

Evaluating Restoration Extension Programs



Multi-week
training program in
applied ecology



Pre- and post-
course surveys



Short course or
workshop
presentation



Simple
targeted
surveys

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Place-based research training in applied ecology



Wildlife monitoring in a restored nature preserve



Coyote diets in a restored nature preserve



Heat tolerance of native plant species



Plant-soil feedbacks and restoration

Students were asked to rate their experience with various research skills

	Pre	Post
Extensive		
Some		
None		

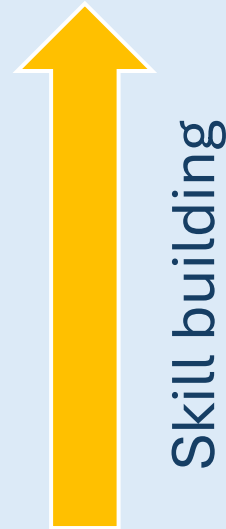
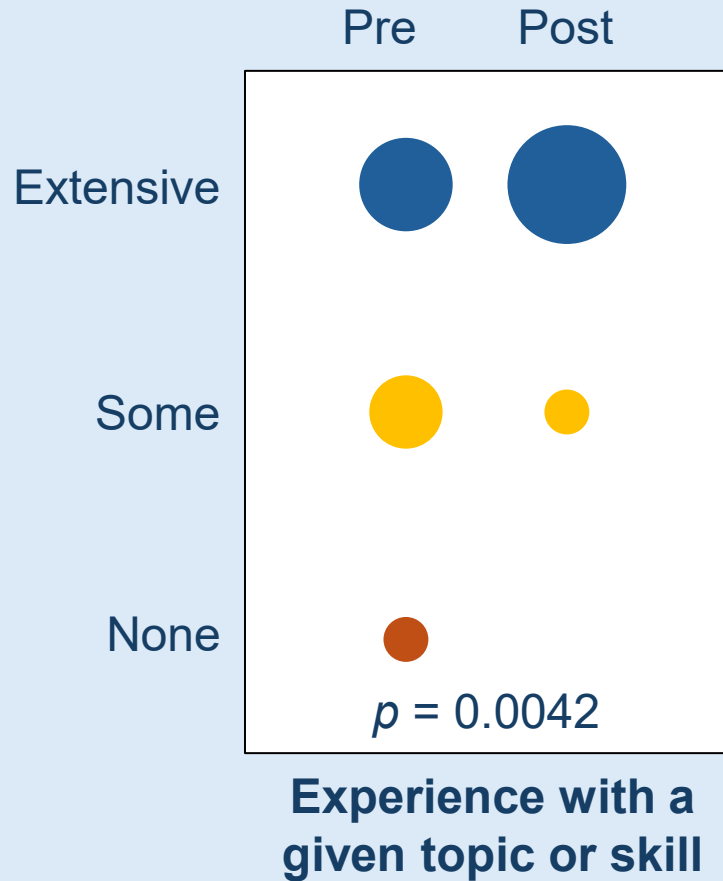
Experience with a given topic or skill



