

**USAMVB TIMISOARA
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
MASTER FIRST YEAR
ADMINISTRATION OF ENVIROMENT AND
NATURAL RESOUCES**

**ENVN FRANCE
NATIONAL VET-SCHOOL OF NANTES
FIRST YEAR**



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CONTENT

I. INTRODUCTION

II. RESEARCH METHOD

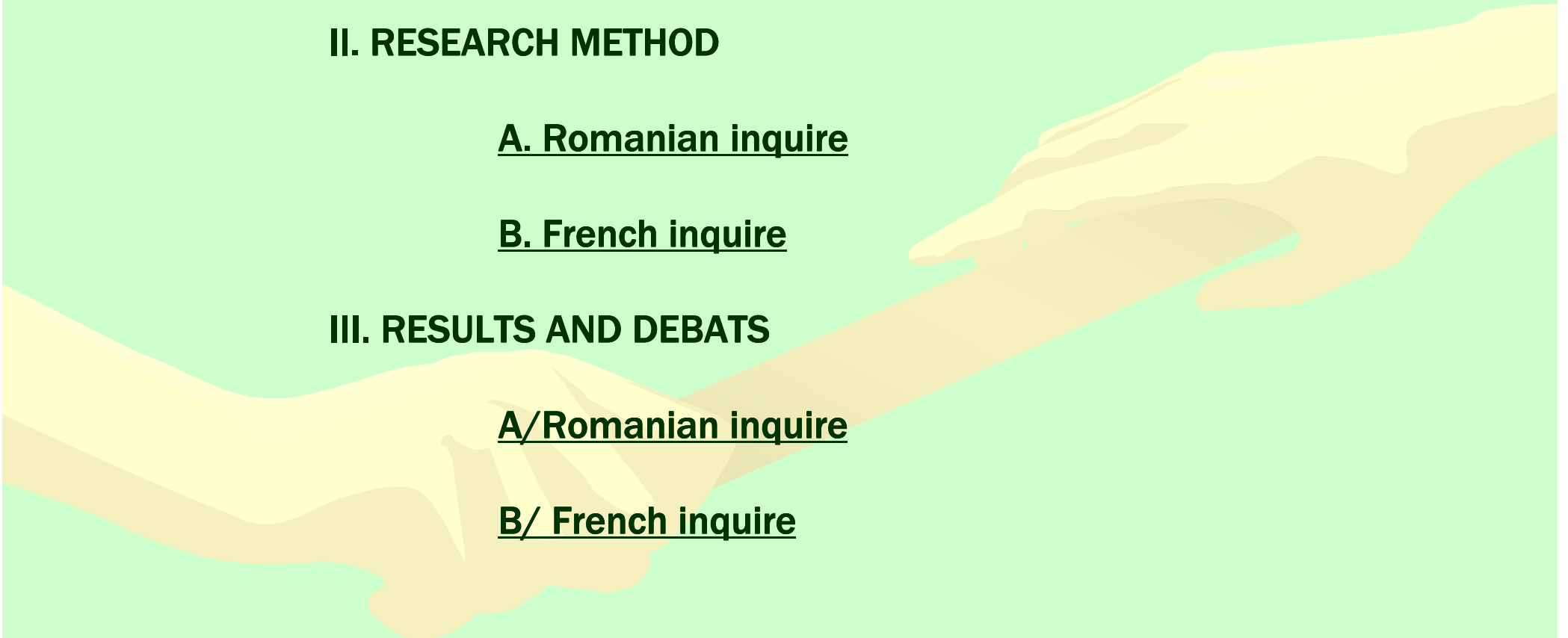
A. Romanian inquire

B. French inquire

III. RESULTS AND DEBATS

A/Romanian inquire

B/ French inquire



I. INTRODUCTION

Between human and his environment of life always existed a **balance**, the human being is considered an **integrant part of this**. As society evolves, as science and technology register progress this **balance is damaged**.

The first consequence that has been noticed by human, as a result of this lack of poise is **pollution**. The episode of the London smog, which in 1952 killed over 4000 peoples (Vădineanu, 1999) called someone's attention and it came neccessary to settle some rules in this relationship between man and environment.

After Tincu (2007), in West philosophy in the relation between man and nature existed three positions:

- *Cartesianism* (nature is totally rightless) ,
- *Republican and humanist tradition* (man is bound with animals through some obligations, in special those that they don't harm them) and
- *Utilitarian thinking* (the human isn't the only creature that is liable to feel pleasure and pain).

This orientation, beside ecology progress as science, leed to aparence of two new currents: *Shallow Ecology* and *Deep Ecology*

Shallow Ecology

- an ecology of surface is reformist and zoocentrist. It has principal leaders: *Singer* and *Regan*.
- they bought support that sensibility is the frontier of moral approach.
- *Singer* is militating for animal **release and rights**, while *Regan* support the preserve principle: to let to exist. But, not only animals are capable to sensibility.
- *Thompkins and Bird* in “Plants secret life” show that **plants are also capable to feel**, for example when someone is approaching with the thought to harm them.

Deep Ecology

– profound ecology is radical and ecocentric. This current include two orientations:

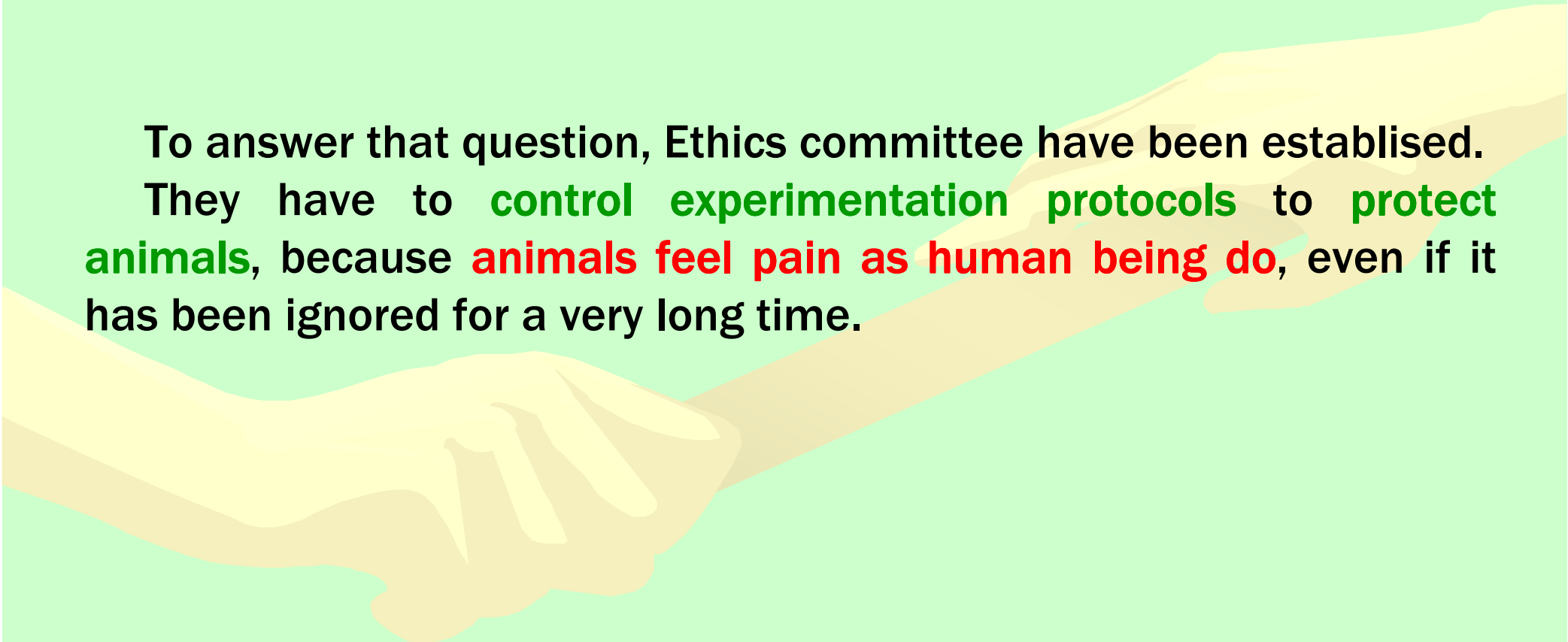
1. *Biocentrism* – it couldn't exist value besides life and all living creatures, human, animal and vegetable are dignified for moral consideration and respect.

2. *Ecocentrism (Holism)* – the ensemble is superior to the person from the moral point of view such that all natural objects (alive or non-alive) must be taken in consideration in decisions that are regarding the natural enviroment as a unitary total.

What about ethics in animal experimentation?

Sometimes, animal experimentation is necessary or obliged to learn more about animals and human being or to develop drugs. What are the limits that should exist in animal experimentation?

To answer that question, Ethics committee have been established. They have to control experimentation protocols to protect animals, because animals feel pain as human being do, even if it has been ignored for a very long time.



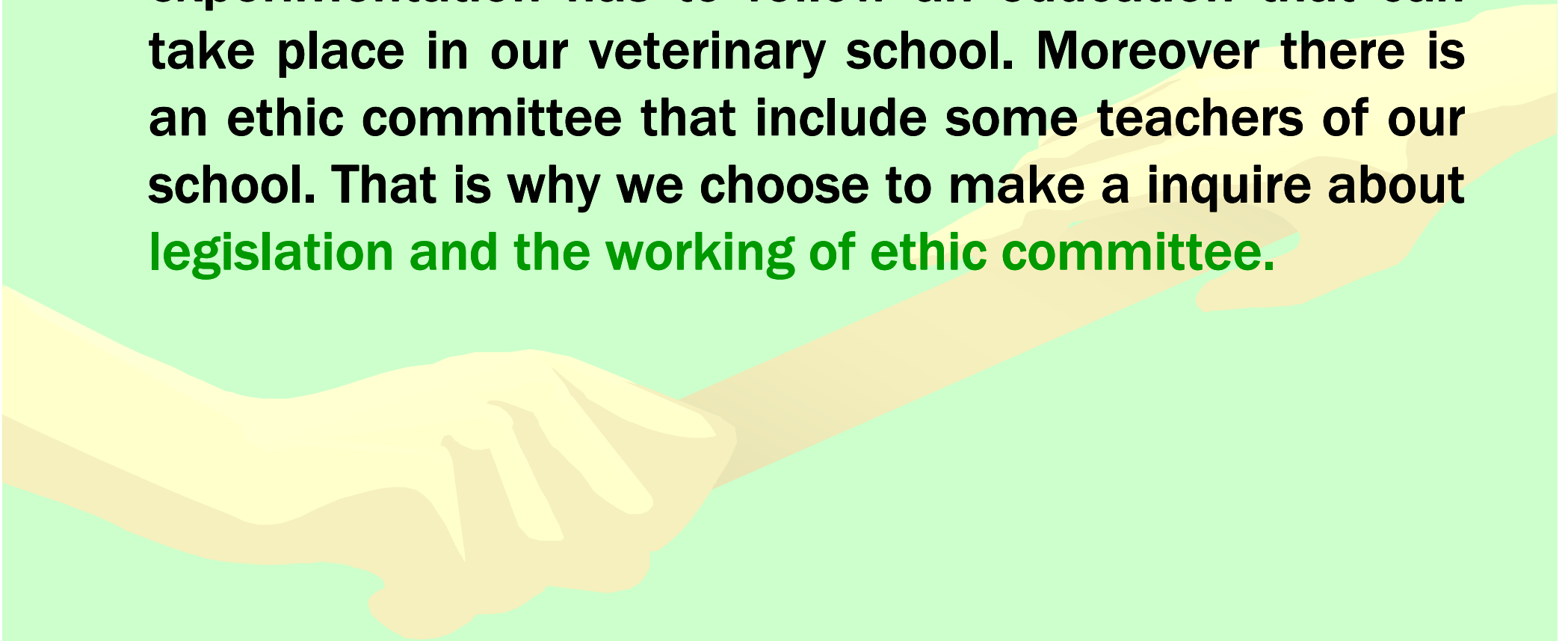
Searchers have to control animal's pain and suffering.
The primary rights given to an animal are included in **5 freedoms**:

- **physiological** freedom = no hunger, no thirst
- **behaviour** freedom = express normal behaviour
- **psychological** freedom = no fear and stress
- **sanitary** freedom = no pain, injuries or diseases
- **enviromental** freedom = confort

The main subject of our paper was to find the opinion of people about bioethics. But, we haven't the same questionnaire and the same target public, that is why we split our reflections:

- the romanian part of this paper was to find out **if ethics mean something for the students** from University of Science and Veterinary Medicine of the Banat – Timișoara. If they know the meaning of environmental ethics and if they know something about the animal and plant species endangered.

