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INTERNATIONAL
FOOD PROTECTION
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IFPTI Fellowship Cohort V: Research Presentation

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National Survey of Wild Mushroom Regulation

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- Foraging for wild mushrooms is a popular practice
- Over 5,000 species of mushrooms are presumed to be found worldwide
- Mushroom exposures can lead to severe illness and death



Image source: Dr. James Scott, Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center

- Limited regulations in place
- Approved source

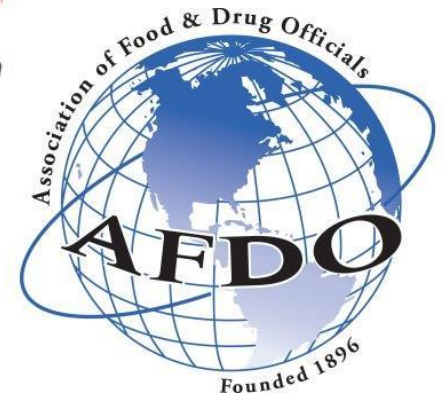


Image source: DPH, Georgia

There is no published research in peer-reviewed food safety literature regarding regulatory approaches used by state food safety agencies related to regulation of foraged wild mushrooms at retail in the United States.

1. What are the existing regulatory approaches regarding foraged wild mushrooms sold at retail in the United States?
2. What resources do state food safety agencies have available for them to identify edible mushrooms that are foraged from the wild and offered at retail in the United States?

- Survey
- Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH);
Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO)
- AFDO Wild Mushroom Sub-Committee
- 21 questions
- 2-week timeframe
- Follow-up



Managers/Administrators/ Directors of Food Program

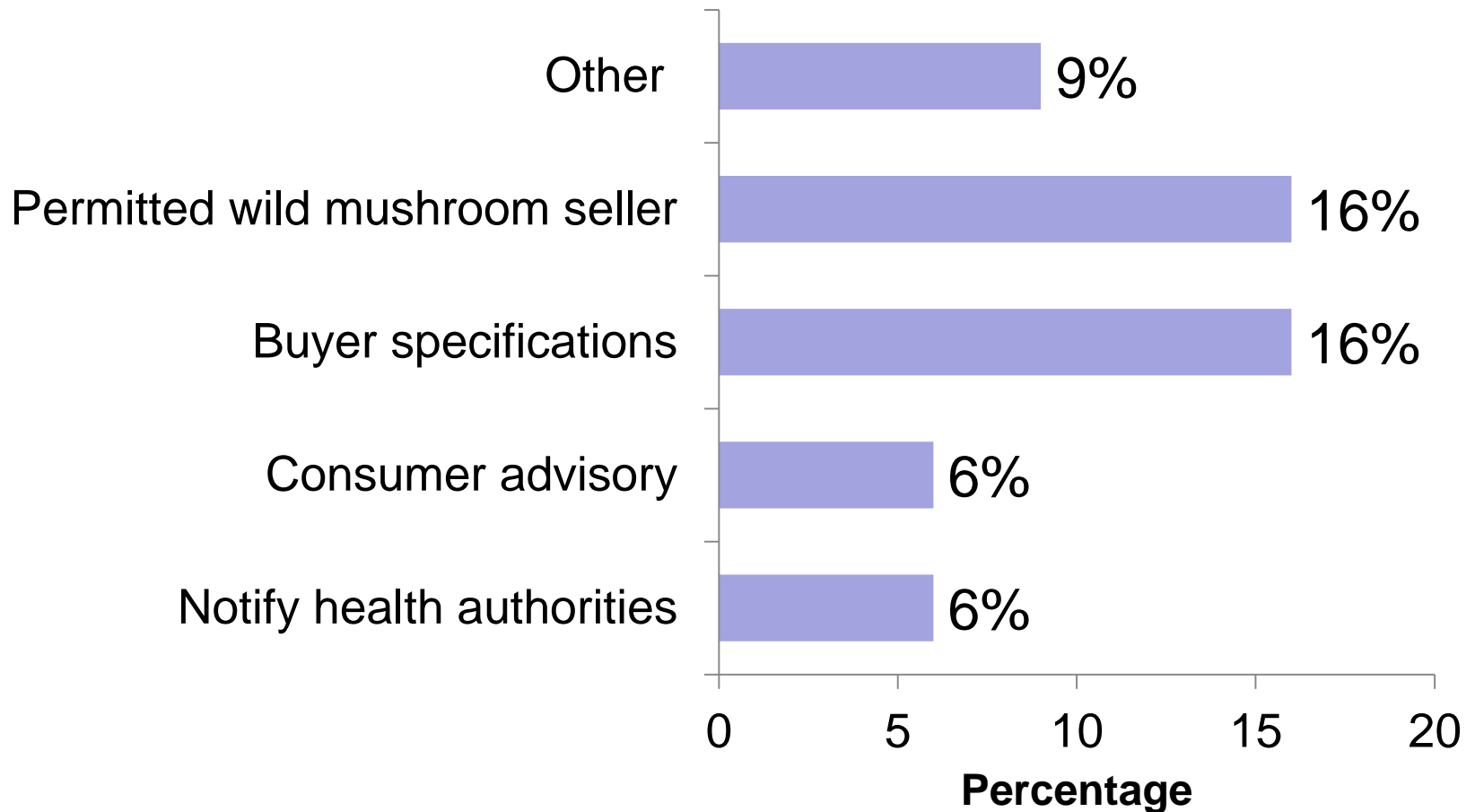
- 50 states contacted
- Contact lists used:
 - AFDO's Directory of State and Local Officials (DSLO)
 - AFDO Wild Mushroom Sub-Committee
 - Association of Food and Drug Officials of the Southern States (AFDOSS)
 - IFPTI Cohort V Fellows
- Initial contact by phone
- Secondary contact by email

