

REPORT: Breeding Herd Summary 2019 period - January to December

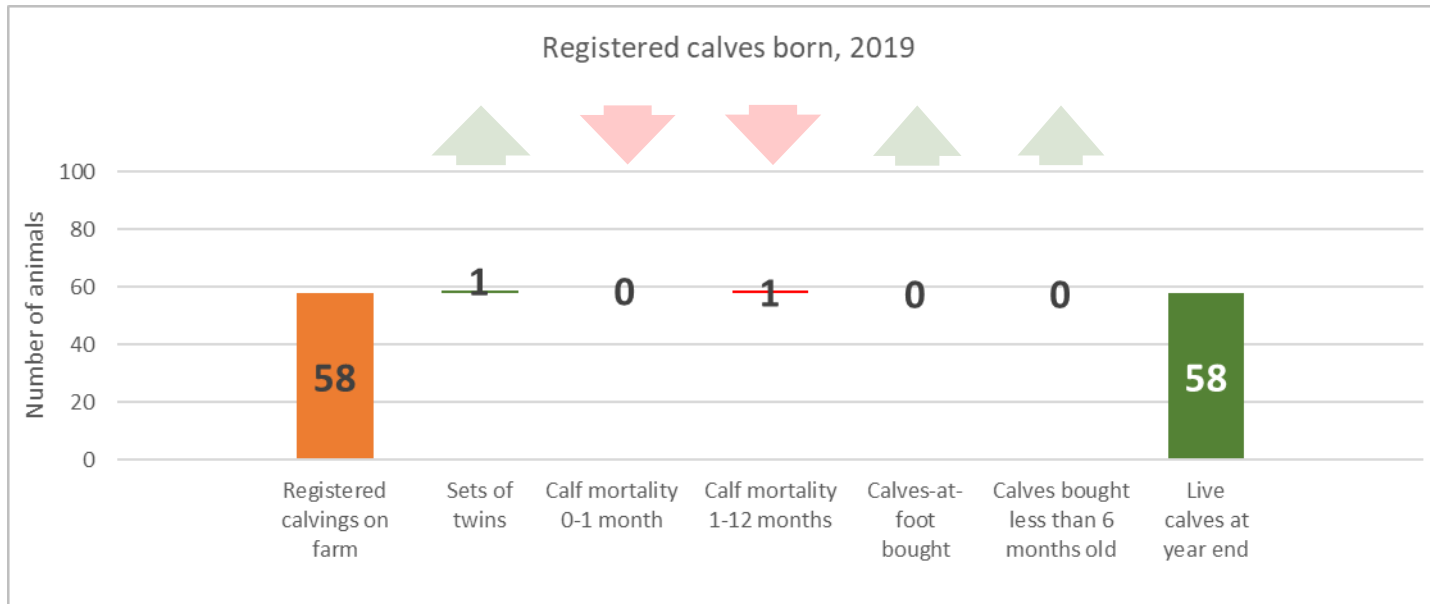
'Turning herd data into management information'



Farm name:

Farm Code:

Herd overview:



	This year	Previous year	Change	Group average
Calves born on holding in year	59	67	-8	
Percentage of those calves alive at calendar year end	100%	100%	0%	96%

= see info note on back page.

Explainer:

The chart opposite illustrates the number of registered calves on a keepers holding in the calendar year, less losses throughout the year, adjusting upwards for any purchases.

The purpose of this chart and below table is to provide an overview of the breeding herds performance relative to its potential output.

Analysis is limited to calves registered. The dataset cannot determine the number of females served. Most keepers will have a good idea of this figure and can, therefore, make a comparison against registered calvings. This page acts to flag areas of potential interest such as inflated mortalities or a low number of calvings relative to cows on farm.