- **in France, each person who wants to carry out animal experimentation has to follow an education that can take place in our veterinary school. Moreover there is an ethic committee that include some teachers of our school. That is why we choose to make a inquire about **legislation and the working of ethic committee.****



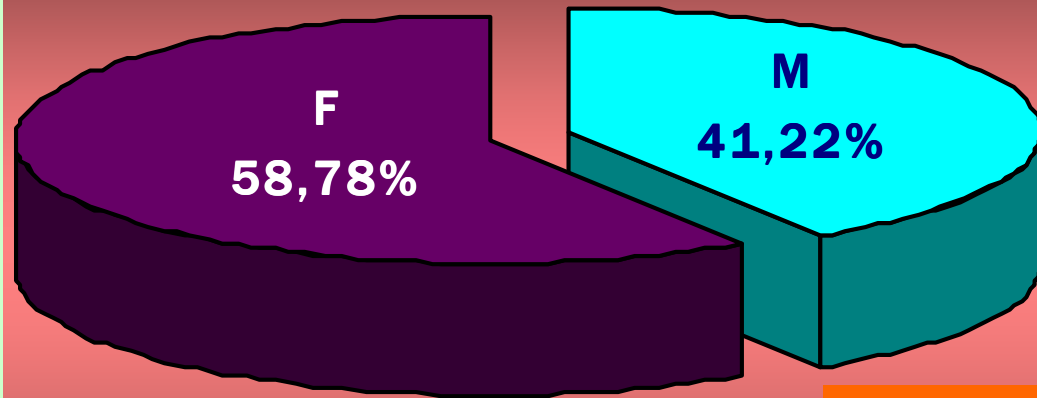
II. RESEARCH METHOD

A. Romanian inquire

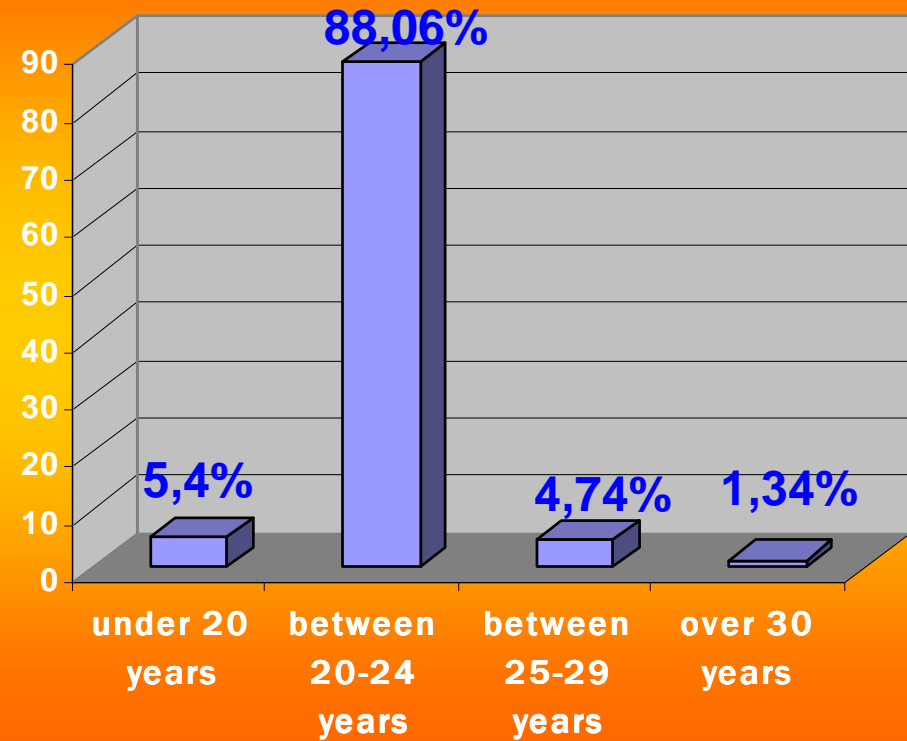
This paper is proposing to find the opinion of the future experts in science of life regarding ethics in general, enviromental ethics and ethics problemes raised by biodiversity in special.

The total number of the questioned persons is **148** from what **61** (that is **41.22%**) persons are **male** and **87** (**58.78%**) are **females**. As regarding the classification by specialization and by age and sex they are presented in graphic number **1** and respective graphic number **2**.

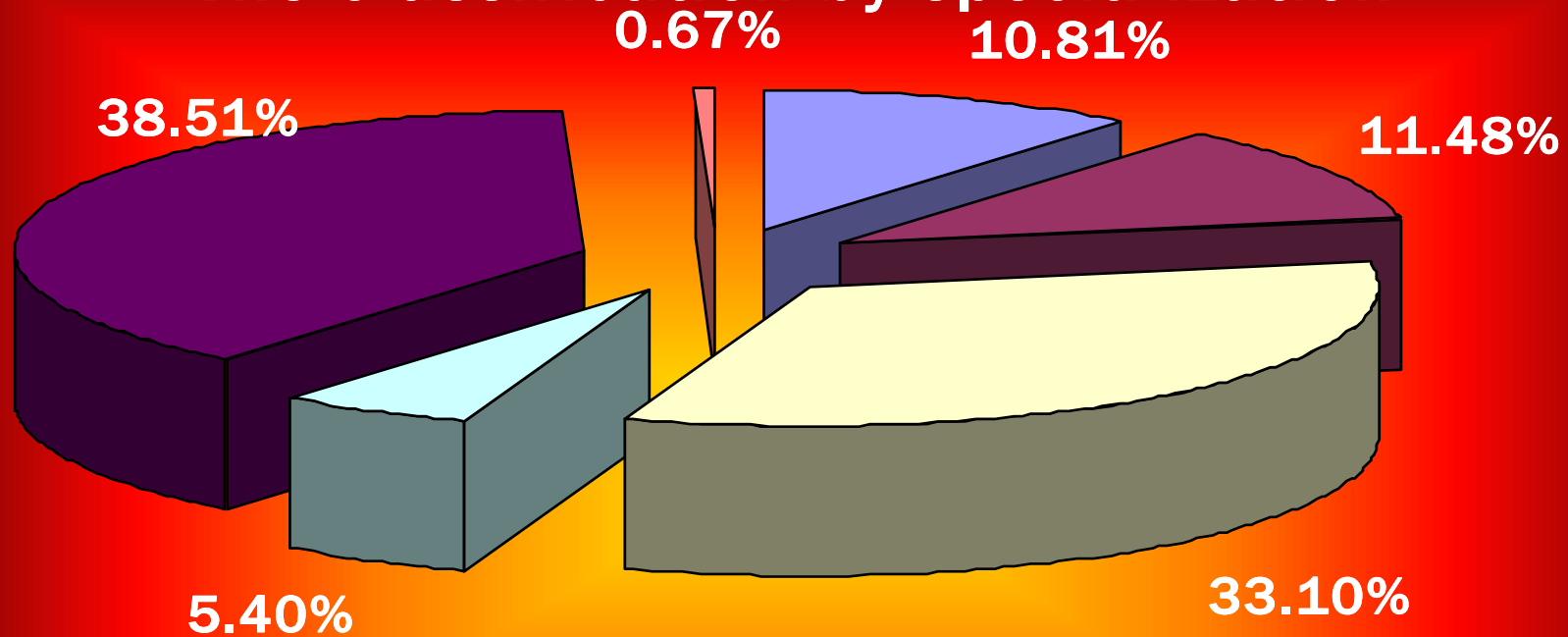
the classification by sex



the classification by age



The classification by specialization



- Horticulture
- Plant Protection
- Biology
- Engineering and Management in Public Nutrition and Agroturism
- Veterinary Medicine
- Journalism

A. French inquire

1/ animal used

2/ goals of the experimentation

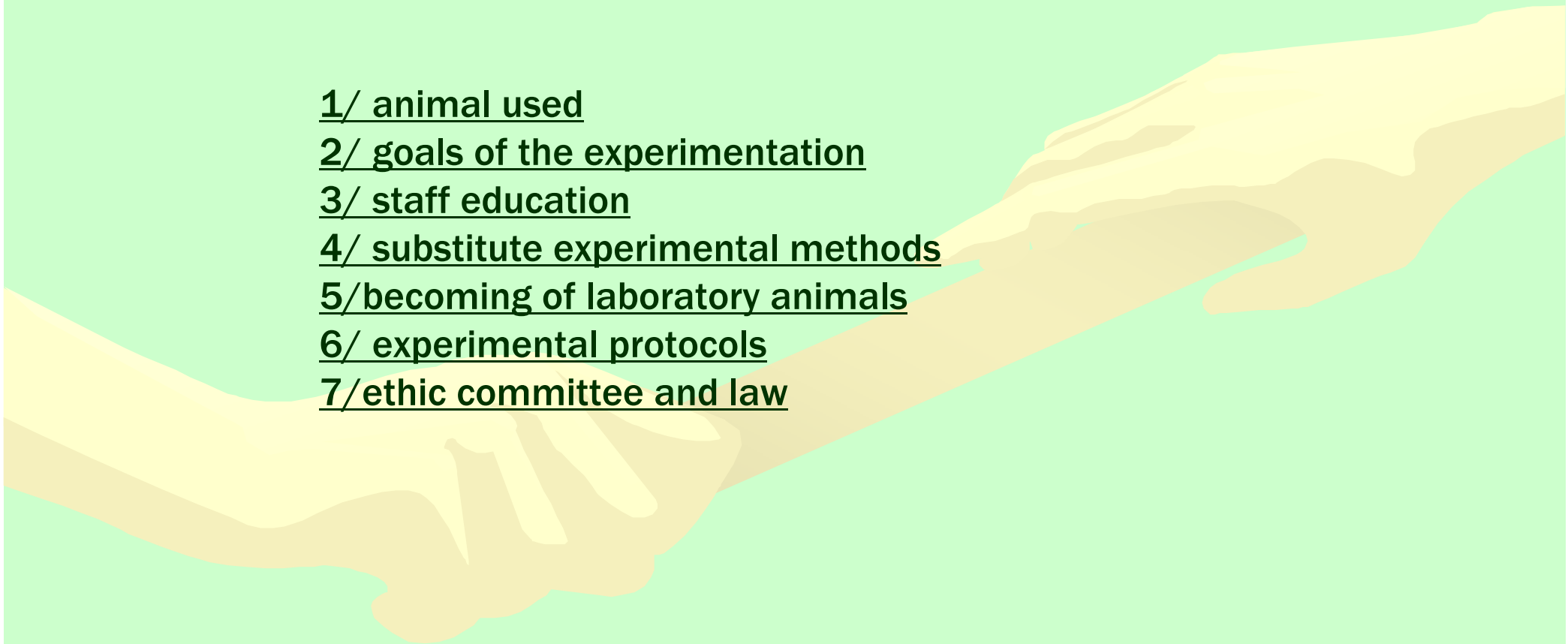
3/ staff education

4/ substitute experimental methods

5/ becoming of laboratory animals

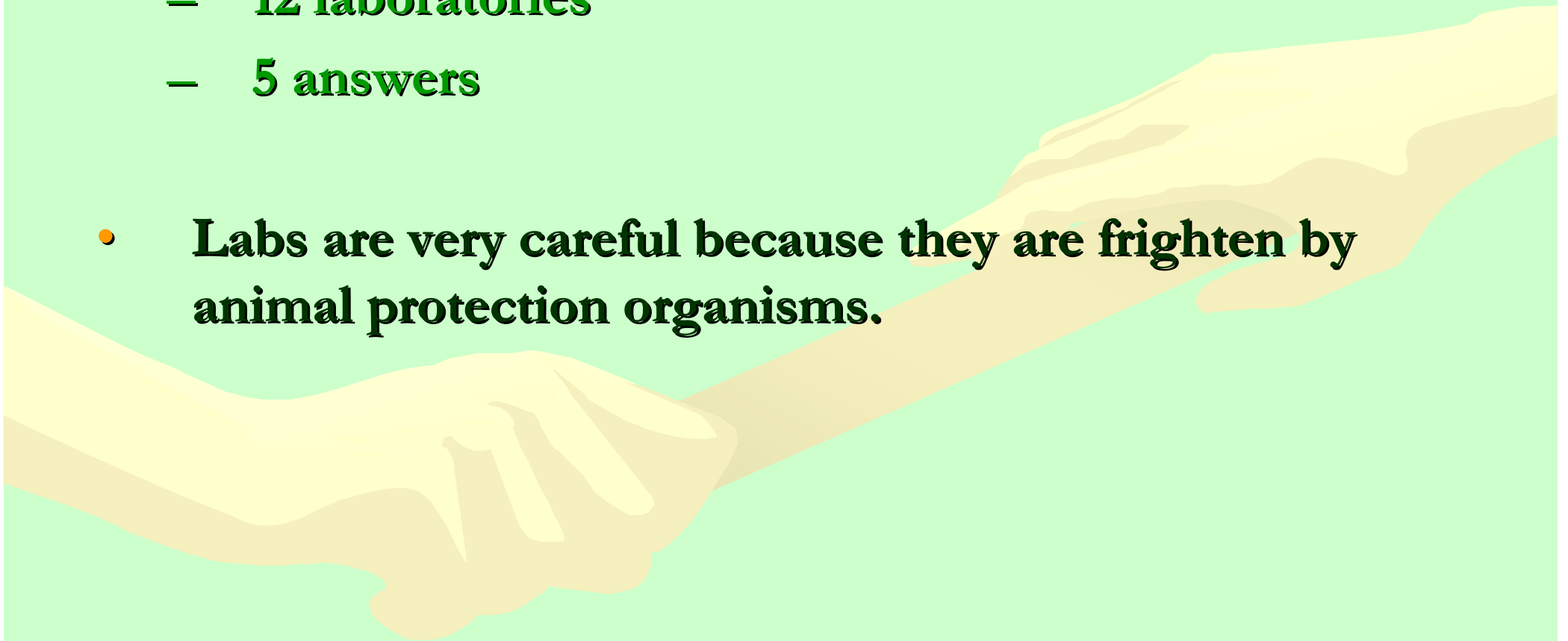
6/ experimental protocols

7/ ethic committee and law



- **In our school:**
 - **12 laboratories**
 - **5 answers**

- **Labs are very careful because they are frightened by animal protection organizations.**

