

Response charts for 'Invasive Alien Species - A European Concern'

► Current search:

Query definition

All data requested

Result pages

► There are **881** responses matching your criteria of a total of **881** records in the current set of data.

SECTION 1: SCALE OF INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES PROBLEMS IN THE EU

Invasive alien species are recognized as a major and growing driver of biodiversity loss in the EU and economic and social impacts arising from invasive alien species are also considerable (see Background documents - useful links). While many provisions for the prevention and control of invasive alien species are already in place, there has not yet been a coherent comprehensive response at EU level.

Question 1 : Please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with the following statement: 'If we are to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010 and secure its longer-term recovery, there is an urgent need to review measures for the prevention and control of invasive alien species in the EU, and to identify and put in place necessary measures to fill critical gaps'. -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
I strongly agree	583
I agree	218
I disagree	36
I strongly disagree	23
No opinion	4

Question 2 : If you disagree or strongly disagree with the statement in Question 1, please indicate your reasons why by ticking up to three of the following statements. -multiple choices reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
I think all species are of value	37
Stronger measures would increase bureaucracy	35
I do not think invasive alien species are a problem in the EU	26
Stronger measures would limit important economic activities that use introduced species	20
Stronger measures would cost more	13
I am not affected by invasive alien species	8

Question 3 : Invasive alien species have a wide range of environmental, economic and social impacts. Please indicate which type of impacts you think should be prioritized for action at EU level by ticking the appropriate category for each type of impact in the box below:

Impacts on biodiversity in the EU at genetic, species and ecosystem level (competing with indigenous species, bringing in disease agents) -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Very important	704
Relatively important	115
Not very important	23
Not at all important	14

I don't know	2
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Damage to natural function and resilience of ecosystems -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Very important	617
Relatively important	179
Not very important	32
Not at all important	17
I don't know	9

Alteration of landscapes (some invasive plants and trees replace existing species) -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Very important	364
Relatively important	359
Not very important	104
Not at all important	23
I don't know	3

Impacts on businesses and livelihoods (increased operating costs, reduced markets...) -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Relatively important	383
Not very important	210
Very important	176
Not at all important	47
I don't know	31

Impacts on public health (e.g. spread of allergenic plants) -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Relatively important	333
Very important	309
Not very important	157
Not at all important	36
I don't know	20

Impacts on leisure and recreation opportunities (e.g. loss of native fish for angling due to introduced species) -single choice reply- (optional)