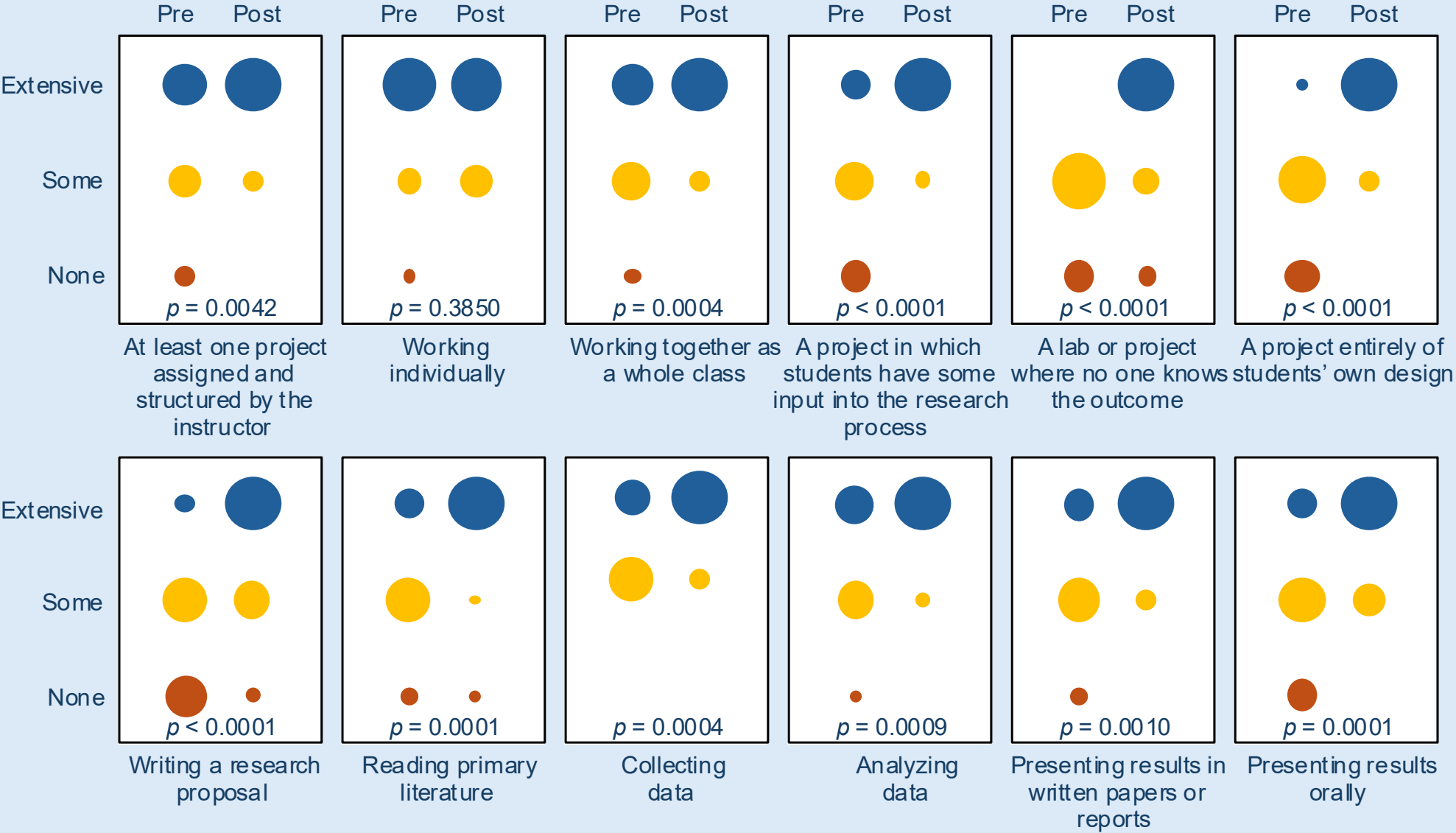
Students were asked to rate their experience with various research skills



Students were asked to rate their experience with various research skills



Students showed significant improvements in all research skills over the course of the semester



Open-ended responses

Yes, soil ecology is much more expansive than I had previously thought

There is a real future in conserving and restoring native species through the understanding of soil ecology

I especially enjoyed our plant growth experiments that allowed us to perform our own research regarding these interactions

It has made me more aware of the challenges that our biodiverse communities are facing and how we can help to restore endangered communities.

