location?  
Average = 29.66 years

m. Do current cost share and/or incentive payment programs meet your current needs?

Only 26.9% said yes and 36.3% said they didn't know



n. Should minimum water quality standards be met through regulatory or non regulatory methods?

Only 14.5% think regulatory and 41.6% said they didn't know (urban had 32.3% saying regulatory, with 54.8% saying I don't know but only 31/219 answered)