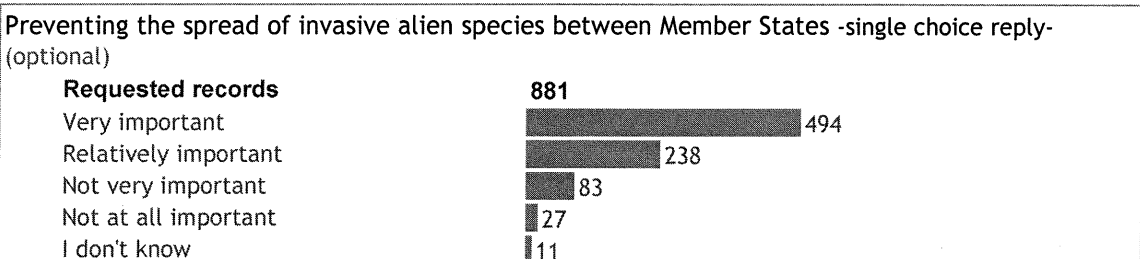
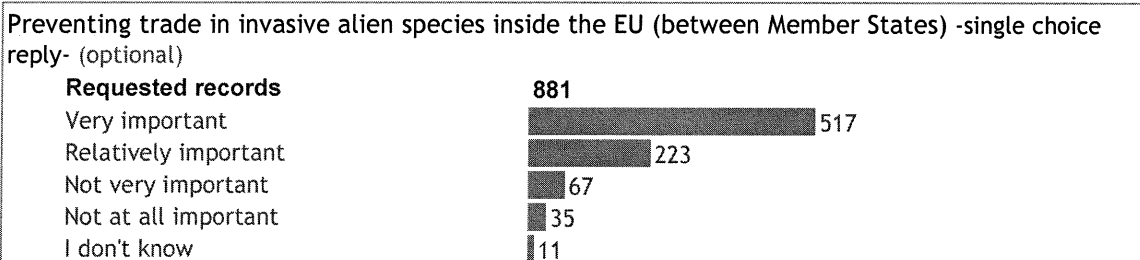
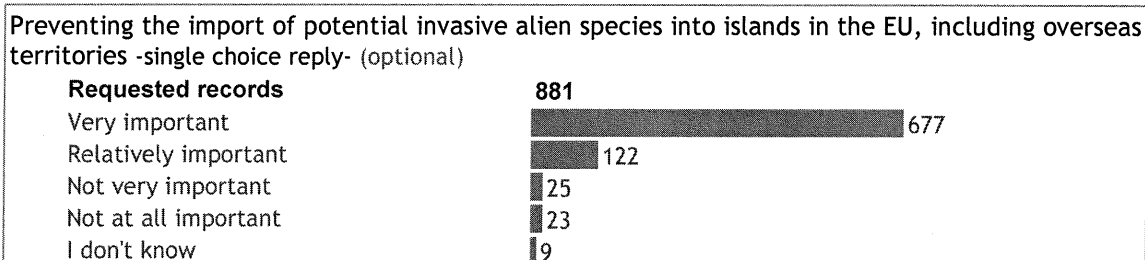
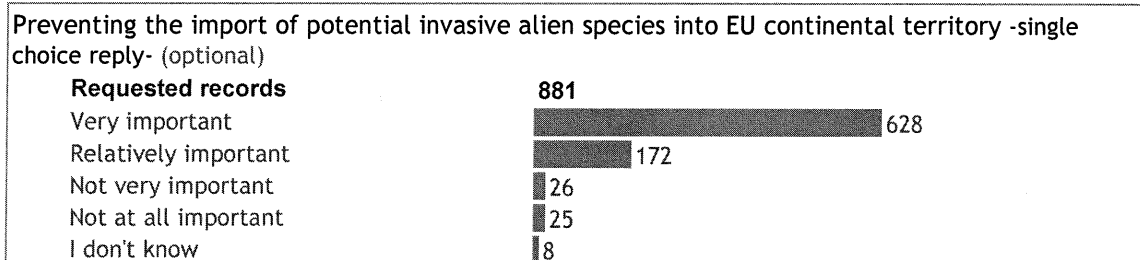
Reduction in the capacity of the EU's environment to adapt to climate change -single choice reply- (optional)

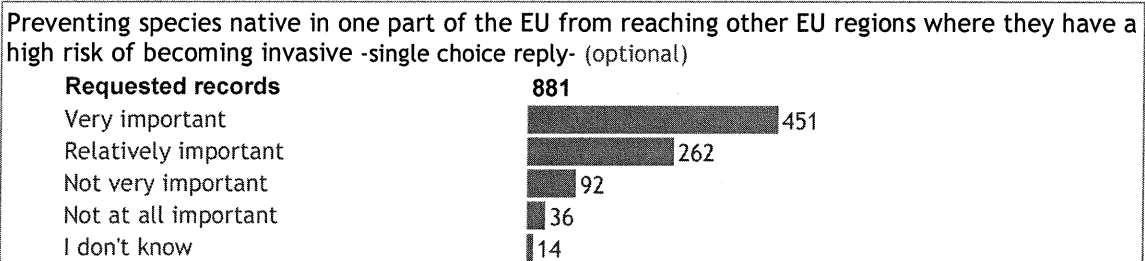
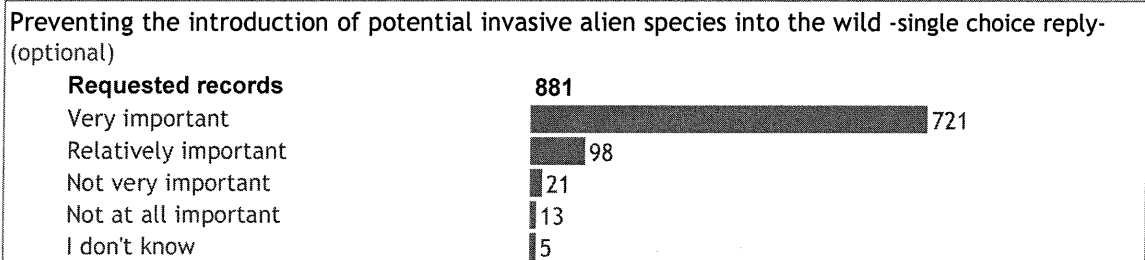