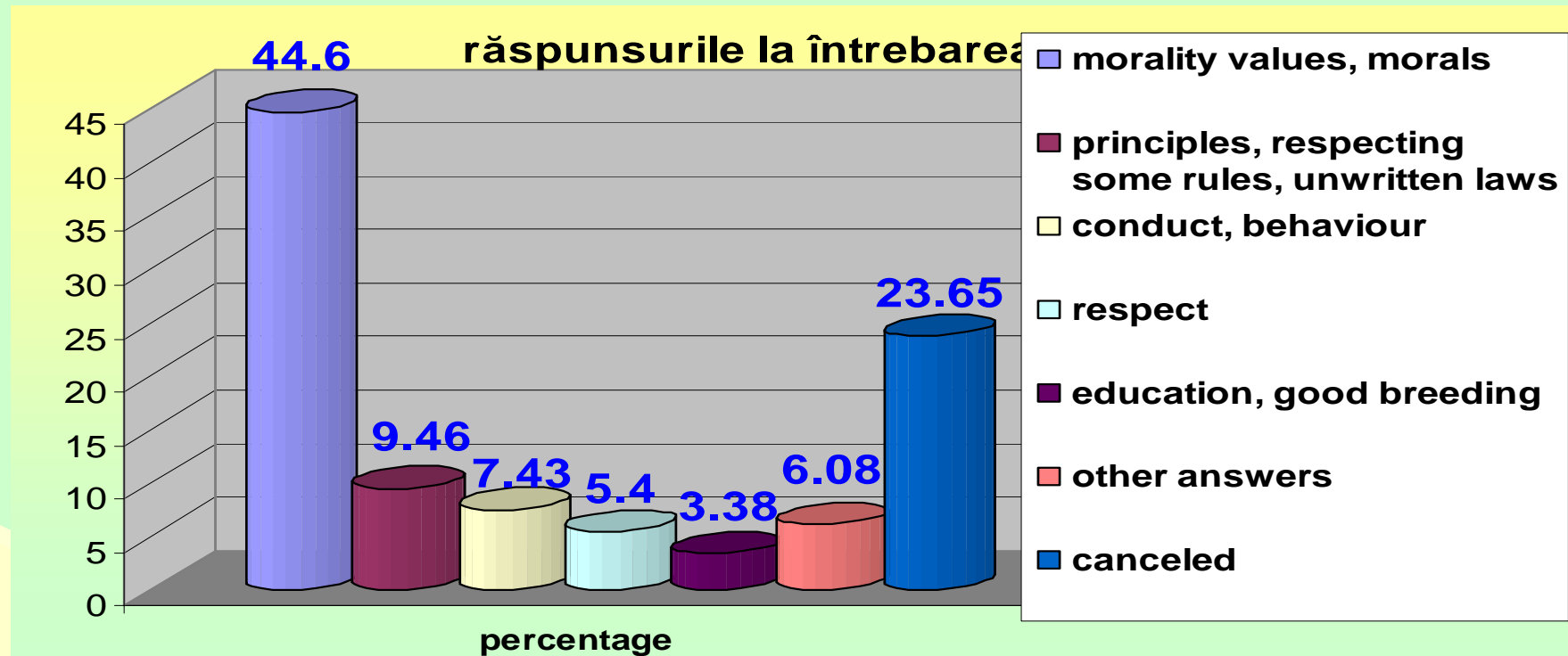


III. Results and debates

A. Romanian inquire

1. Ethics role and place in XXI century

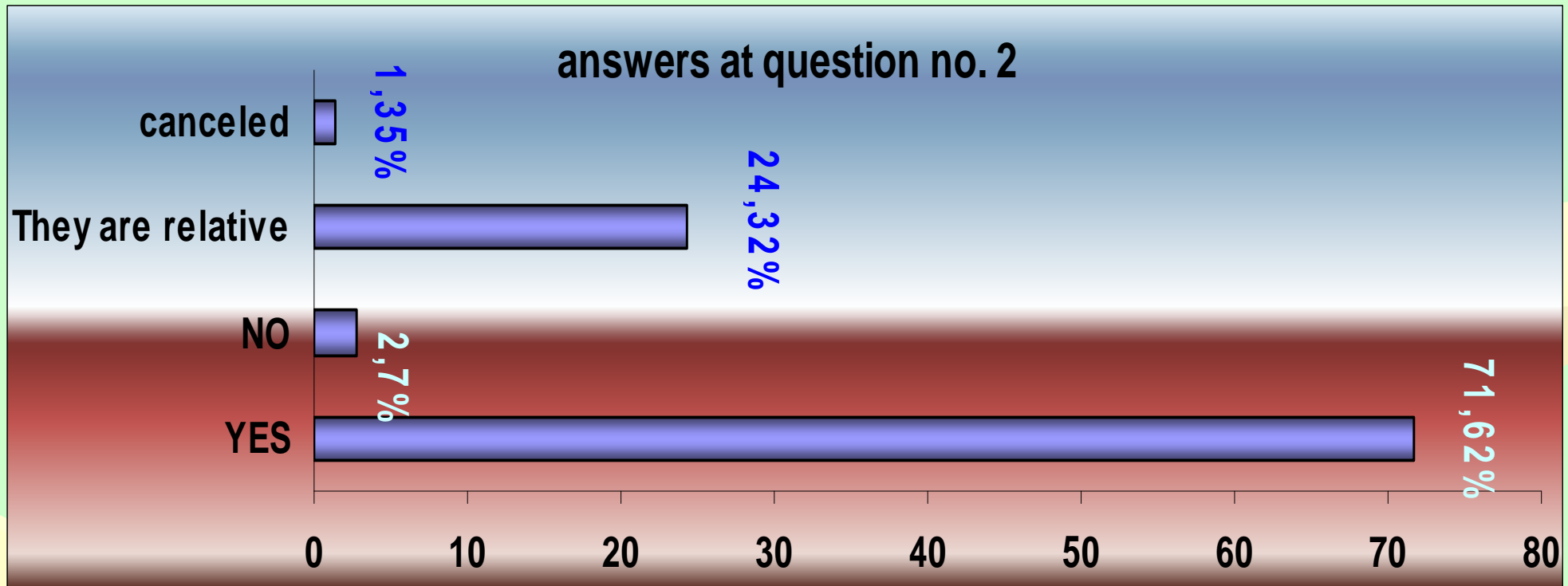
1. What meaning you assign to "ethics"?



Majority consider that ethics means morality values, morals (approximately 45%), almost 25%, can't define ethics, either they don't answer or give ambiguous answer. Can't be observed differences by specialization and by age.

2. Are moral values still important in the XXI century?

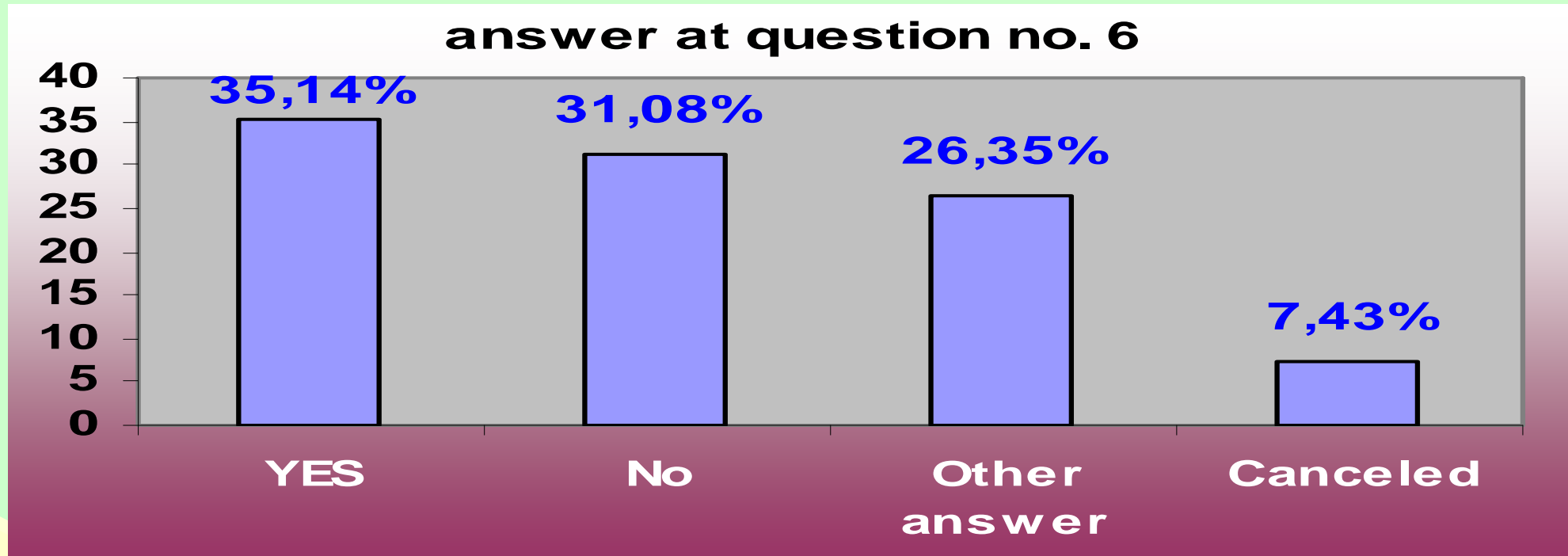
YES NO They are relative



In majority the persons questioned consider that morality values are still important (approximately 72%), almost 25% consider that morality values are relative. Excepting those from Veterinary Medicine where two third of them say „ YES” morality values are still counting and one third say that they are relative – the majority consider that morality values are important.

6. Do you consider your teachers as moral models?

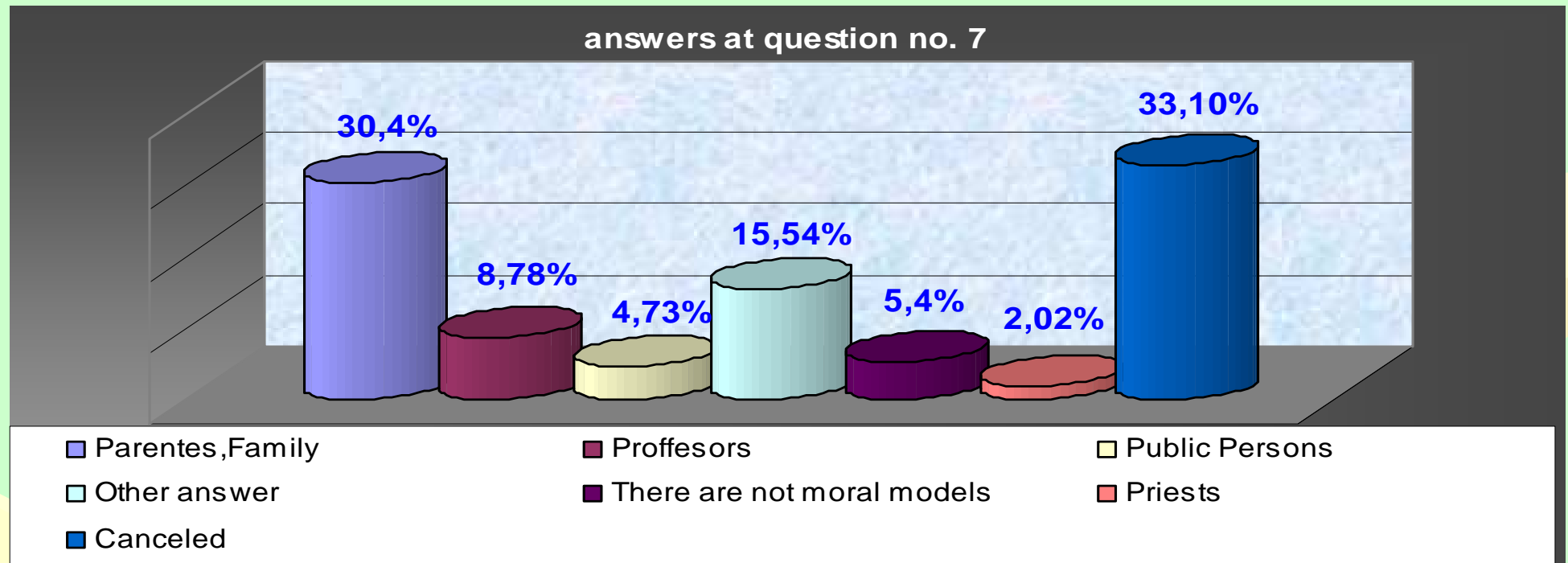
YES NO



At the question „Do you consider your teachers moral models?” the answers are balanced, we have similar percentage between YES, NO, and OTHER ANSWER: 35,14% ; 31,08% and, respective 26,35%. By specialization an exception make those from Plant Protection where the majority say „NO”, and the Management say in majority „YES”.