Responses

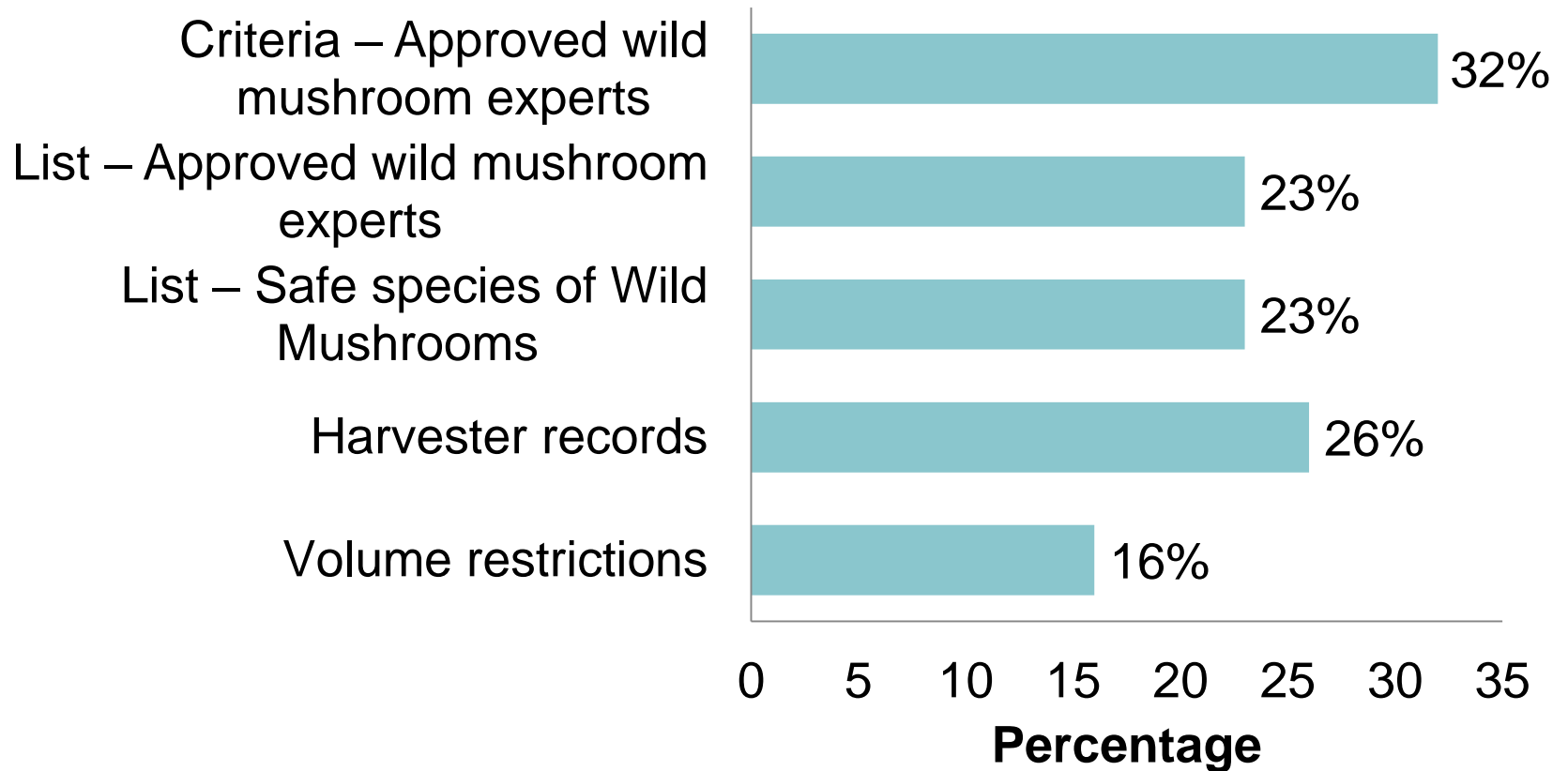
- 49 states (98% response rate)
- 9 states – respondents from two agencies
- 62% – regulate wild mushrooms
- Nearly half (45%) – 2009 Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Food Code
- Morels and Chanterelles