SECTION 2 : PREVENTING INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES – OPTIONS FOR DELIVERY

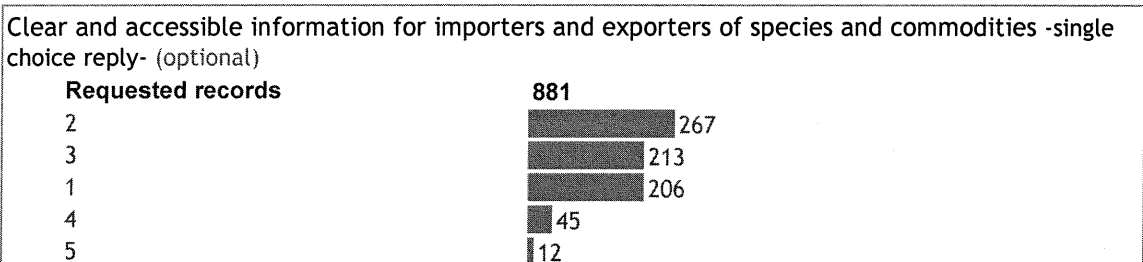
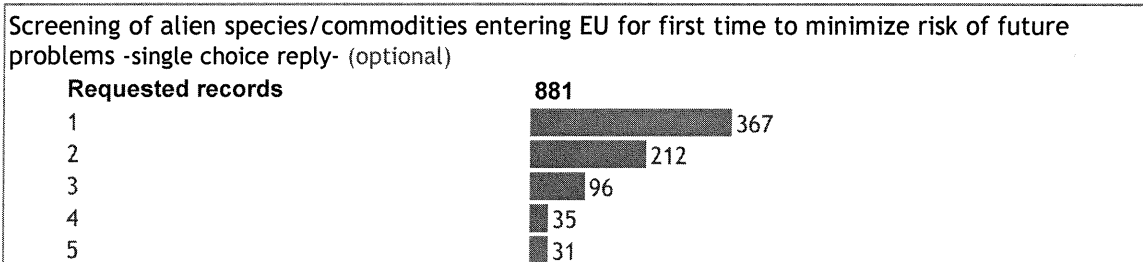
The EU does not currently have a unified system to tackle invasive alien species. The patchwork of existing measures is not specifically designed to combat the risks posed by invasive alien species to European ecosystems. At the scale of the EU, costs related to the damage and control of IAS once established could be avoided by stringent decisions to prevent and stop introductions at an earlier stage. The increasing spread of invasive alien species is closely linked to growth in trade, travel, transport and tourism. Trade policy is an area where the EU has exclusive competence (Member States cannot act unilaterally). Trade in species and commodities is therefore a key issue to be considered when developing prevention measures against invasive alien species at EU level.