2. Environment ethics role and place in XXI century

7. Who do you think that could be considered/ you consider to be a moral model ?



In a large number, approximately 30% , consider that parents, family are moral models. It can be observed that we have a large number of canceled answers at this question, because they don't answer or give ambiguous answer. There is a pretty big percentage 8.78% that are saying that the teachers are moral models, That is a little strange because at the previous question they said that teachers are not moral models.

9. How do you think that the environment problem is reflected in school programmes?

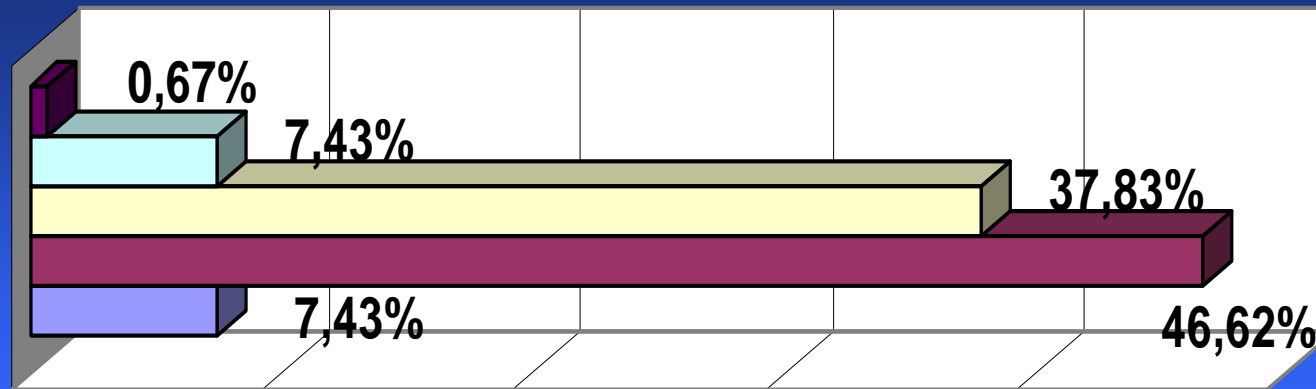
a) well represented

b) almost well represented

c) almost missing

d) missing

answers at question no.9



Well represented almost well represented almost missing missing canceled

Majority is considering that environmental ethics is well represented almost 47%. Exist however a percentage big enough that are saying that is almost missing 37.83%. Those from Veterinary Medicine consider, in majority, that is almost missing. The Biologists in majority consider that is well represented. At Plant Protection and Management those that are saying that is almost well represented and those that are saying that is almost missing are equal.

10. Do you think that bioethics and environment ethics should be studied in school?

NO

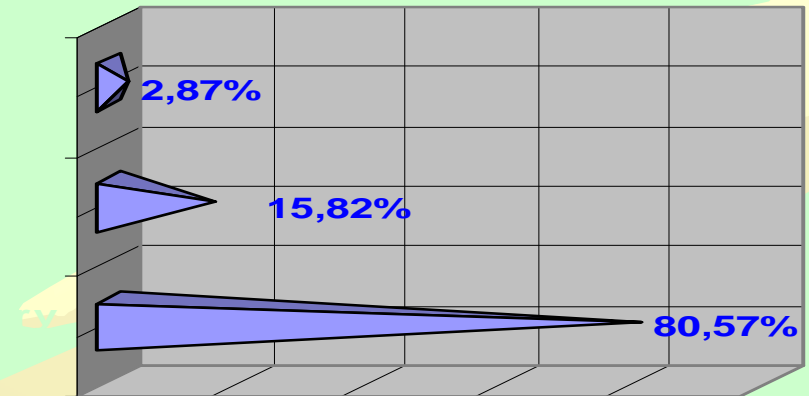
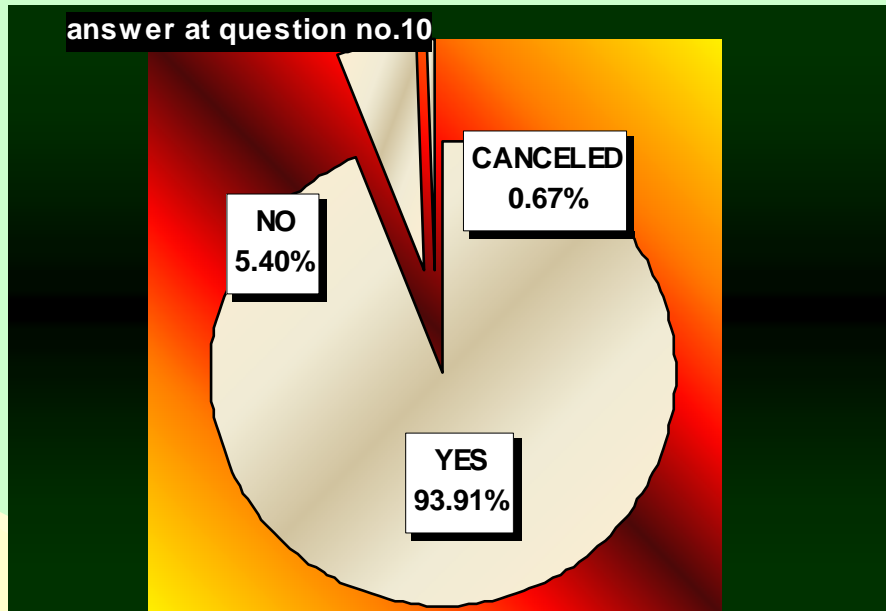
YES

If you say yes, at what age? (choose one answer)

a) in secondary school

b) in those Faculties who are working with living organisms

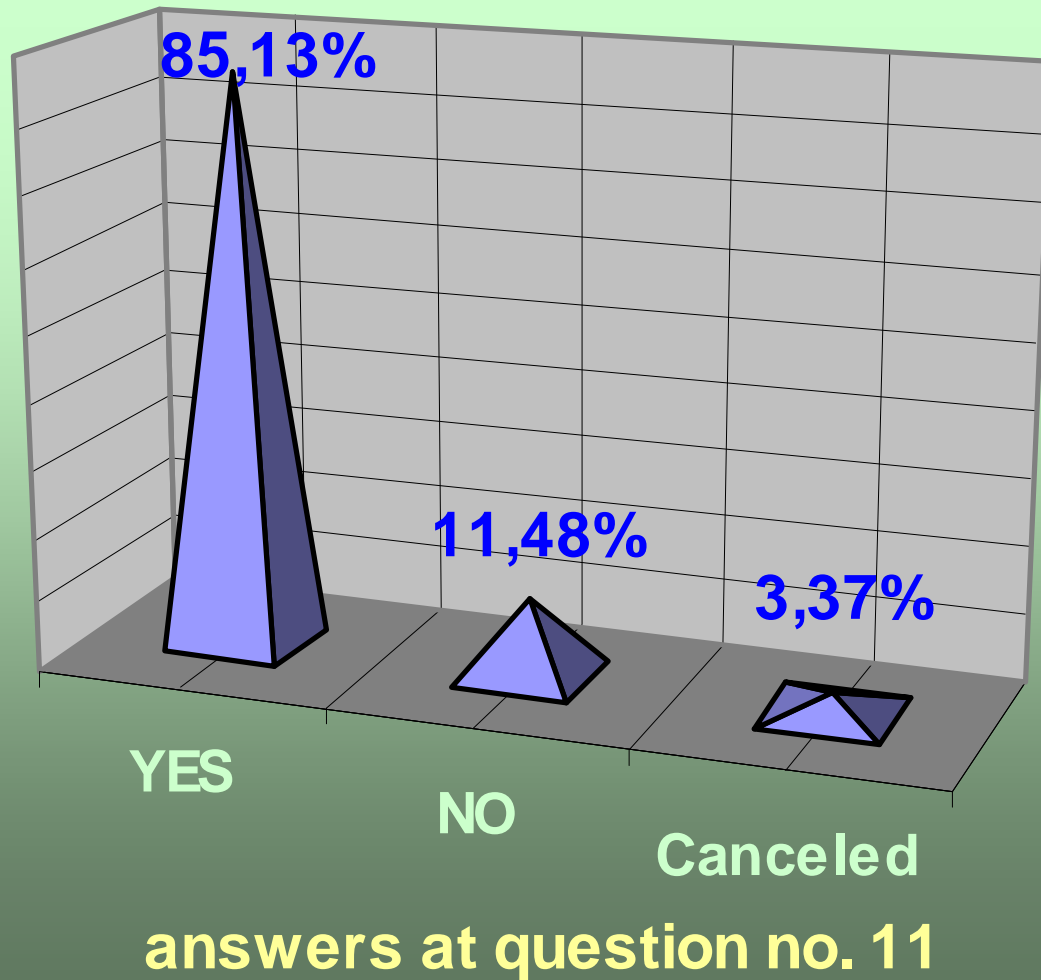
c) at masterate



The majority ($\approx 94\%$) are agree that it is necessary to study bioethics and environment ethics in schools, and as regarding at what age should be studied they say that it should be studied in secondary school (80.57%). By specialization aren't differences, a small exception it can be observed only at Biology and Management which are in unanimity agree that it should be studied bioethics and environment ethics.

11. In the job for which you are preparing is it necessary to have a deontological code? (a code of ethical rules?)

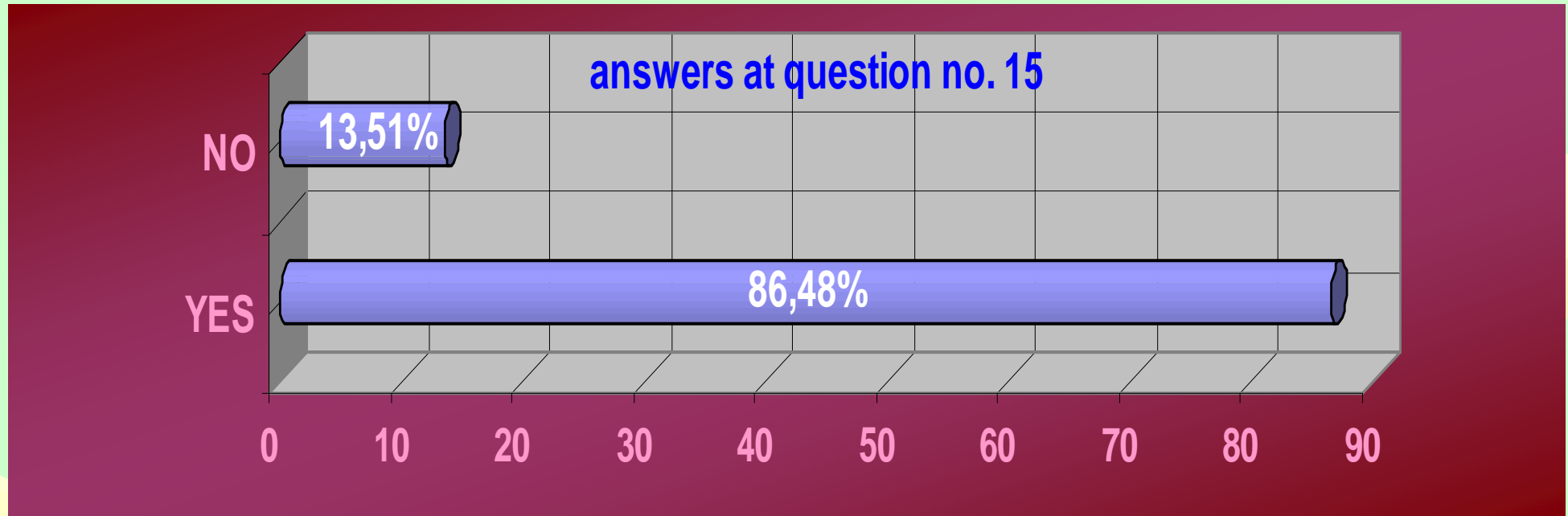
YES NO



The majority are saying „YES” it is necessary a deontological code in any job approximately 85%. A small exception it can be observed, by specialization, at Horticulture where the percentage of those that are saying „NO” ($\approx 38\%$) is pretty close of those that are saying „YES” ($\approx 56\%$).