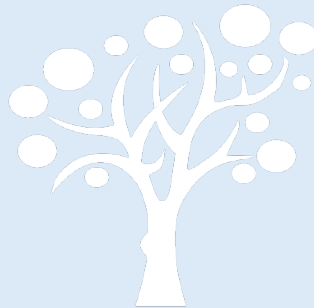
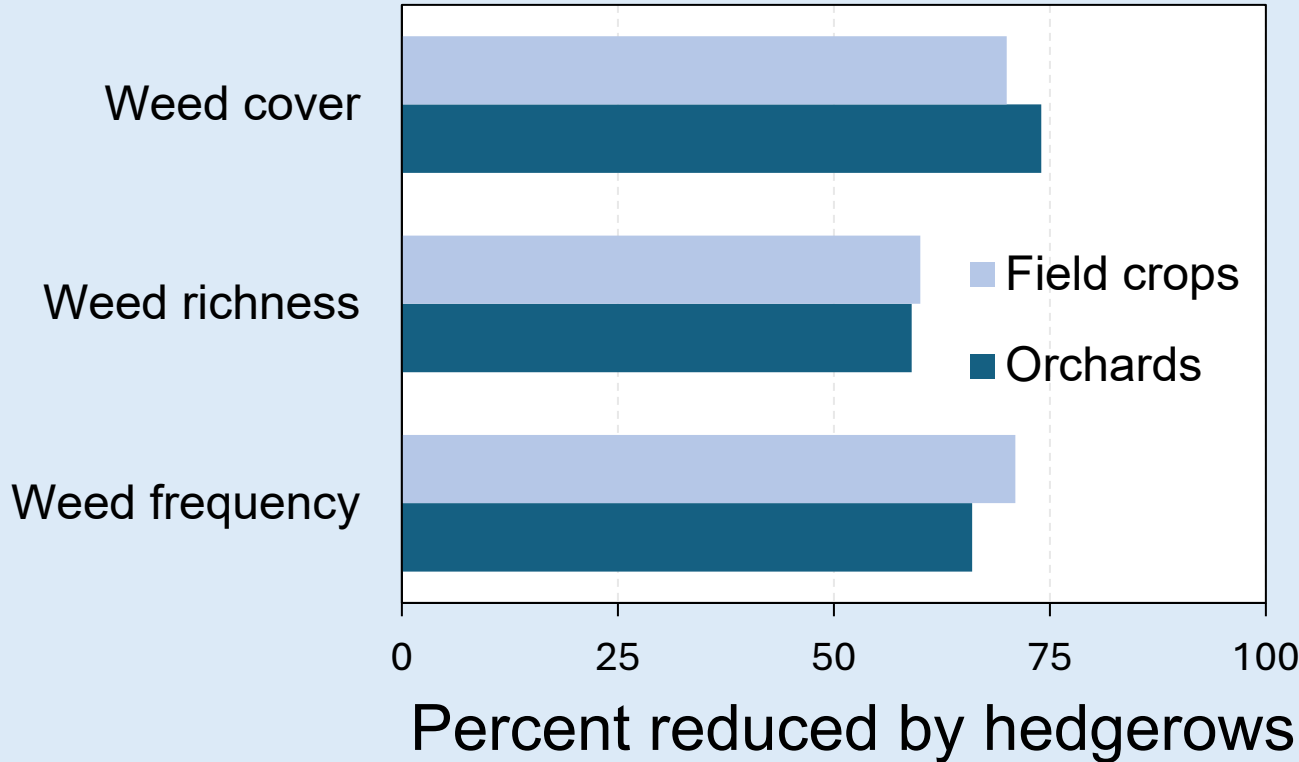


Native hedgerows as a weed management tool

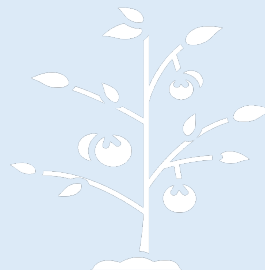


Justin Valliere, CE Specialist Invasive Weed & Restoration Ecology
Rachael Long, Farm Advisor, Emeritus)

Hedgerows substantially reduce weed cover, richness, and density on field edges



Weed suppression provided by native hedgerows extends far into orchards



Hedgerows significantly reduce weed pressure on field borders

Have you ever used native hedgerows on your farm?

- ☐ Yes, currently
- ☐ Yes, but not anymore
- ☒ No, but I am considering it
- ☐ No, and I am not considering it

Did this workshop provide useful information about native hedgerows?

- ☒ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Unsure

How likely are you to adopt or expand the use of native hedgerows after attending this workshop?