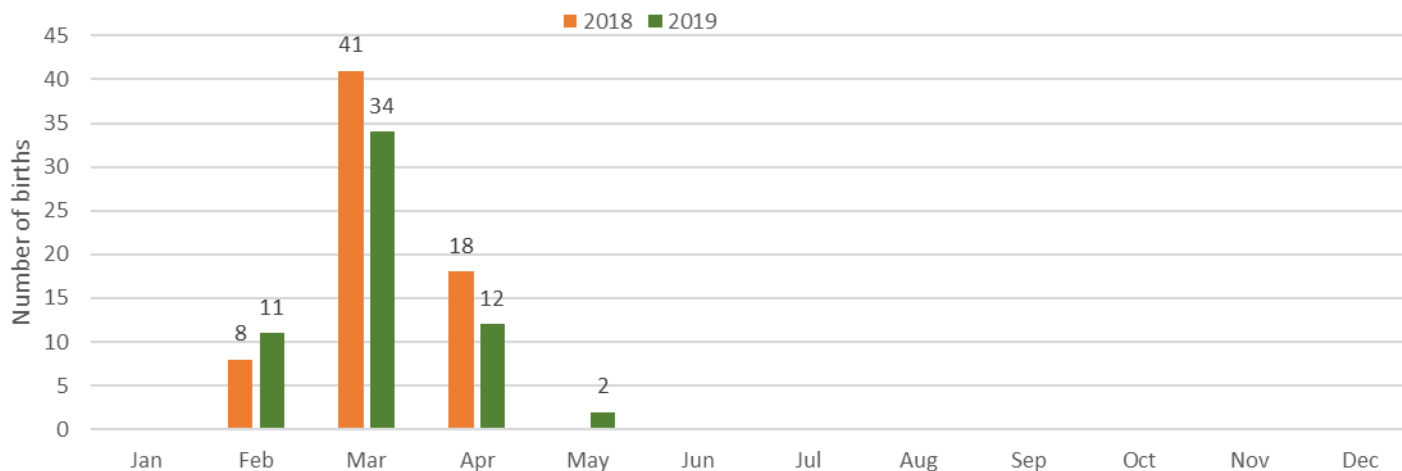
Additional calculations should be made for more detailed analysis⁽ⁱ¹⁾.



Herd fertility:



Calving spread (registered births on holding)



Explainer:

The chart presents the calving profile of this herd based on registered calvings on holding in the calendar year, and compared on the year.

The keeper can reflect on cow, heifer and breeding bull fertility and/or the success of any management change. With some additional analysis it is also possible to e.g. assess calf performance relative to birth date.

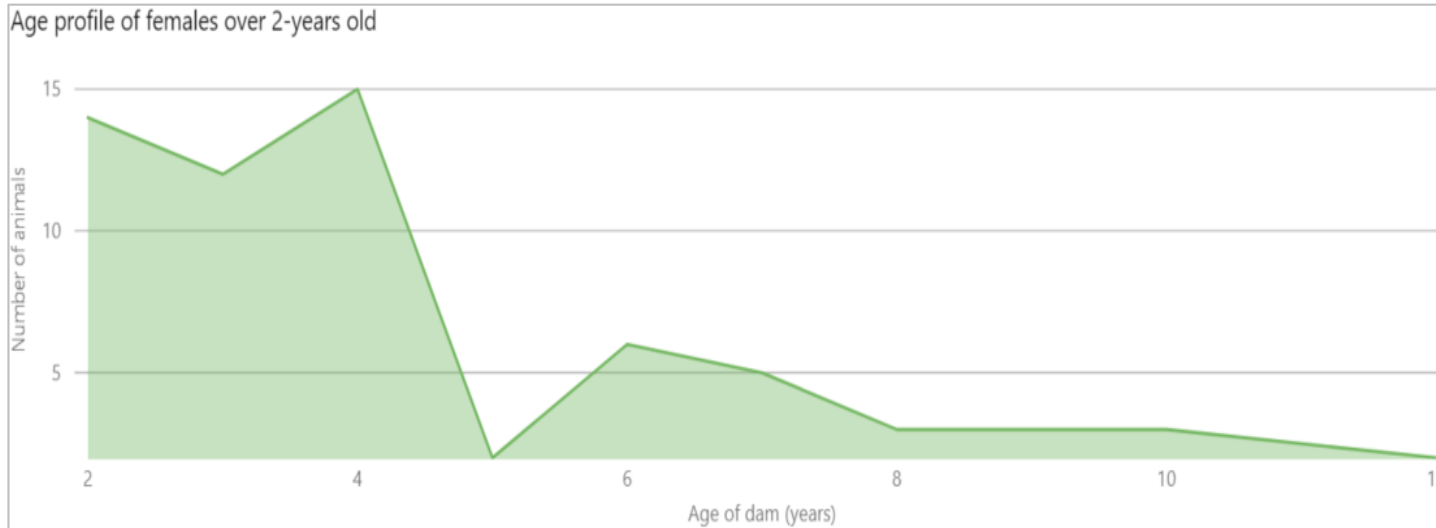
The table also relates to the calendar year. The number calved with a registered calf for the first time will be predominantly heifers. This is of interest when calculating herd replacement rate or comparing against the number of heifers served.