15. Do you think that animals, plants, landscapes should have the same rights as humans?

YES NO

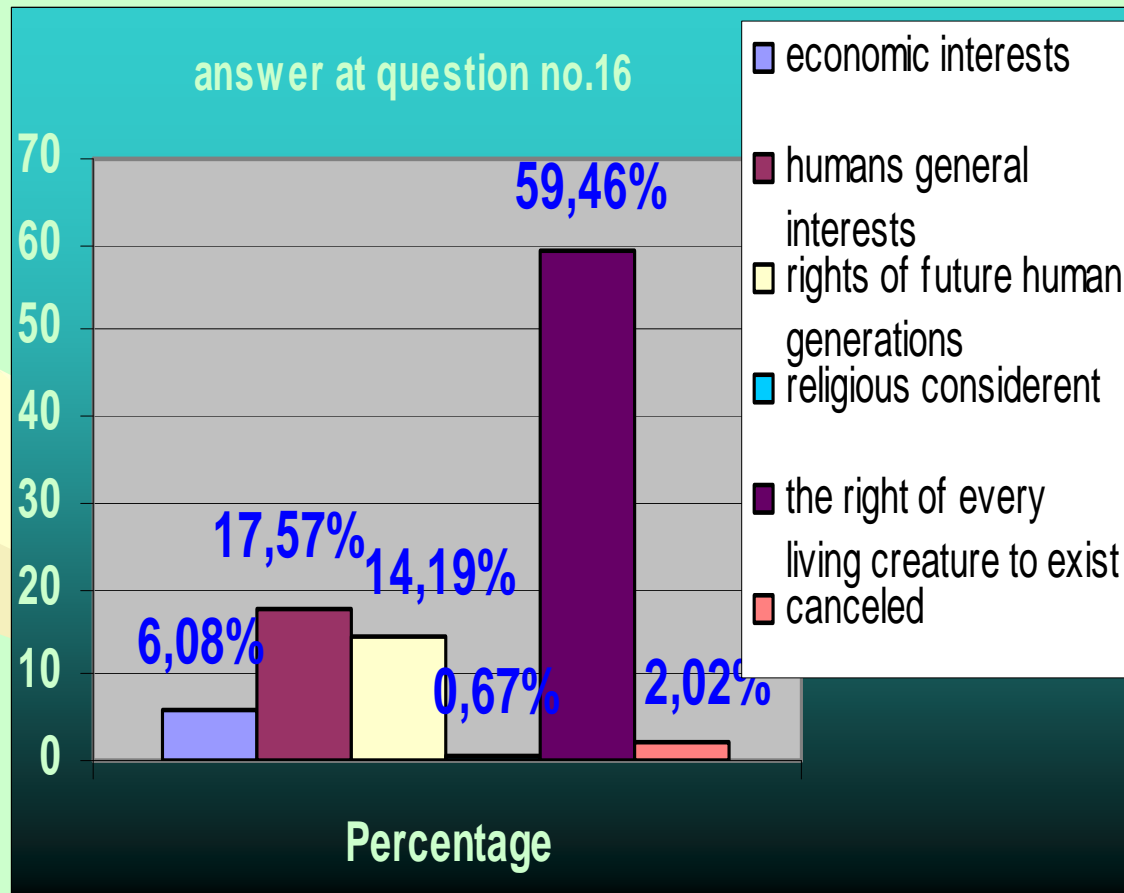


Answers in majority are „YES” approximately 87% are saying that animals, plants, and landscapes should have the same rights as humans A particularity appear by specializations at Engineering and Management in Public Nutrition and Agrotourism where in unanimity are saying “YES”

3. Ethics issues regarding protected species

16. Where do you think that preserving nature should start from?

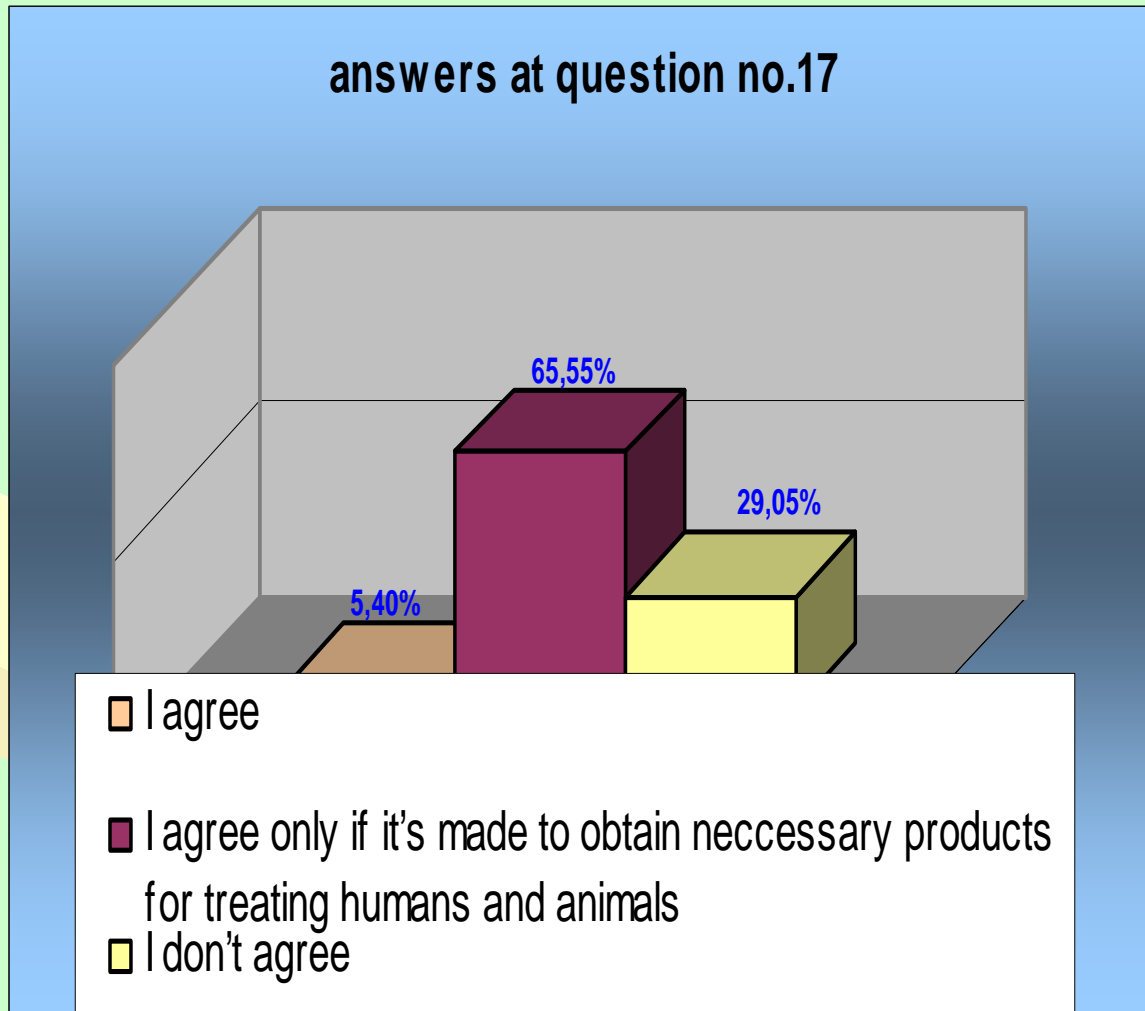
- a) from economic interests
- b) from humans general interests
- c) taking into account the right of future human generations
- d) from religious considerent
- e) from the right of every living creature to exist



In preaty big part approximately 60% are agree that the action of preserving nature should start from the rights of every living creature to exist. It can also be noticed that those who consider that we should start from taking into account rights of future human generations are close for those that consider that we should be started from humans general interests.

17. What do you think about animals cloning?

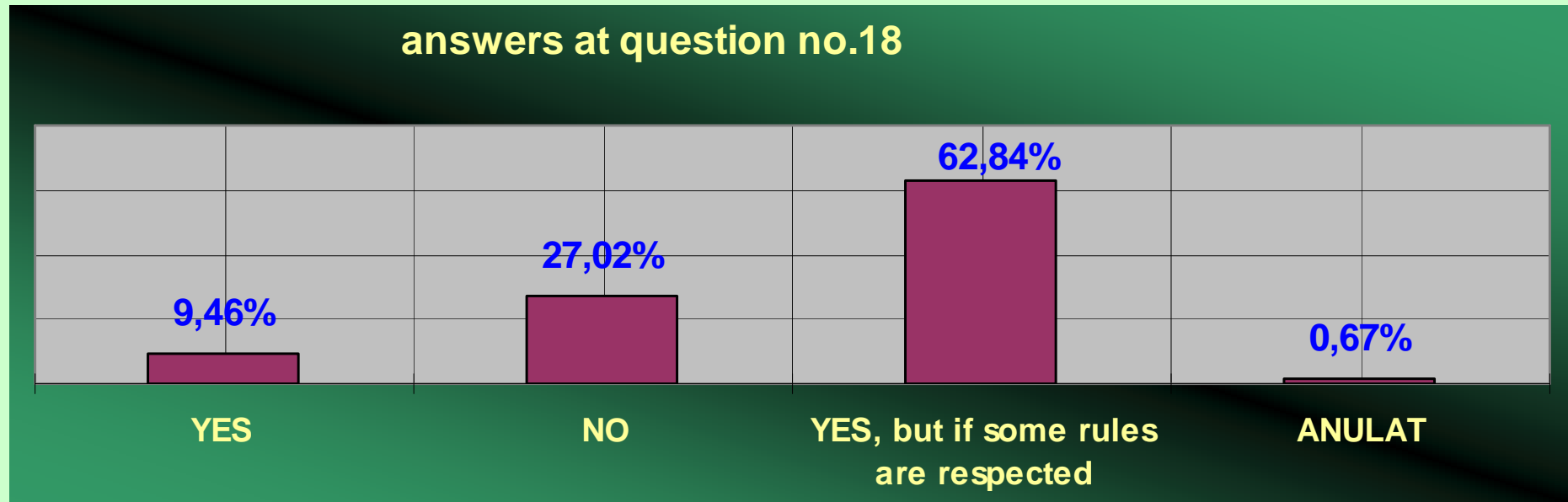
- a) I agree
- b) I agree only if it's made to obtain necessary products for treating humans and animals
- c) I don't agree



In a big part approximately 66%, were agree with cloning only if it's made to obtain necessary products for treating humans and animals. A percentage pretty important are not agree with cloning 29.05%, and a small percentage are agreeing cloning 5.40%. By specialization it can be made only an observation and that is that at Horticulture the percentage of those that are not agree with cloning is bigger than in rest 43.75%

18. Do you agree with experimentation on animals?

YES NO YES, but if some rules are respected



Most answers, that is a percentage of 62.84%, are agreeing with experiencing on animals, but if some rules are respected. Exist a percentage bigger enough that are saying that they are not agree with experiecing on animal approximately 27%.

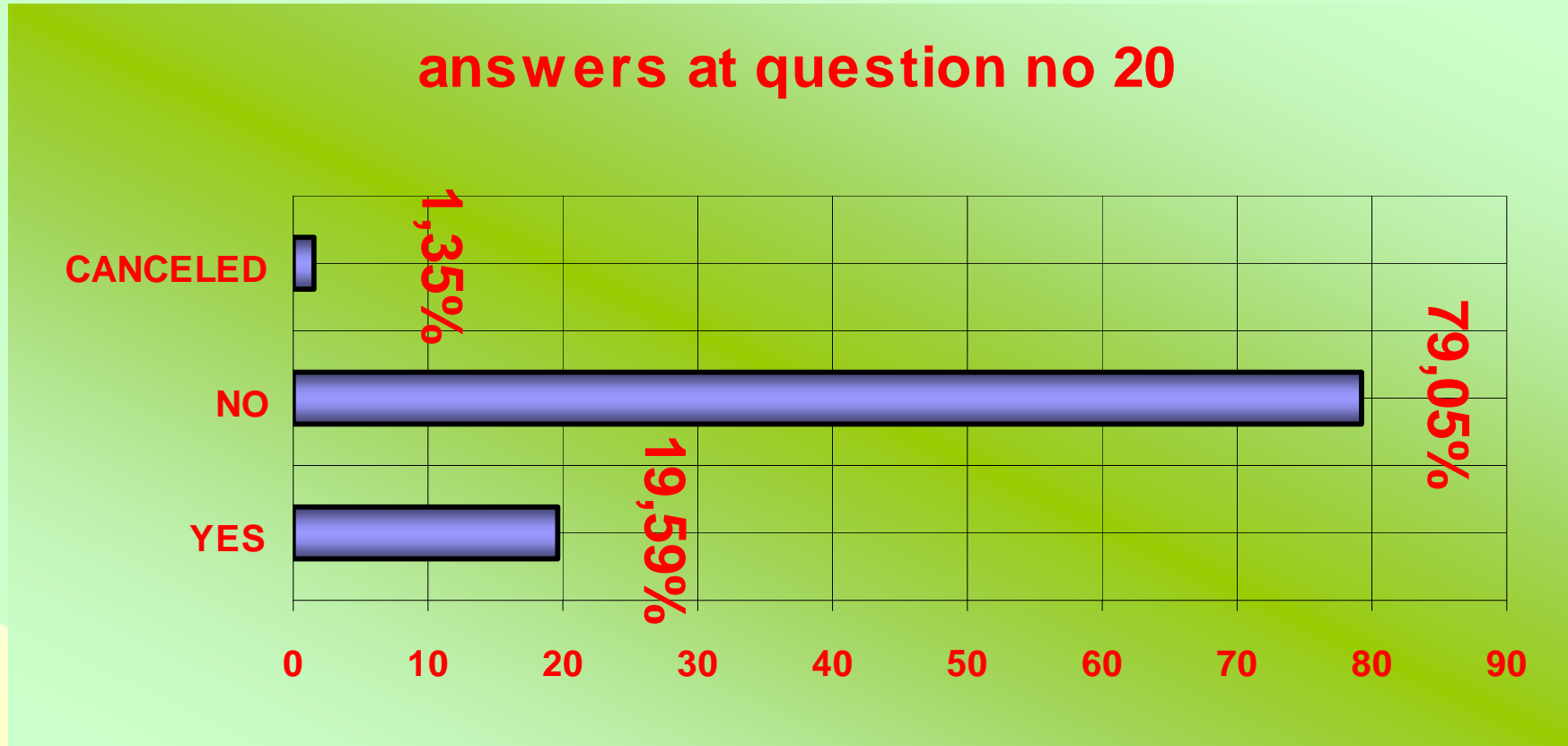
By specialization appear some exceptions

- at Horticulture the percentage of those that are saying „NO” 43.75% is preaty close with those that are saying „YES, but if some rules are respected” (56.25%)
- at Plant Protection we have a percentage closer of those that are saying „NO” 41.17% with those that are saying „YES, but if some rules are respected” (47.05%).