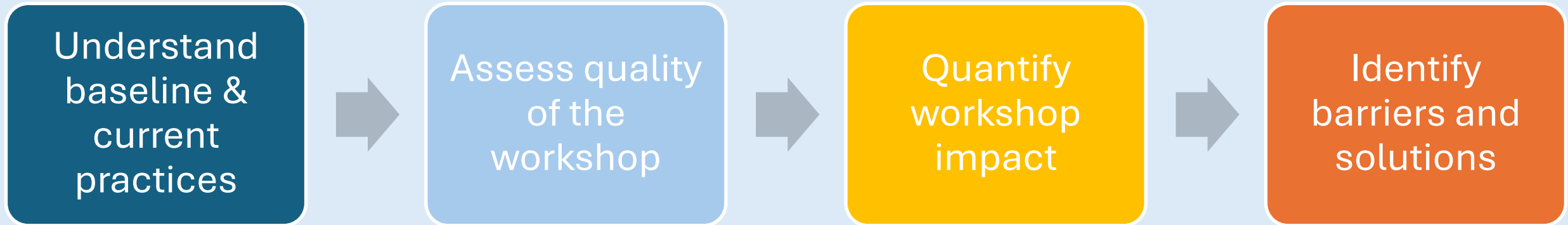
- ☒ Very likely
- ☐ Somewhat likely
- ☐ Unlikely
- ☐ Not sure

What factors would most influence your decision to plant native hedgerows? (Select all that apply)

- ☒ Access to financial incentives or cost-share programs
- ☒ Availability of technical support for planting and maintenance
- ☐ Evidence of successful adoption by other farms
- ☒ Easy access to a reliable supply of native plants
- ☒ Other (please specify): Templates for planting Schemes + Good Design to limit weed pressure.