The average calving interval⁽ⁱ²⁾ is a loose indicator of fertility. Further investigation will identify the number of cows with an extended calving interval or one that is slipping over time. This may represent lost production.

	This year	Previous year	Change	Group average
Start date of busiest 3-week period for calving, based on calf registrations	23/02/2019			11/05/2019
Number of heifers/cows calved with a registered calf for the first time	13	16	-3	
Number of cows (females previously had a registered calf) sold in year	24	15	-9	
Average herd calving interval	368	380	-12	
Number of cows calved in previous year, still on farm, but not calved in year	1	0		
Average number of calves produced from cows still in the herd	4.7			



Herd profile (part 1):

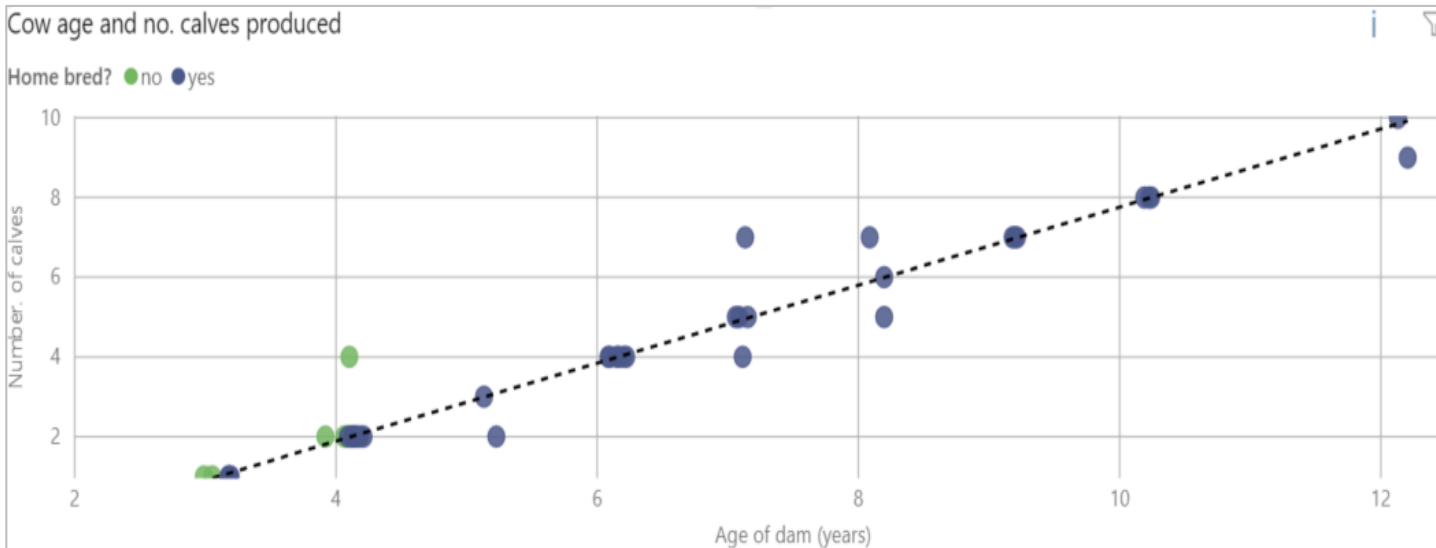


Explainer:

The top chart summarises the total number of cows and all heifers on farm at the end of the calendar year. It provides some indication of longevity and replacement needs. This is the profile at the point of data drawdown, June 2020.

The bottom chart indicates productivity within the herd across age groups. This chart also makes the distinction between homebred and purchased replacements, to support more detailed analysis. Data correct as at Jun 2020.