20. Do you agree to consume food made from genetically modified plants/animals?

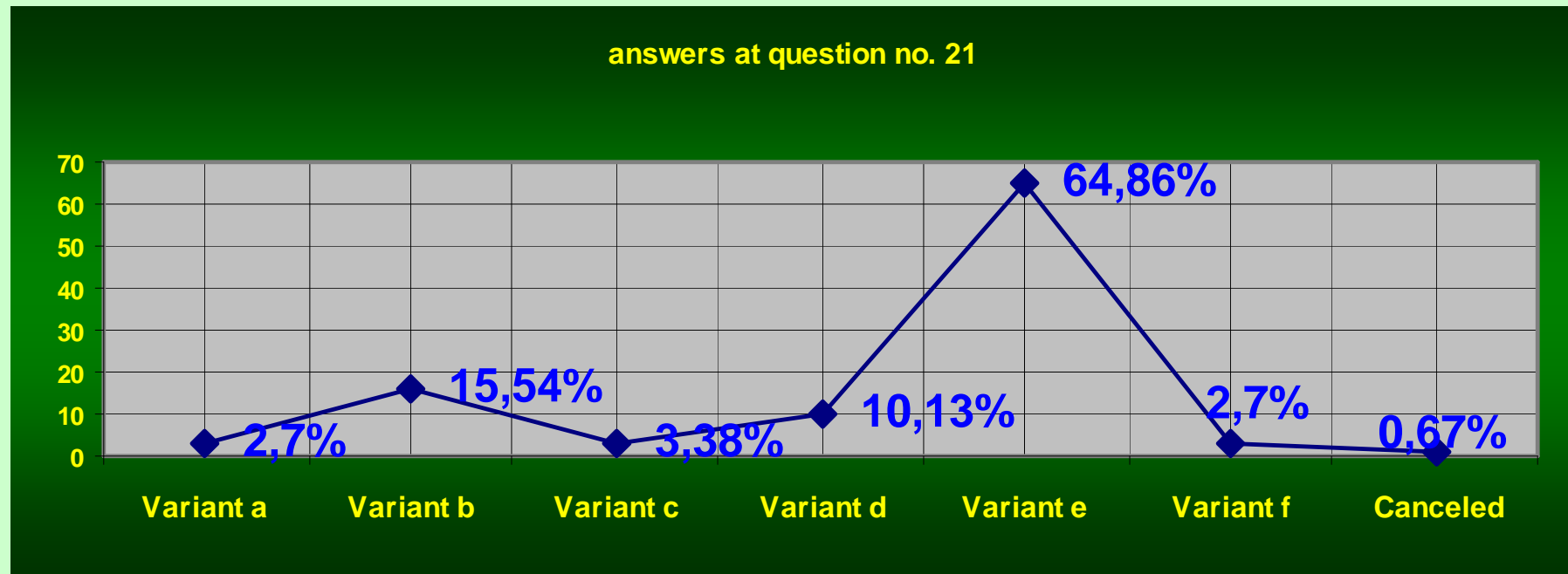
YES

NO



An important percentage 79.05% don't agree to consume food made from plants/animals genetic modified. Exist however an signifying percentage (19,59%) that are willing to consume this products.

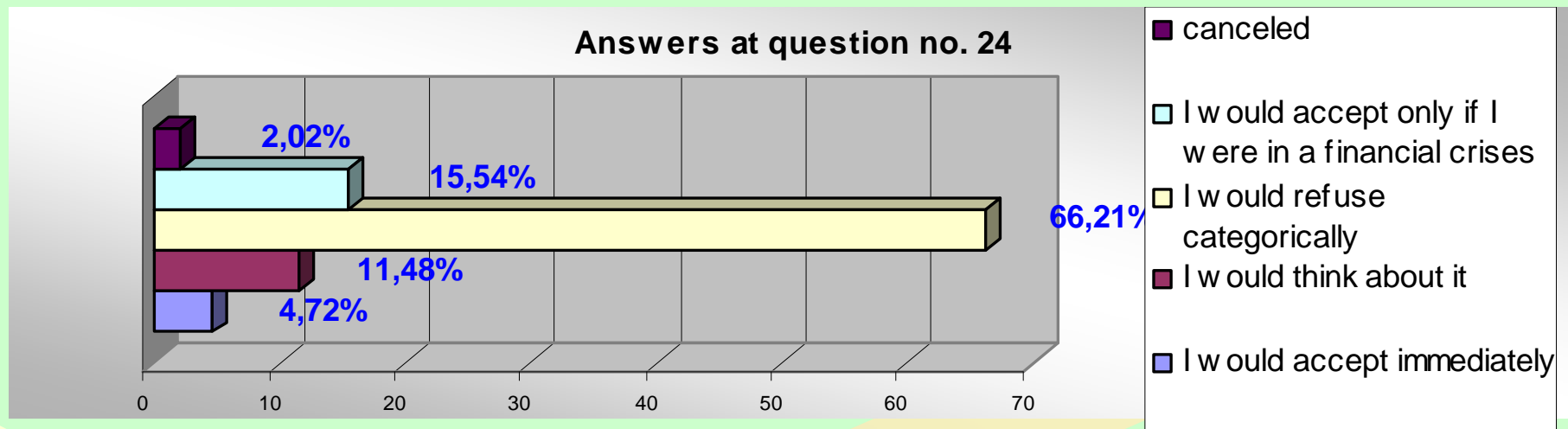
21. If an acquaintance would invite you at his place and would show you that he has a whole collection of endangered plants and animals, although you know that they are prohibited by law, how would you react?



If they are put in a concret situation and that is to find that a friend or an acquaintance is in the possession of a collection of endangered species they would try to convince him to donate the whole collection to a special institute (64.86%). We can say that the percentage of those that would try to convince him to let go of the collection, and if he does not do it in a certain period of time they would notify the authorities and of those that would try to convince him that what he did is not properly and then they would forget that they saw the collection are close 10.19% and, respective 15.54%.

24. If you were offered of a large sum of money in exchange for capturing/ picking up an animal/plant species about which you know that is endengered, what would you do?

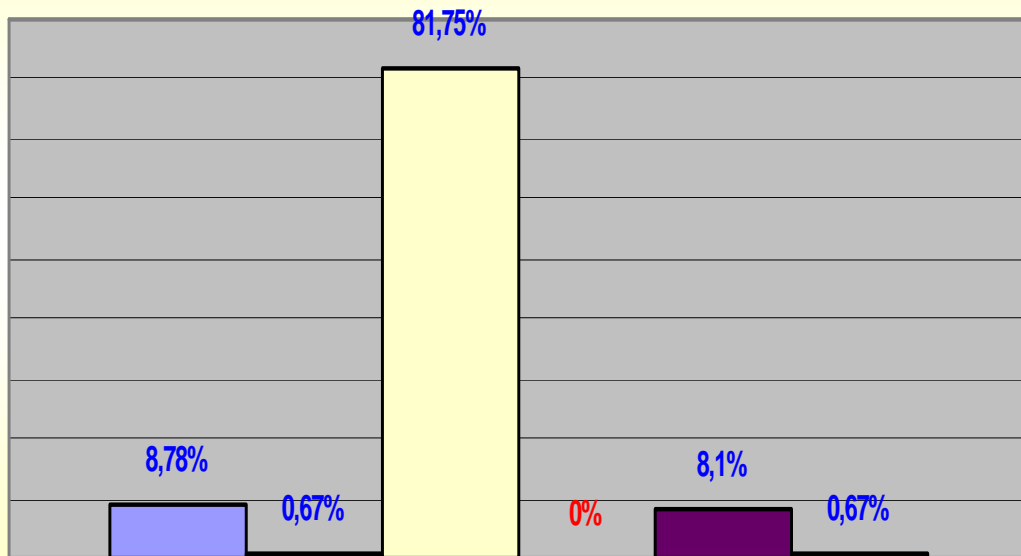
- a) I would accept immediately
- b) I would think about it
- c) I would categorically refuse
- d) I would accept only if I were in a finacial crises



Approximately 2/3 from the total peoples questionated are saying that they would refuse categorically if they were offered of a large sum of money in exchange for capturing/picking up an animal/plant endengered, the percentage of those that would accept only if they were in a financial crises is preaty close 11.48% and respective 15.54%. Per total the number of those that are not sure what they would do in this situation is 26.84% that is a considerable number of those that perhaps would accept .

27. If you were on trip and you were to see a plant species about which you know that is endangered, what would you do?

answers at question no. 27



- If there are more than one, than I pick up one
- I pick up all, something like that you don't see more than once in a life time
- I wouldn't even one pick up, because I don't want to contribute to their disappearance
- if someone else picked up, then I would pick up too
- I wouldn't even one pick up for fear of a fine
- canceled

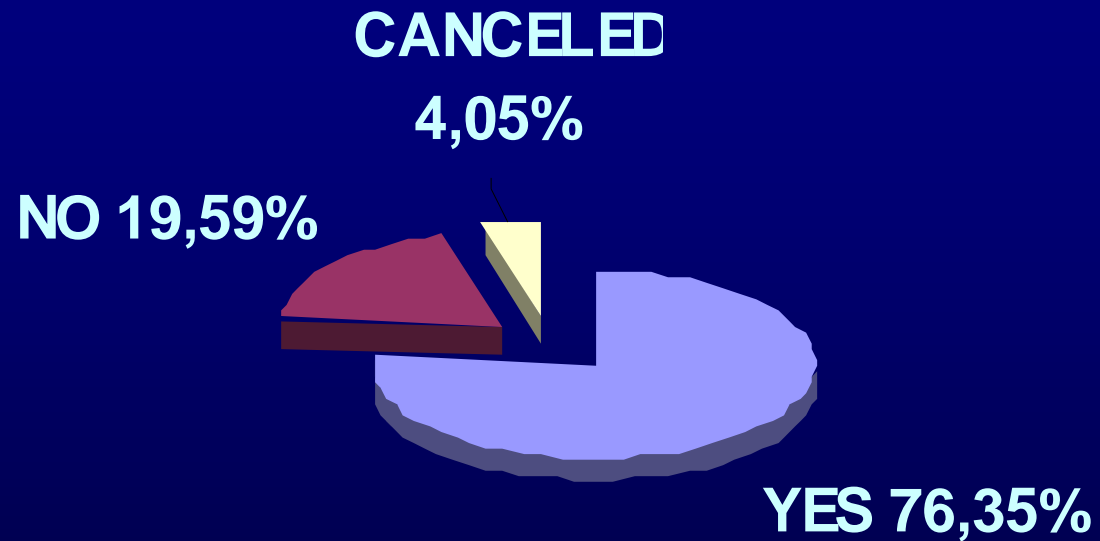
If they are put in the situation of meeting a species of plant about they know that is endangered the majority say that they wouldn't even one pick up, because they don't want to contribute to their disappearance (81.75%). Close percentage say that If there are more than one, than I pick up one and they wouldn't even one pick up for fear of a fine 8.78% and, respective 8.10%. As a particularity and a question is that there is not not even one person who say that if someone else picked up, then he would pick up too. It is really possible that humans are so independent and they don't let themselves to be influence by someone else?