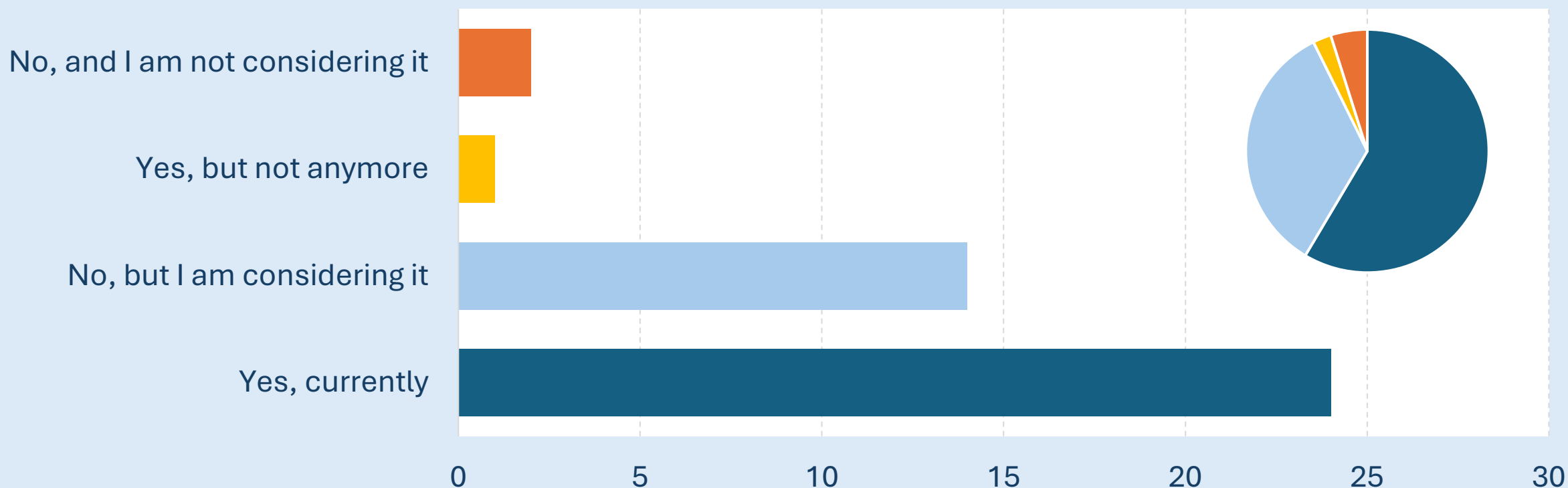
Post workshop surveys: Grower responses

Survey aims and goals



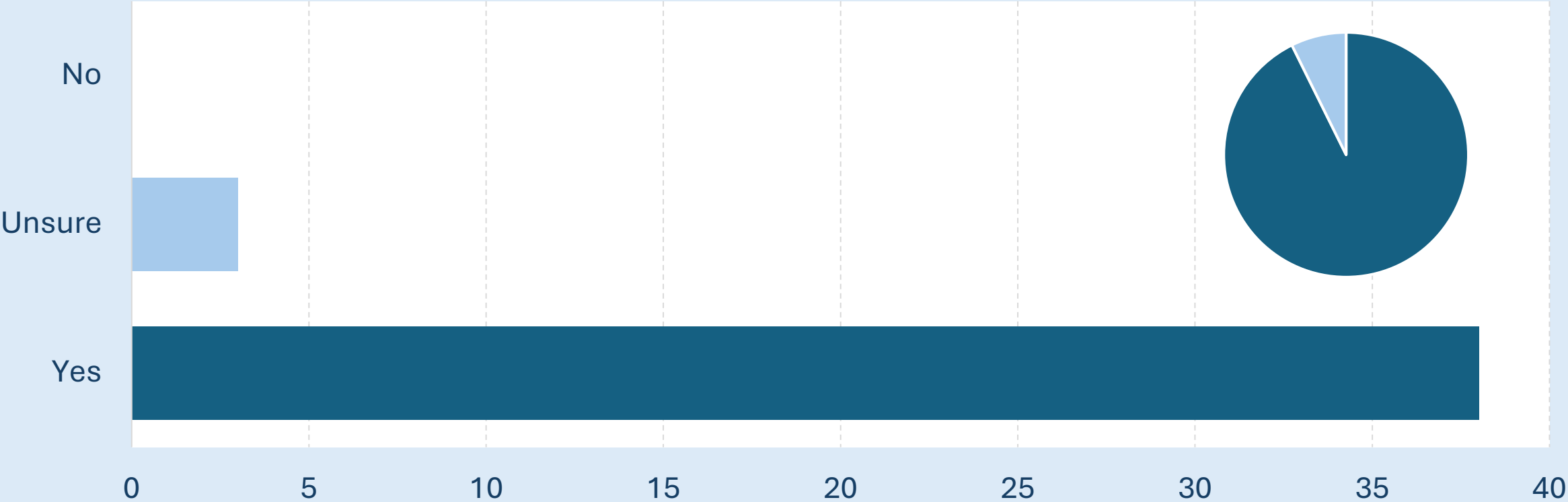
1. Identify baseline and current practices employed by clientele

Have you ever used native hedgerows on your farm?



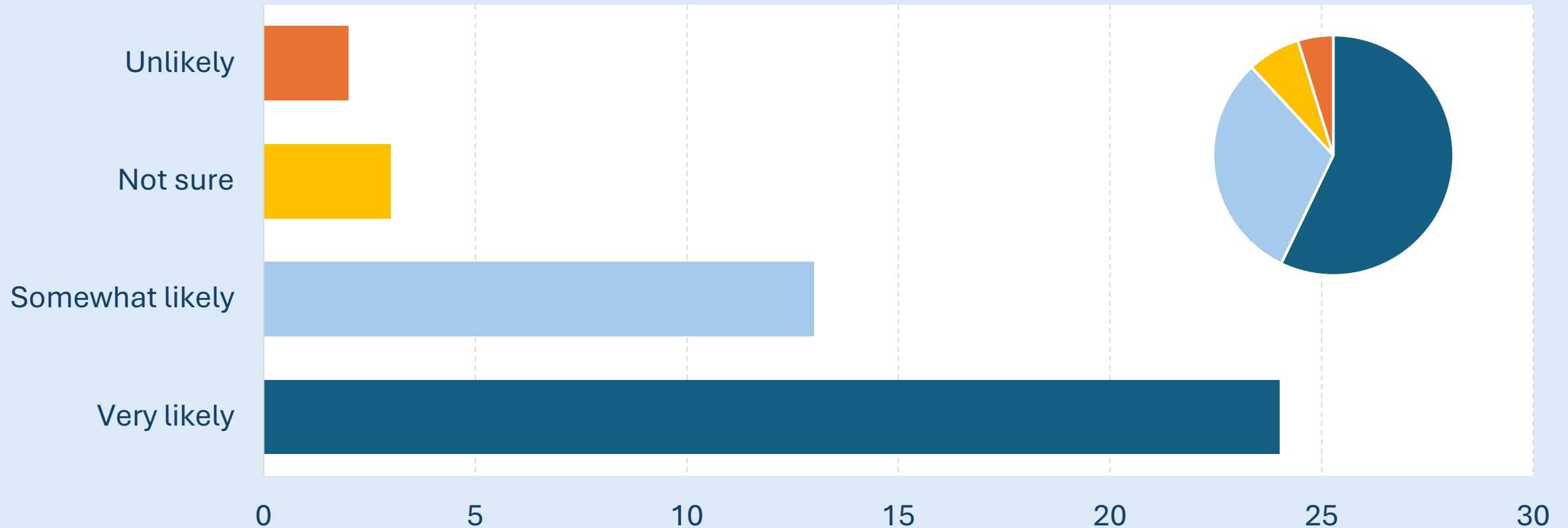
2. Assess workshop quality and audience impressions

