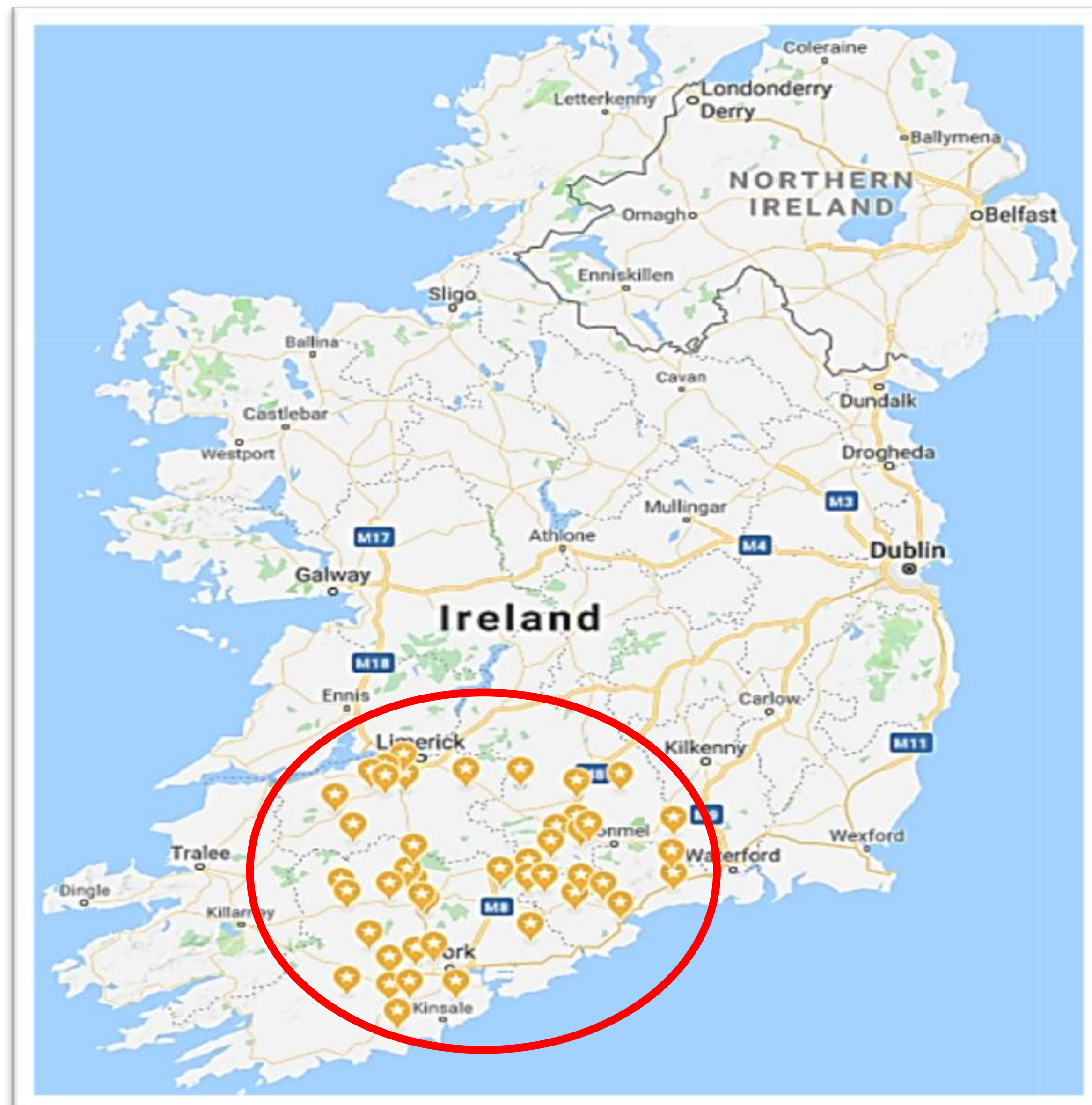


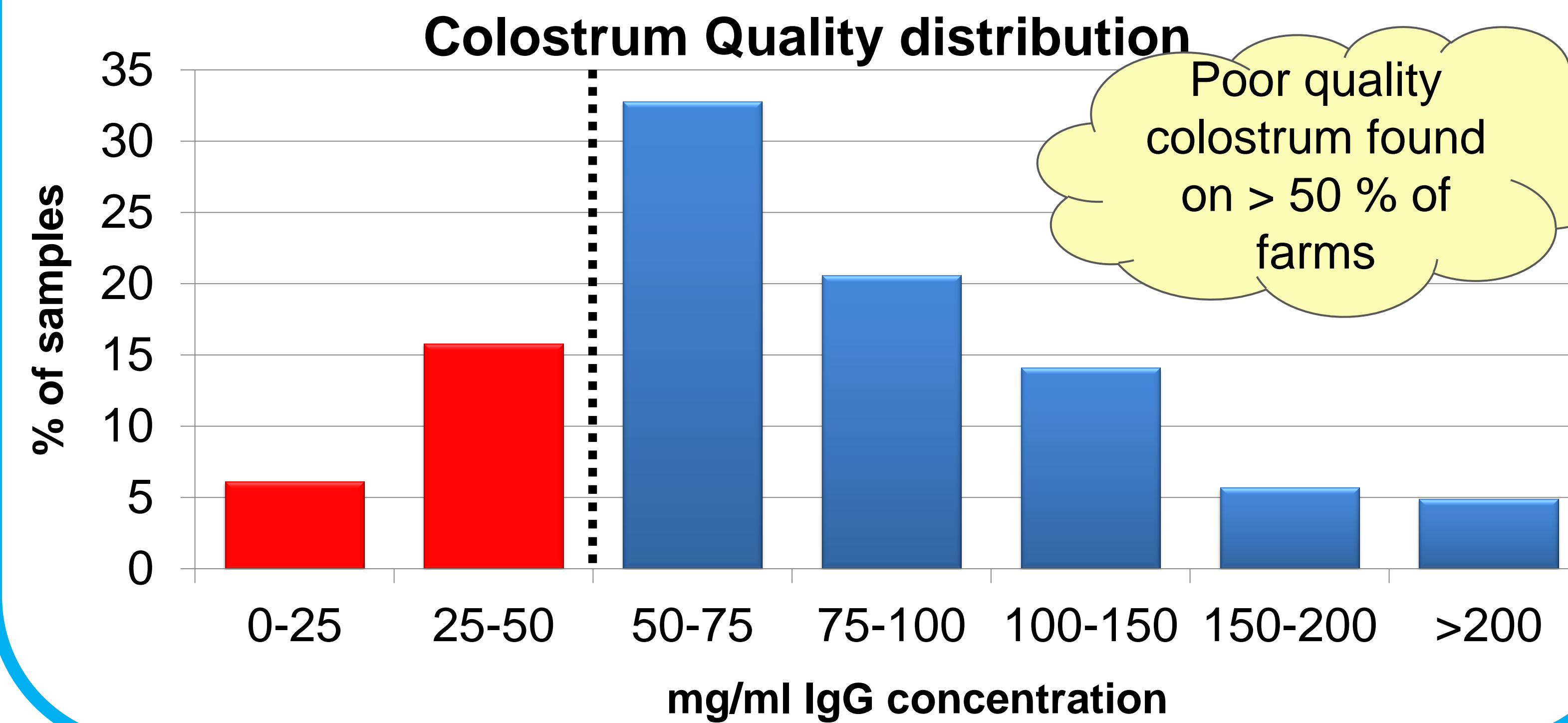
Objective:

Assess calf health & welfare on commercial dairy farms.