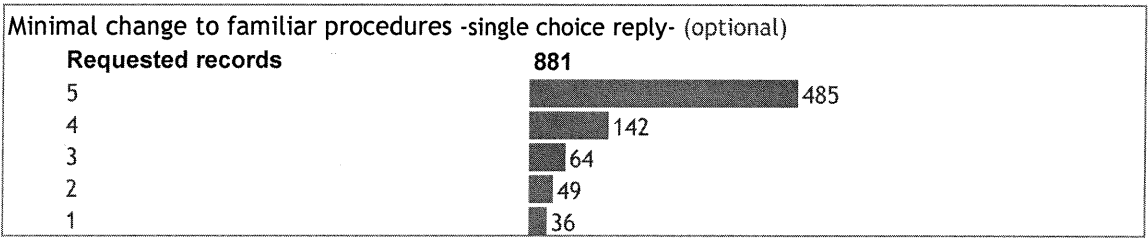
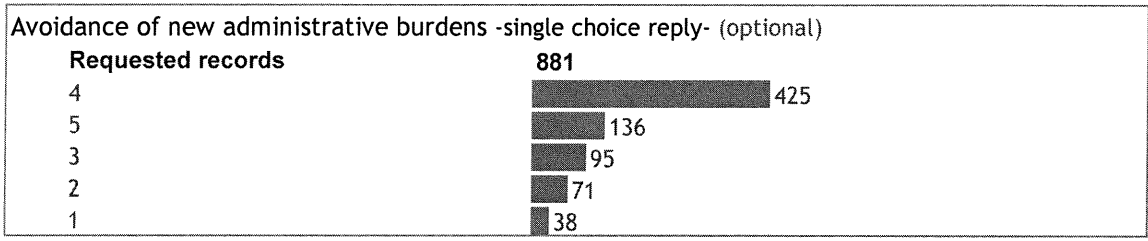
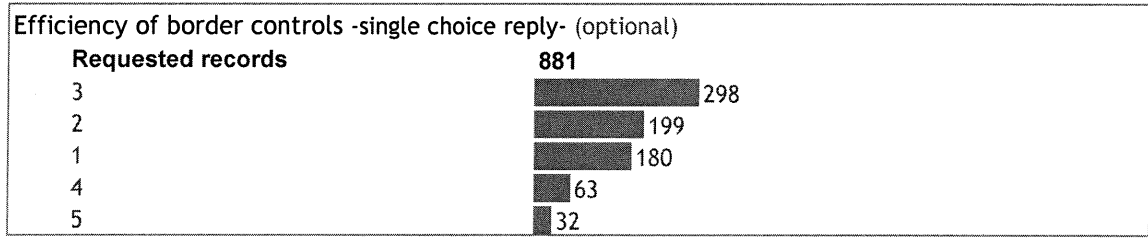
Question 4 : Prevention measures can be implemented at different stages along the pathways for introduction of invasive alien species. A combination of measures is needed to manage shared problems effectively. Please indicate how important you think the following objectives are to the future EU framework.