28. Can human create new species?

YES

NO

answers at question no.28

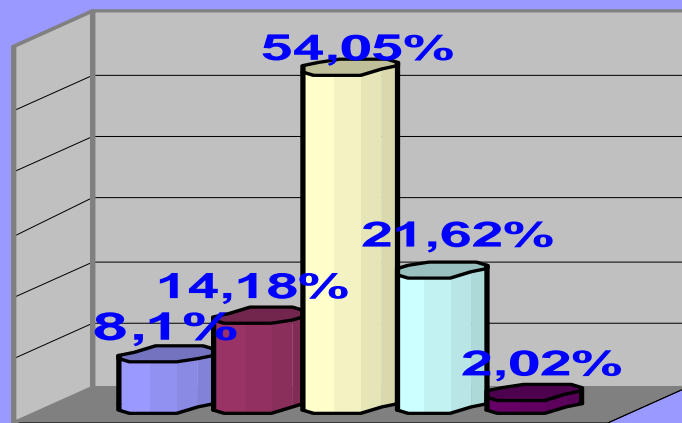


More than three quarter of those questioned are saying that human can create mew species

30. If, by chance, you were at a show that exploited an animal that you knew is endangered, how would you react?

- a) you would watch the show with interest
- b) you would watch the show, then you would do nothing
- c) you would watch the show, then you would notify the authorities
- d) you would leave immediately

answers at question no. 30



- you would watch the show with interest
- you would watch the show, then you would do nothing
- you would watch the show, then you would notify the authorities
- you would leave immediately
- canceled

If by chance they would be in the situation to be at a show that is exploiting an animal endangered the majority said that they would watch the show, then they would notify the authorities 54.05%, and a pretty important percentage answer that they would leave immediately 21.62%.

B. French inquire

1. Animal used

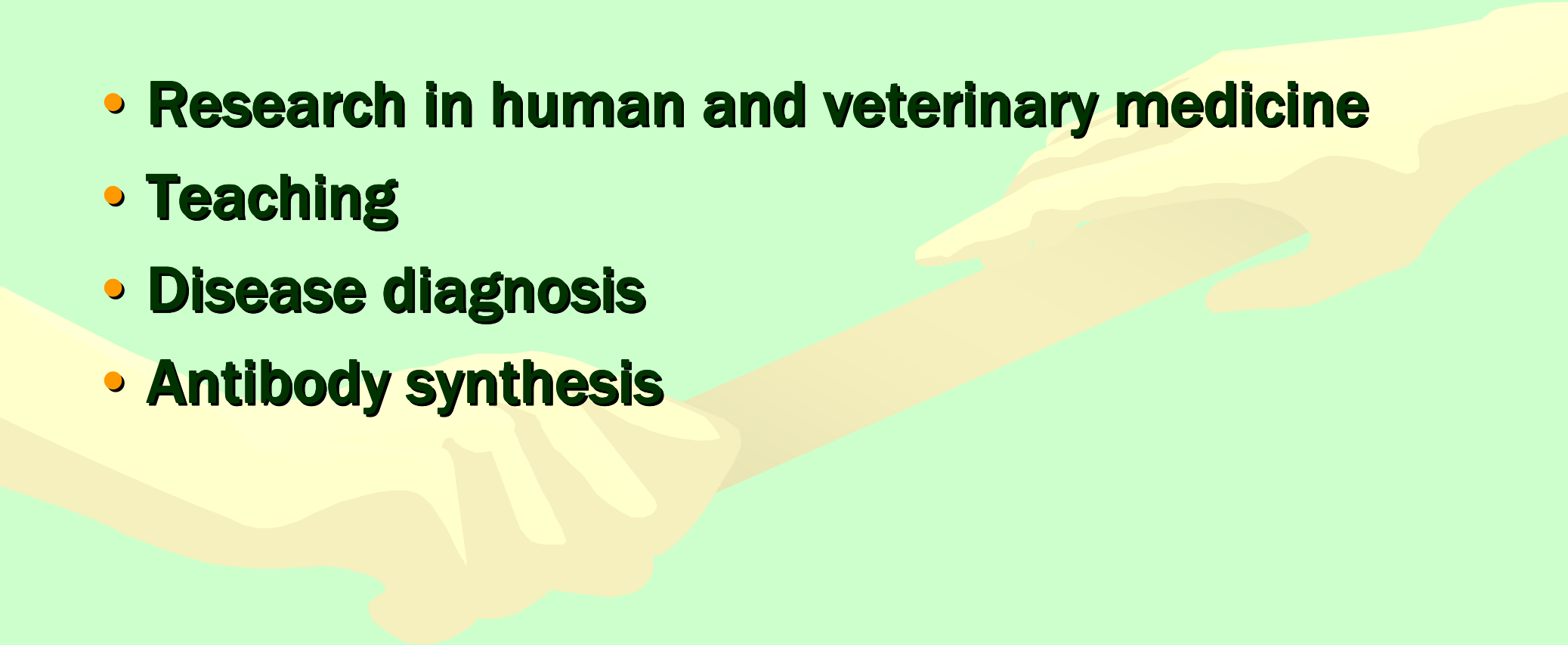
- **Species which are used in Nantes vet school:**

- Mice
- Rabbits
- Rats
- Dogs
- Pigs
- Goats
- Cats

- Horses
- Cows
- Poultry
- Sheep
- Fishes
- Guinea pig
- Gerbils

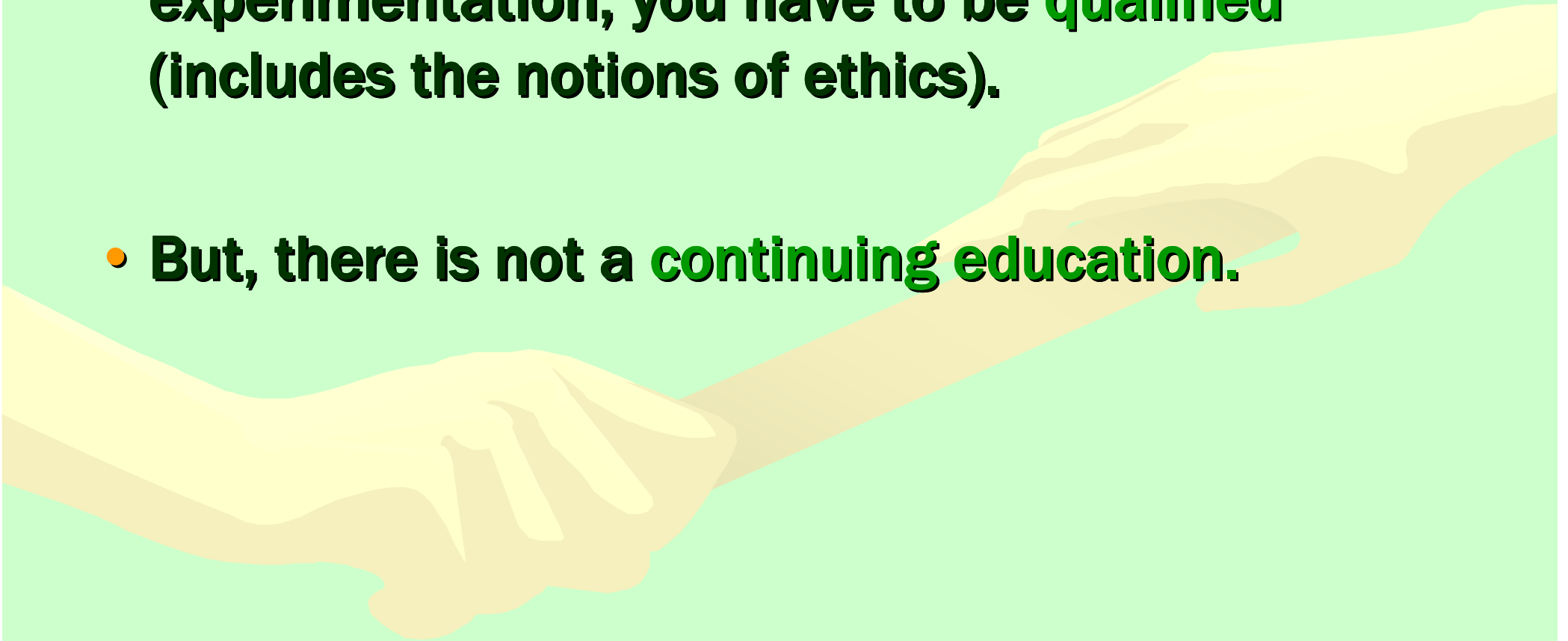
In number of animals, the rodents are the most important.
Has the life of some species more value than an other's one?

2-Main goals of expérimentations

- **Research in human and veterinary medicine**
 - **Teaching**
 - **Disease diagnosis**
 - **Antibody synthesis**
- 
- A stylized illustration of two hands shaking, rendered in shades of yellow and orange, set against a light green background. The hands are positioned diagonally across the frame, with one hand on the left and the other on the right, meeting in the center. The background is a solid, light green color.

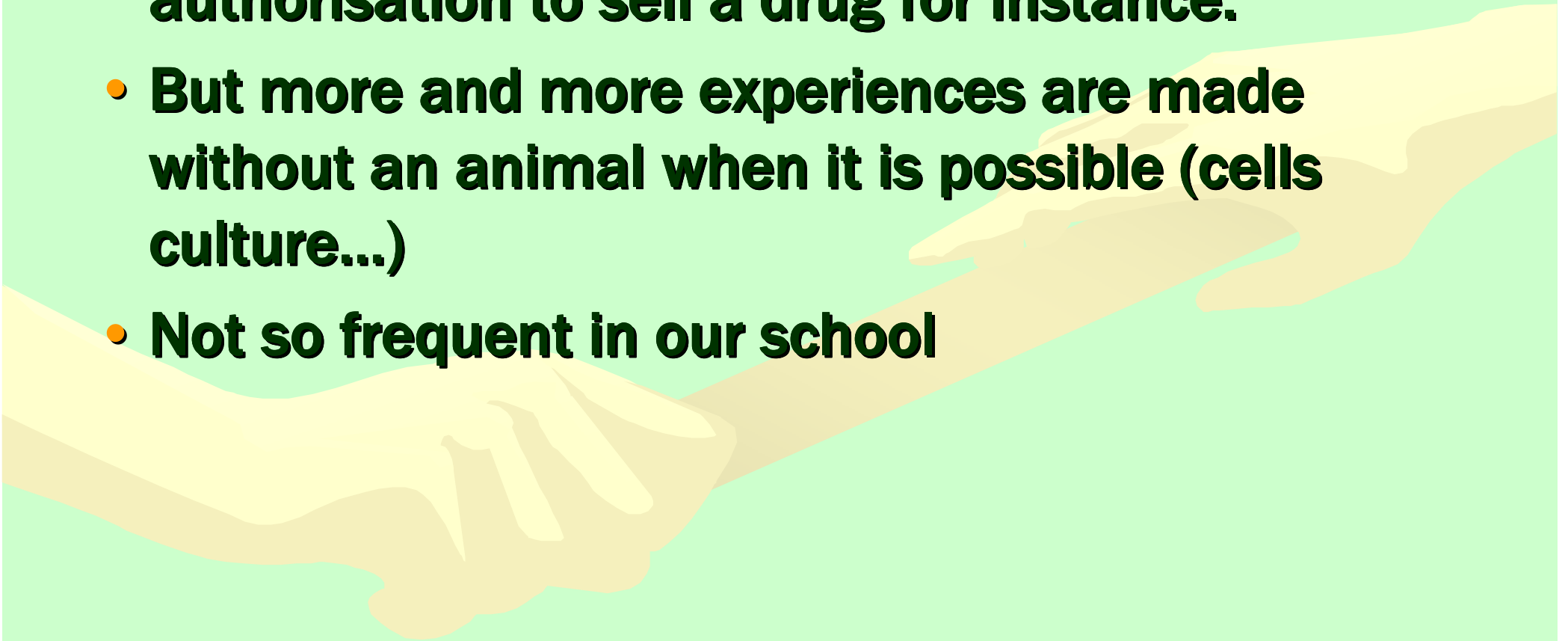
3-Staff education

- **In France, if you want to make animal experimentation, you have to be **qualified** (includes the notions of ethics).**
- **But, there is not a **continuing education**.**

