

# Mexican swine industry on *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* gilts acclimatation



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## INTRODUCTION

Replacement gilt introduction as well as their management has to be considered as a risk factor for admittance and perpetuation of diseases in the farm<sup>1,2</sup>. The objective of this study was to understand the replacement gilt acclimation process for *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae* (M. hyo) in swine farms in Mexico.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Boehringer Ingelheim developed a survey composed of 14 questions with the objective of identifying which gilt acclimation methods for *M. hyo* are being used nowadays. The survey was completed by 51 veterinarians and producers of *M. hyopneumoniae* positive sow farms, which were interested in the control of the pathogen. In total they represented 397,553 sows from different states in Mexico including Sonora, Jalisco, Michoacan, Guanajuato, Mexico state, Puebla and Chiapas.

## RESULTS

The most important findings were:

- 90% of replacements are *M. hyo* positive on arrival.
- 47% of the producers introduce replacements into the acclimation process between 16 and 20 weeks of life.
- 67% use vaccines against *M. hyo* during acclimation, whereas 33% do not vaccinate but introduce the replacements into a positive reproductive herd. Figure 1.
- 27% use cull sows to acclimate. Figure 1.
- 4% use lung homogenate and 10% use piglets as an additional method for acclimation. Figure 1.
- 75% of acclimation sites are continuous flow (CF), and 56% of respondents think that CF can improve the acclimation process. Figure 1.
- Only 68% of those CF quarantines use vaccination protocols against *M. hyo*. Figure 1.
- 86% do not perform diagnostics to verify an adequate acclimation. Figure 2.
- In 71% of farms the assessment of the stability of *M. hyo* in the reproductive herd is based on clinical signs.