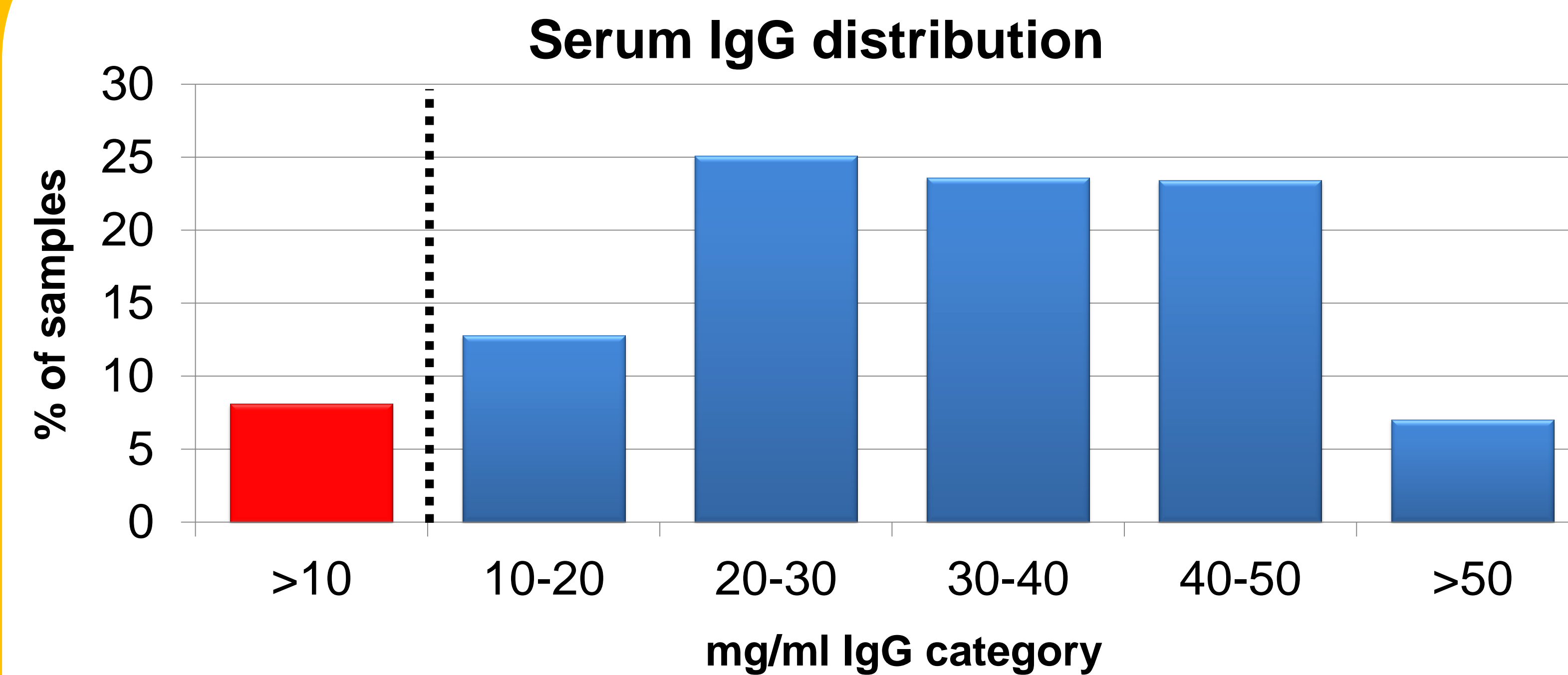
- 47 herds enrolled
- Each herd visited during the first and last six weeks of the calving season



Colostrum Quality



Calf immunity



>90% of calves had adequate passive immunity

- No gender/breed difference ♀ ♂

Space allowance

- Minimum legal space allowance for young calves is 1.5 m²
- Mean space allowance provided;
 - Visit 1 = 2.9 m²/calf
 - Visit 2 = 3.1 m²/calf
- Mean group size was 11 calves

Feeding practises

- Over 70% of participants give ≥5 feeds of transition milk
 - T. milk provides localised immunity
 - Reducing the number of cases of scour
- Over 65% of calves received ≥6 L of milk per day
 - Higher among male calves (66.7 v 63.9%)