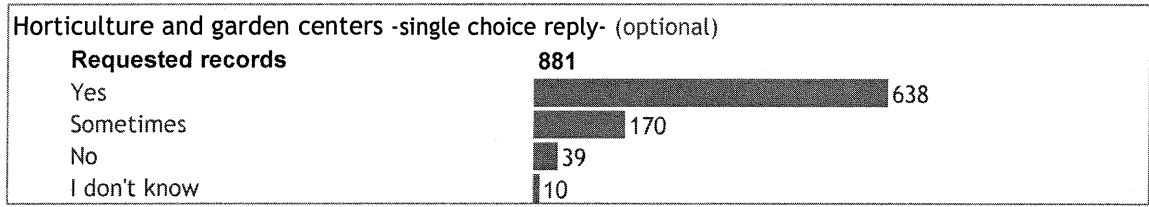


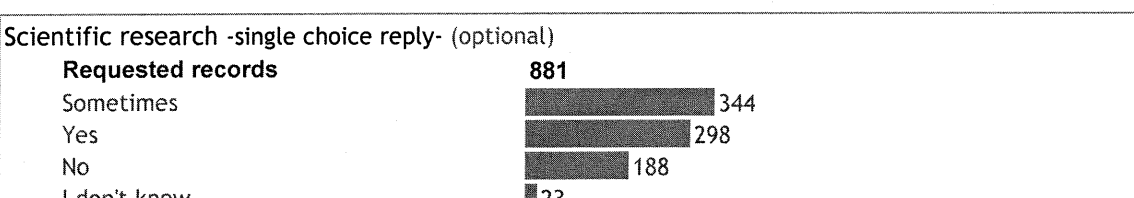
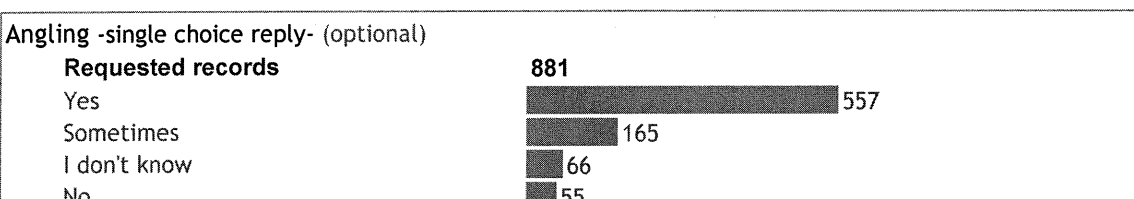
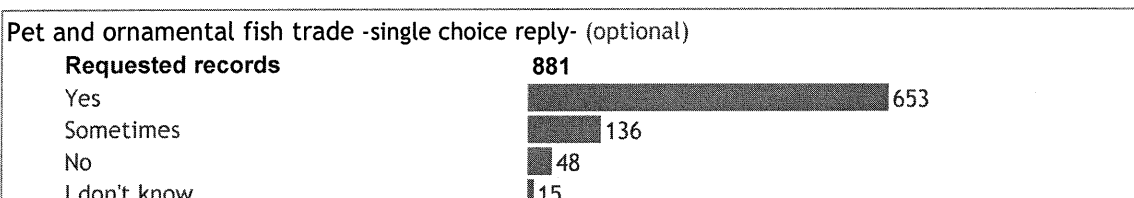
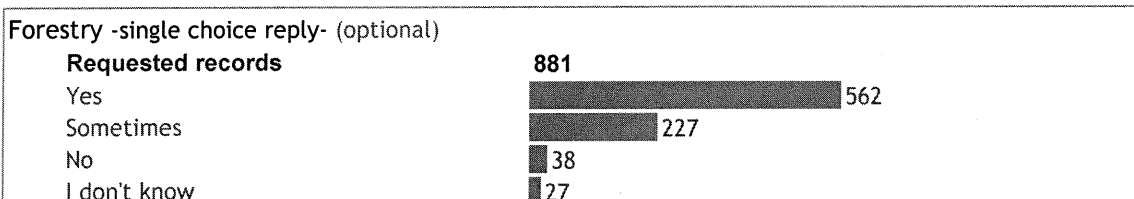
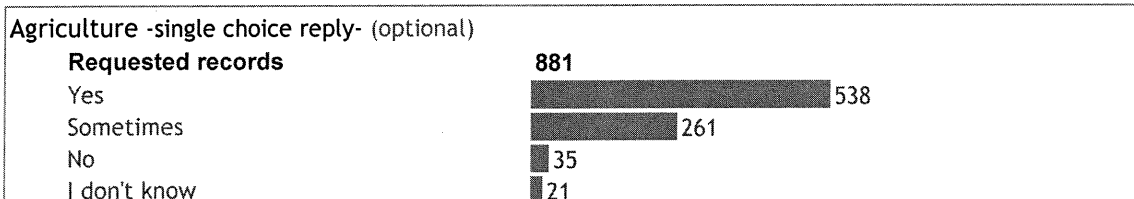
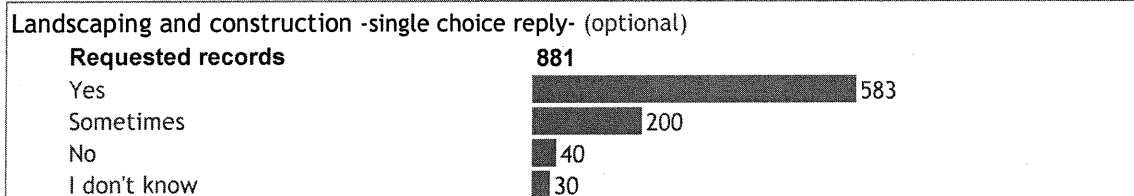
Question 5 : Controls at the EU's external borders focus primarily on protecting public health, animal and plant health against biological and chemical risks. However, invasive alien species can out-compete indigenous, wild species of plants and animals, they can also cause damage to human health (especially allergies) as well as having direct economic impacts (e.g. blocking water ways or fouling pipes and buildings). One of the options for reducing the introduction of IAS is to increase controls at the border in order to detect and stop the introductions. Please rank the following elements in the order you consider important for an effective and proportionate border control system, from the most (1) to the least (5) important (you may only select each position once).