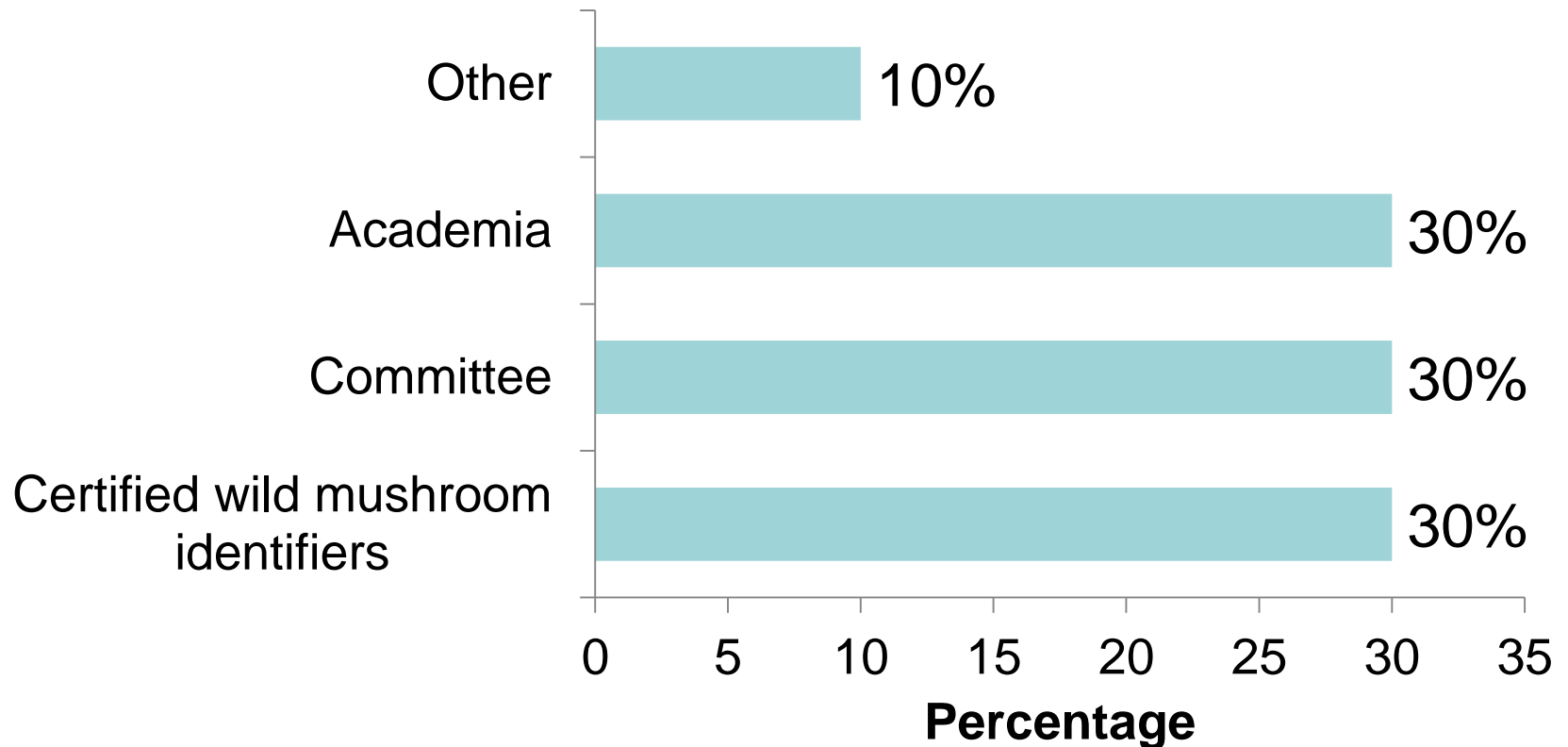
Specific Regulatory Criteria



Regulatory Requirements



Types of Resources



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- Regulatory approaches for foraged wild mushrooms vary in the U.S.
 - Different strategies were used for establishing resources for identification of foraged wild mushrooms.

1. Develop guidelines for regulation.
2. Communicate and partner with other states.
3. Develop common criteria to determine qualifications for the approval of wild mushroom experts.
4. Maintain a list of safe edible species of foraged wild mushrooms.

- R. Chris Rustin, DrPH, Environmental Health Section Director, Department of Public Health (DPH), Georgia
- Mr. Chris Kumnick, Deputy Director, Environmental Health Section, DPH, Georgia
- Mr. Cameron Wiggins, Past Food Program Director, Environmental Health Section, DPH, Georgia
- Ms. Charlene Bruce
- Dr. Paul Dezendorf, Subject Matter Expert, IFPTI
- IFPTI staff
- IFPTI Fellows – Cohort V

Questions?



Image source: Jessica Wolf, <http://blog.conservancy.bc.ca/>

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