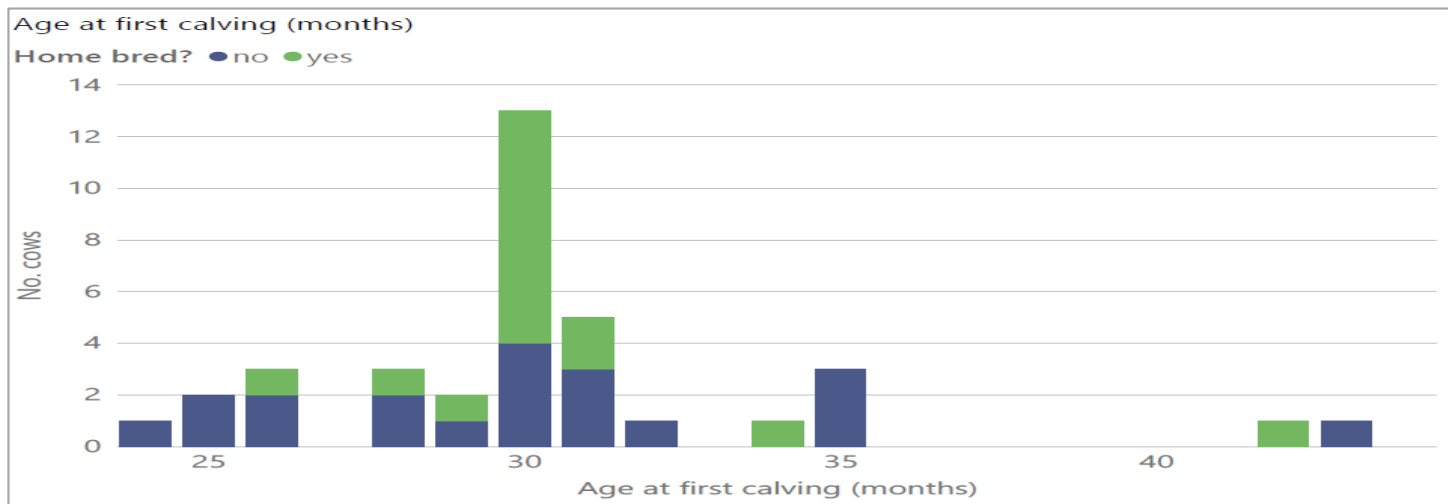
If calving for the first time at 2-years of age, and having a registered calf every year, a 10-year old cow should have had 8 calves. Any fewer calves suggests death before registration or a cow being retained not-in-calf until the following season. Any cow below the line shown is roughly performing below average for her age.



	This year
Average age of herd in year, of those with registered calf	5.6



Herd profile (part 2):



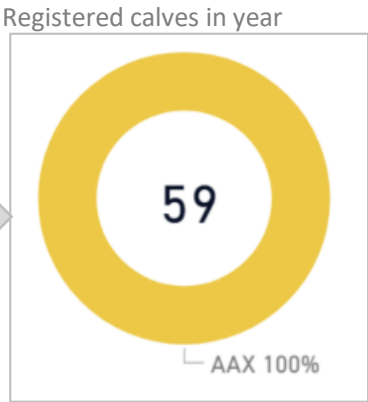
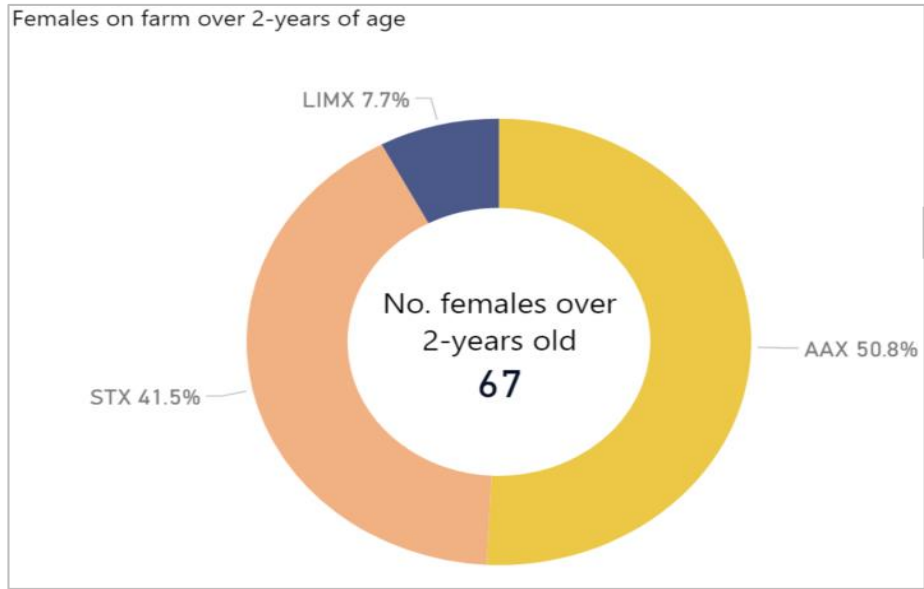
Explainer:

The bar chart illustrates the spread of heifers/cows calving for the first time with a registered calf in the reporting calendar year. This chart also makes the distinction between homebred and purchased replacements, contributing to evaluation of breeding policy.

An extended period prior to calving with a registered calf for the first time signifies a loss in early years productivity. Depending when the heifer was first served, it may also highlight a management or fertility issue.

Breed makeup of all females on farm greater than two years of age and resulting offspring, by breed.

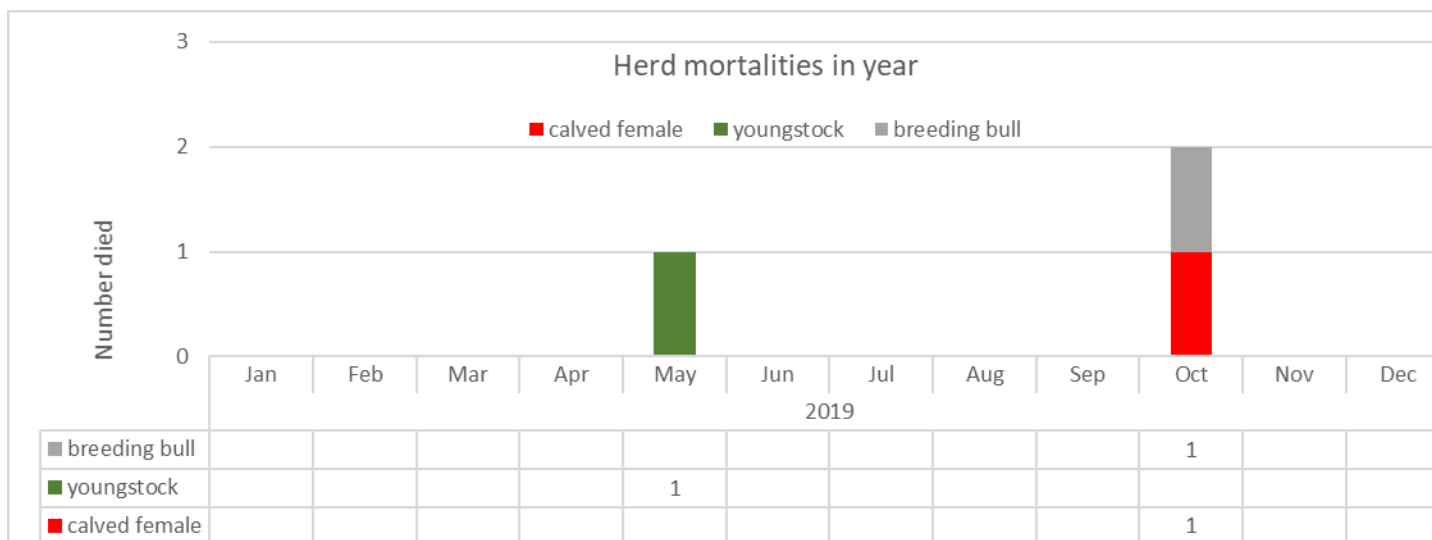
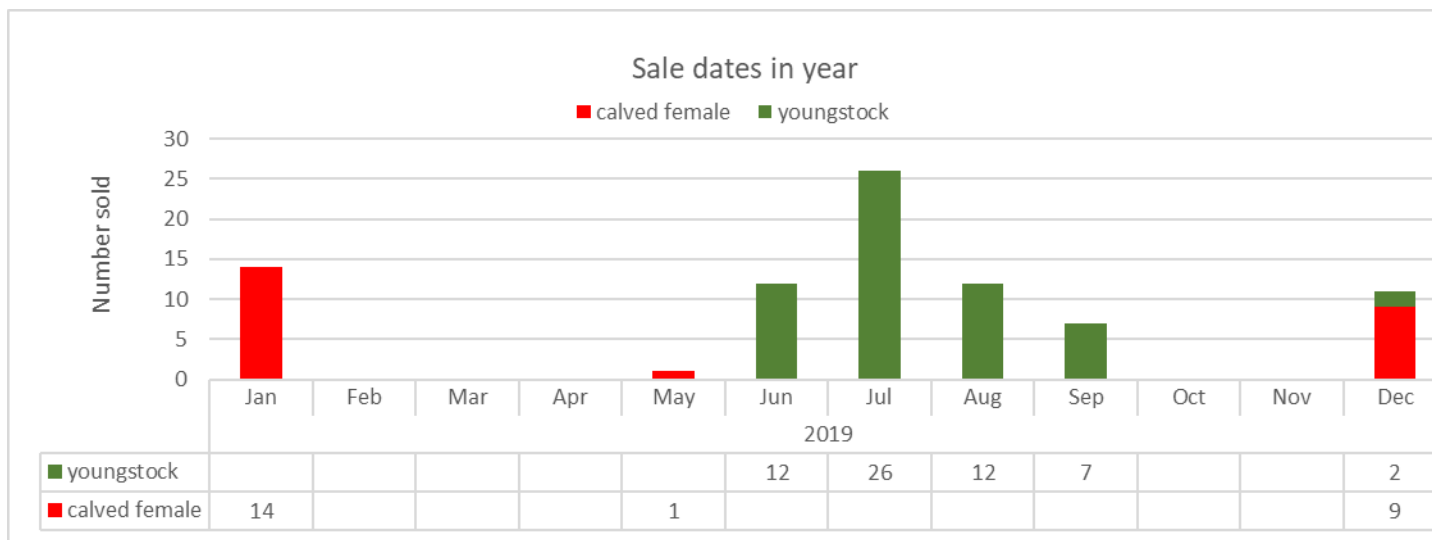
Cows leaving the herd after only one calf may represent a management or nutritional shortfall and may merit further investigation.