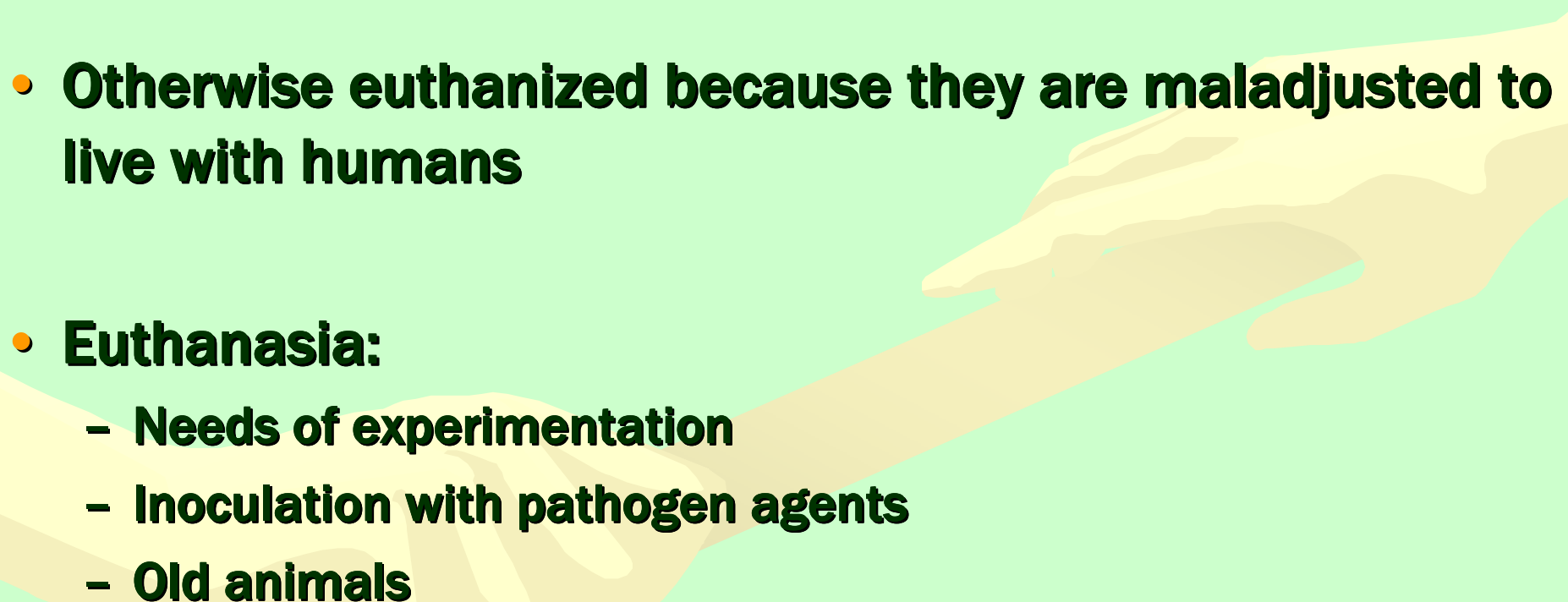


4-Substitute experimental methods

- **Animal experimentation is obliged to get the authorisation to sell a drug for instance.**
- **But more and more experiences are made without an animal when it is possible (cells culture...)**
- **Not so frequent in our school**



5-Becoming of laboratory animals

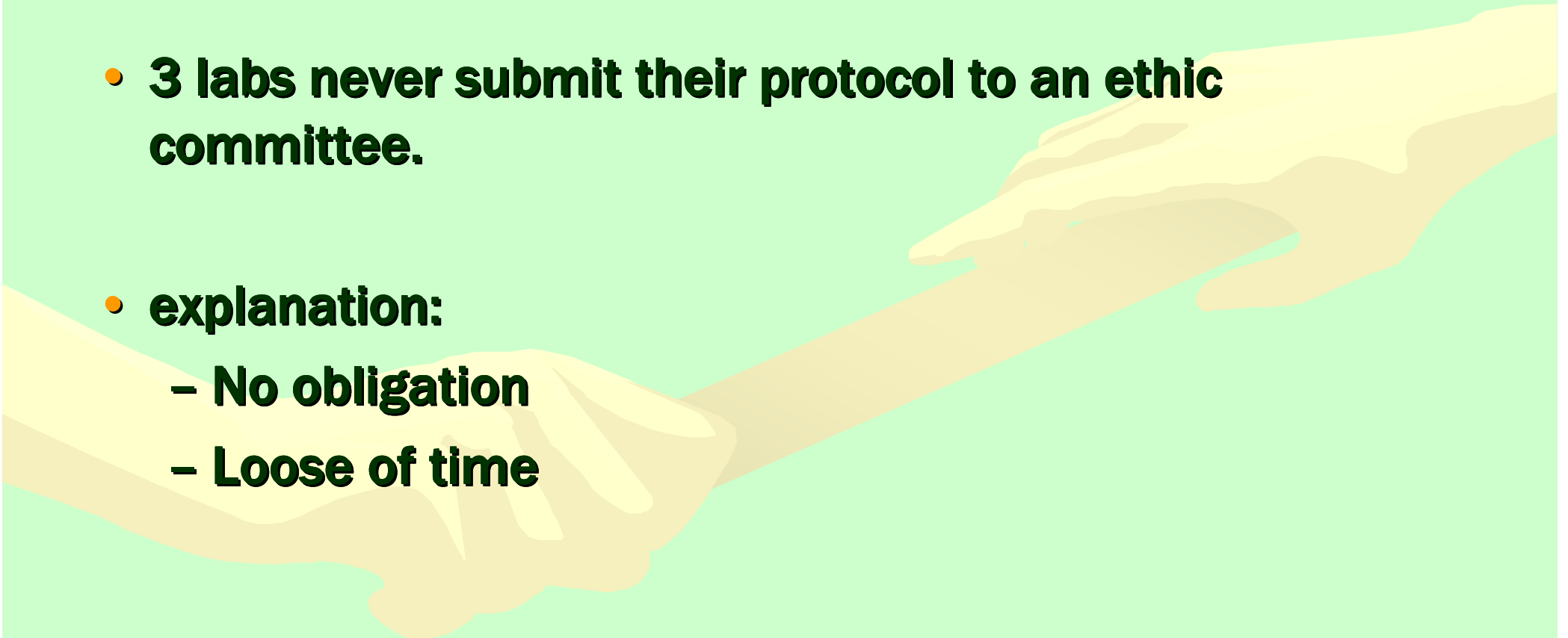
- **Sometimes sold to people (dogs only)**
 - **Otherwise euthanized because they are maladjusted to live with humans**
 - **Euthanasia:**
 - **Needs of experimentation**
 - **Inoculation with pathogen agents**
 - **Old animals**
- 
- A stylized illustration of two hands shaking, rendered in shades of yellow and orange, set against a light green background. The hands are positioned diagonally across the lower half of the slide, with one hand on the left and one on the right, fingers interlaced in a firm grip.

6-Experimental protocols and pain

- **4 labs declare writing protocols with animal welfare control procedures**
- **3 labs never make painful experiences and 1 sometimes**
- **But 2 searchers of these four do not know how to measure pain.**
 - **Only one lab uses objective tools**

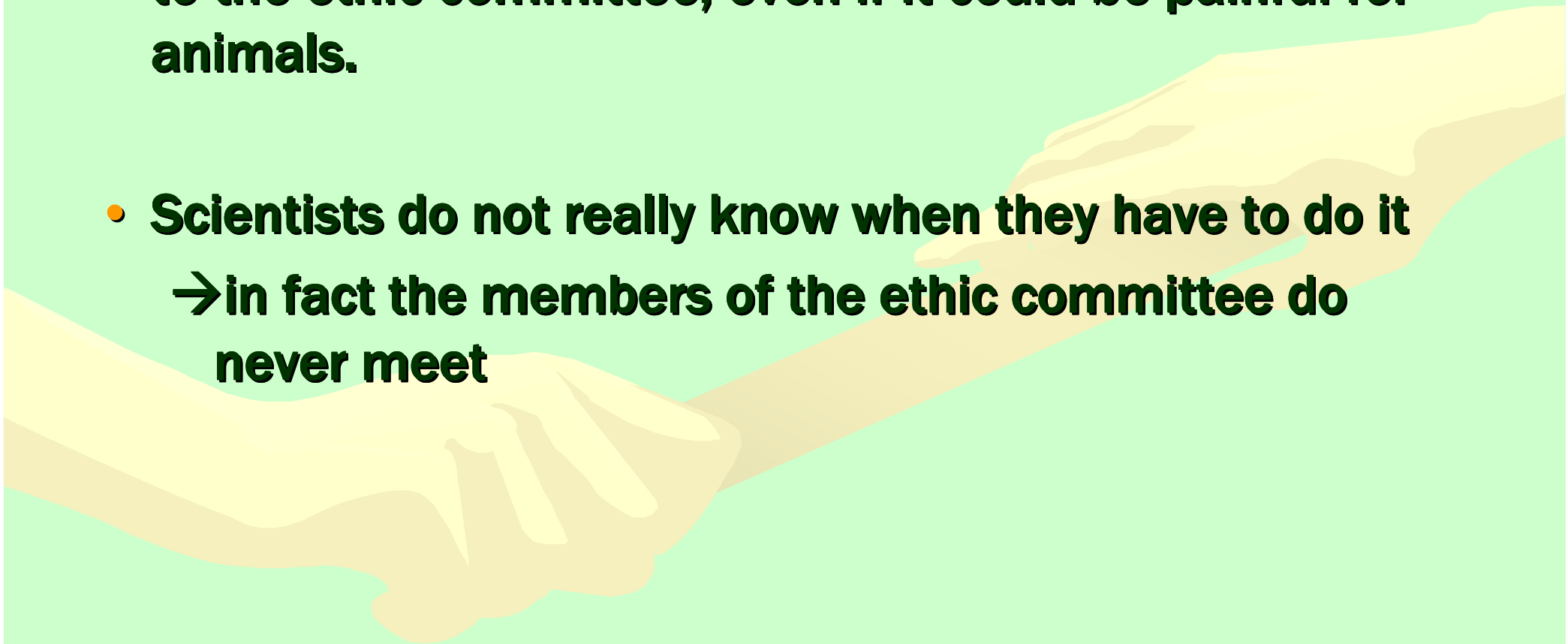
7-Ethic committee and laws

- **Only 3 labs from 5 know their ethic committee.**
- **3 labs never submit their protocol to an ethic committee.**
- **explanation:**
 - **No obligation**
 - **Loose of time**

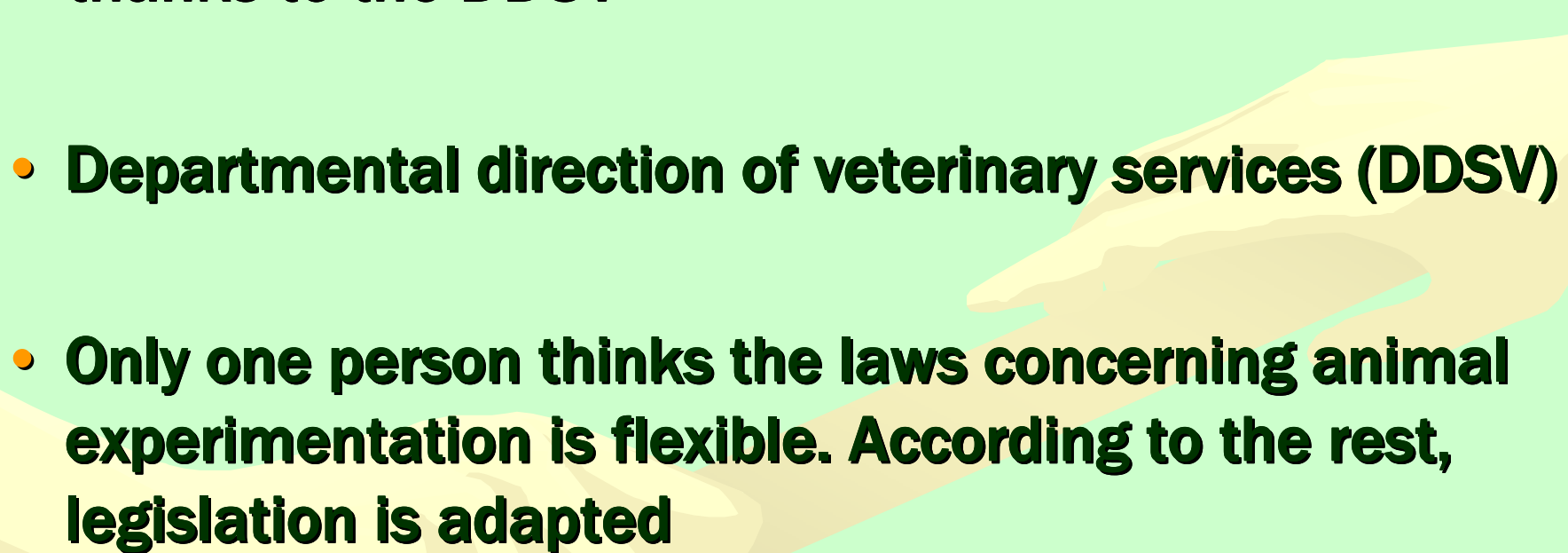


8-Ethic committee and laws

- **In the laws, labs do not have to submit their protocols to the ethic committee, even if it could be painful for animals.**
- **Scientists do not really know when they have to do it**
→ **in fact the members of the ethic committee do never meet**



9-Ethic committee and laws

- **The government can control animal experimentation thanks to the DDSV**
 - **Departmental direction of veterinary services (DDSV)**
 - **Only one person thinks the laws concerning animal experimentation is flexible. According to the rest, legislation is adapted**
- 
- A stylized illustration of two hands shaking, rendered in shades of yellow and orange, positioned in the lower right quadrant of the slide. The background is a solid light green color.

conclusion

- **Finally we can say that the staff of the laboratories is aware of ethics. But these questions are always evolving, so the submission of each protocol to someone to someone who do not come from the laboratory could allow an other point of view.**
- **There is an European project which will oblige people to submit their protocols to an ethics committee. That kind of project seems necessary to make scientists taking care of ethical questions.**
- **To conclude, we can think these two inquires are the mirror of the scientific circle.**