Figure 1: Gilt acclimation process for *M. hyo*

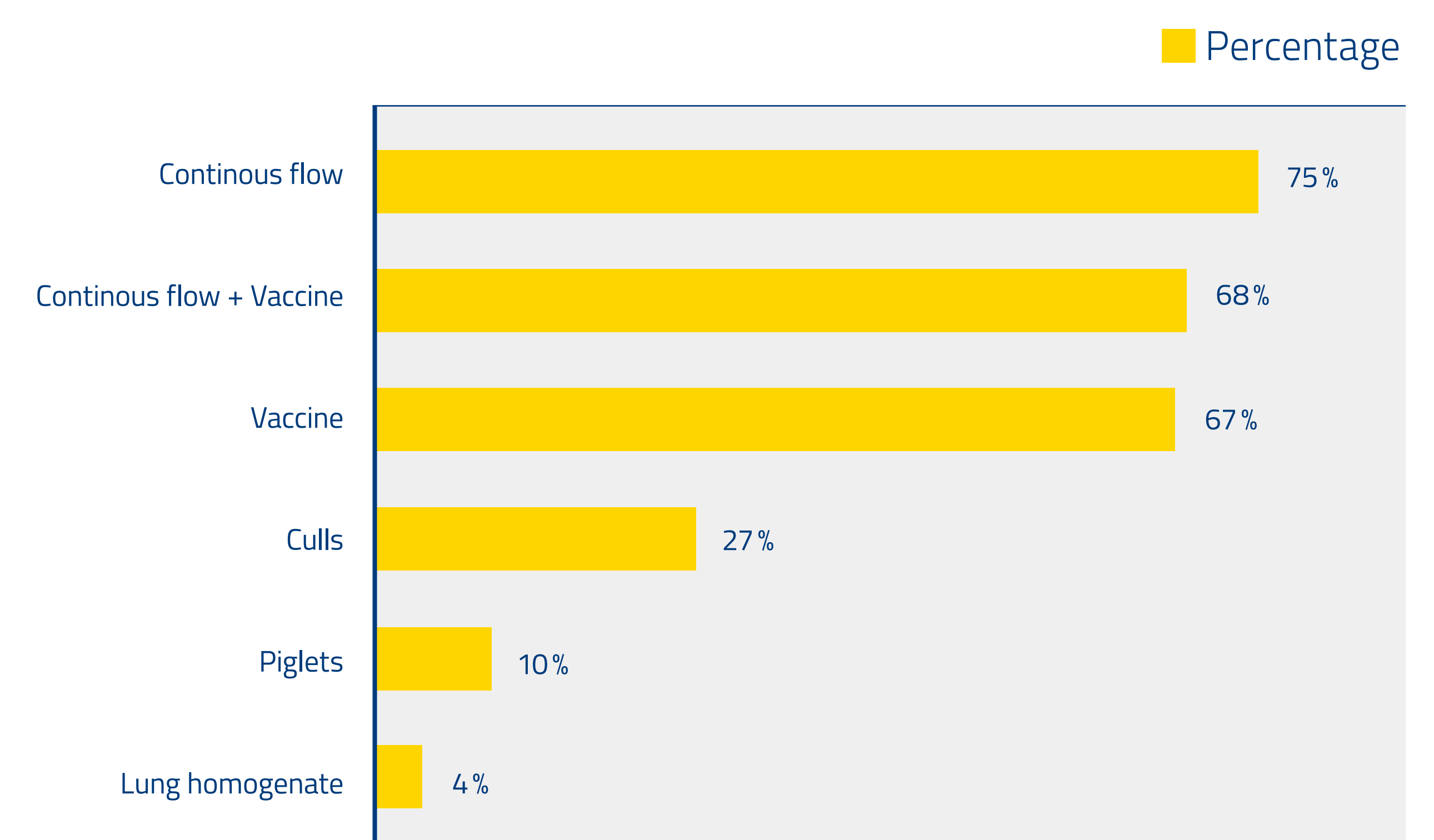
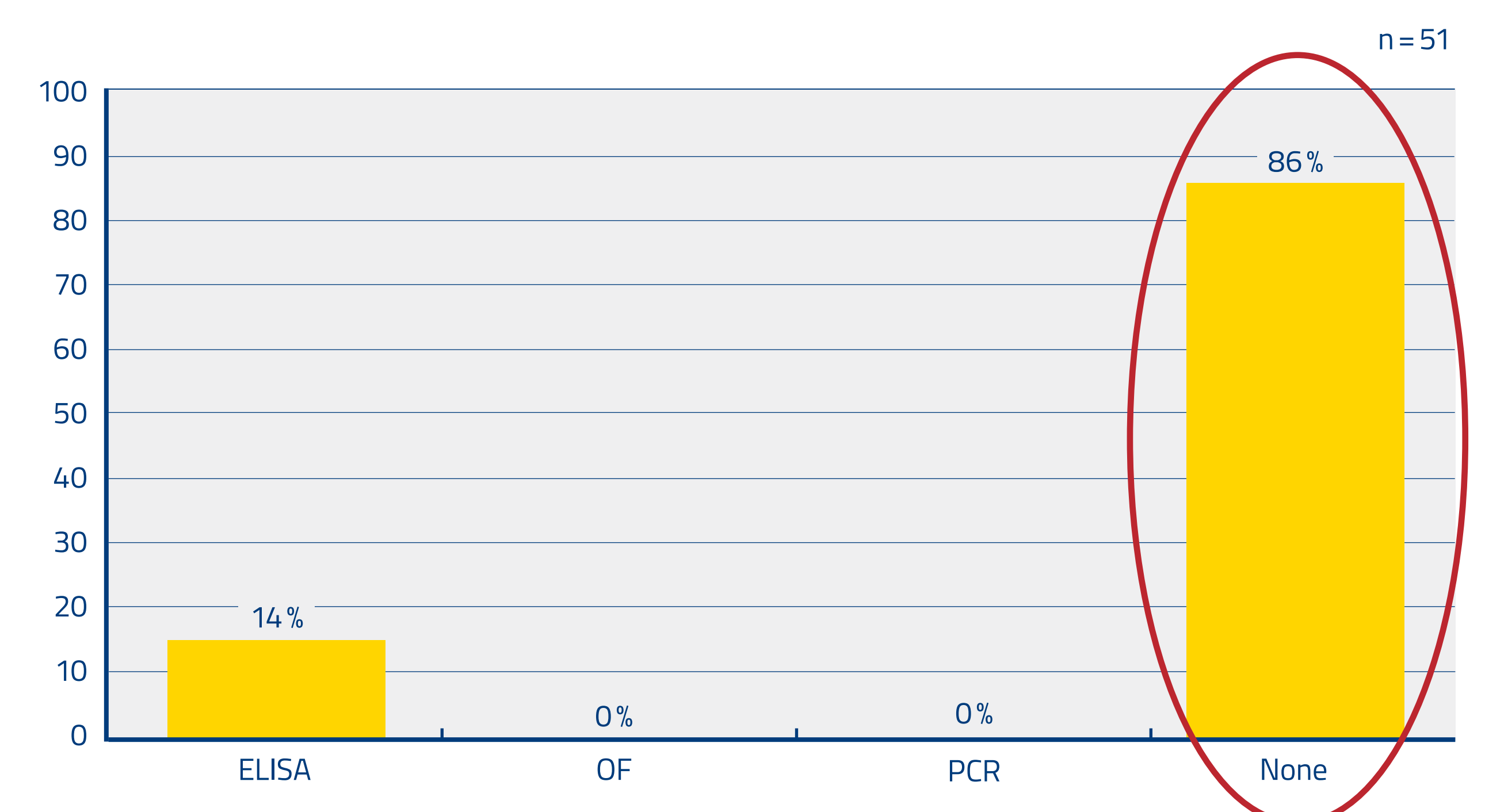


Figure 2: Diagnostics performed to verify adequate *M. hyo* acclimation



## CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

Even though 96% of the respondents consider an adequate acclimation for the control of *M. hyopneumoniae* being important, only 14% of those verify this process. The implementation of a vigilance system in the acclimation process is key in controlling the pathogen to reduce the risk of a possible vertical transmission. This is especially important due to the long persistence of *M. hyo*, which is at least 214 days post infection<sup>3</sup>.

## REFERENCES

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