Average age of heifers/cows calving for first time with a registered calf in year (months), in calendar year	23
Cows leaving herd after just one calf	1



Herd sales and mortalities in year:



Explainer:

These charts identify all youngstock, calved females and breeding bulls sold or died on-farm, across the year. Analysis is required to determine the age of the animal. These are important to determine the best point of sale relative to market price and costs or the peak risk periods for animal health and welfare.

Breeding females are identified as those who have previously had a registered calf. N.B. any first calved heifers that did not produce a registered calf are aggregated into youngstock sales or mortalities.

Breeding bulls are identified as any male who has previously sired a registered calf. N.B. breeding bull sales or on-farm deaths are aggregated into youngstock sales or mortalities if they have not previously been registered as a sire.

	This year	Previous year
Youngstock sales	59	101
Youngstock mortalities	1	2



Information:



Disclaimer:

The information within this document is based on farmer data held on the ScotEID cattle database and is correct as far as we know it. This is a pilot initiative and although every effort has been made to ensure data is accurately presented we accept no liability for any decisions based on this report by any party.

Every effort has been made to explain the data throughout the report but this may not be an exhaustive list.

Analysis is based on existing farm data for cattle recorded on holding during the reporting calendar year unless stated otherwise. Whilst the report focuses on the performance of the breeding herd, mortalities and sales within year relate to all cattle not just the latest calf crop.

The reports core purpose is to summaries data into clear management information for the keeper and their interpretation. The purpose being to support informed decision making. The report in itself does not presuppose any action. Further information, analysis or interpretation may be required to identify any action required.

i Further information and descriptors:

i1 = QMS suckler herd fertility guide -
<https://www.qmscotland.co.uk/guide-improving-suckler-herd-fertility-0>

i2 = Calving interval is the number of days between two calvings. A cows calving interval was calculated as the number of days between every 2019 calving and her last calving. It therefore does not include those cows who missed calving in 2019 but may calve in 2020.

Acknowledgements:

This project has been made possible through the Scottish Government SRDP Knowledge Transfer and Innovation Fund, European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development. Delivered by SAOS in partnership with ScotEID and ANM Farm Profit Programme.



What next?

This is a pilot study and your valuable feedback will help strengthen the reports usefulness and deliver maximum benefit to farmers and the industry.