Did this workshop provide useful information about the use of native hedgerows on farms?



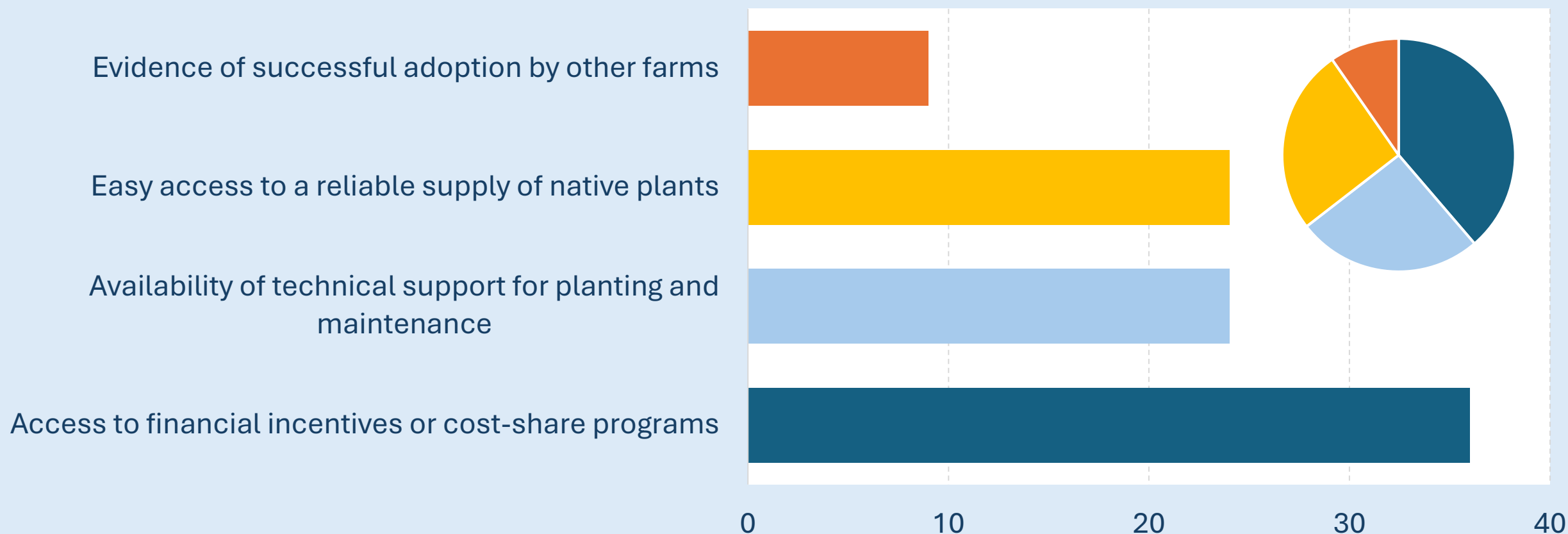
3. Quantify potential impact of extension workshop

How likely are you to adopt or expand the use of native hedgerows after attending this workshop?



4. Identify needs, barriers, and solutions for adoption

What factors would most influence your decision to plant native hedgerows?



4. Identify needs, barriers, and solutions for adoption