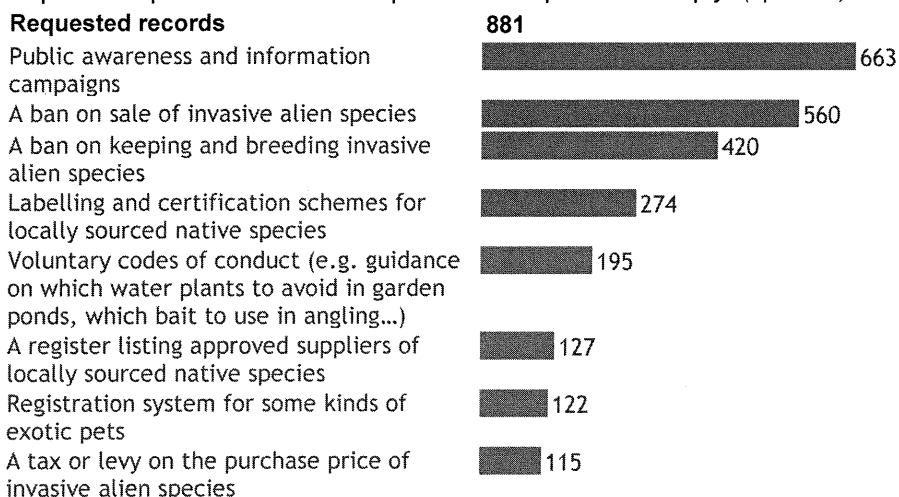


Question 6 : Major damage to EU biodiversity has resulted from intentional introductions of invasive alien species as a commodity for release or use in containment and also from accidental escapes of introduced species (see background documents – useful links). Measures to minimize such risks include more effective regulation of the trade and use of potential invasive alien species. Please indicate whether you consider such limitations could be acceptable in the following sectors.

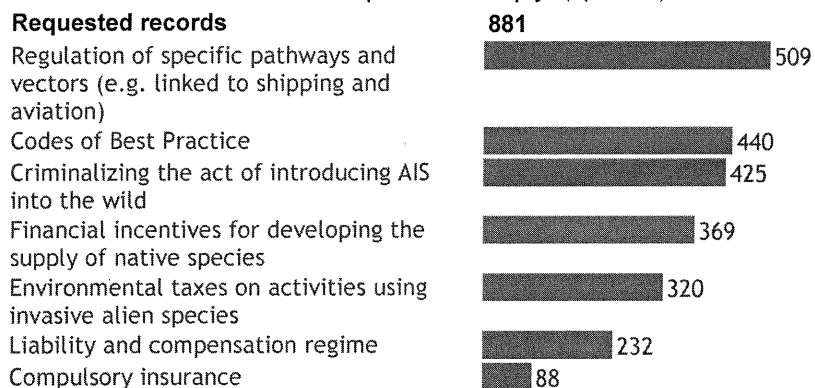




Question 7 : Among the proposals listed below, please choose up to three measures that you think would do most to improve public awareness of invasive alien species risks and encourage the use of native species in preference to alien species. -multiple choices reply- (optional)

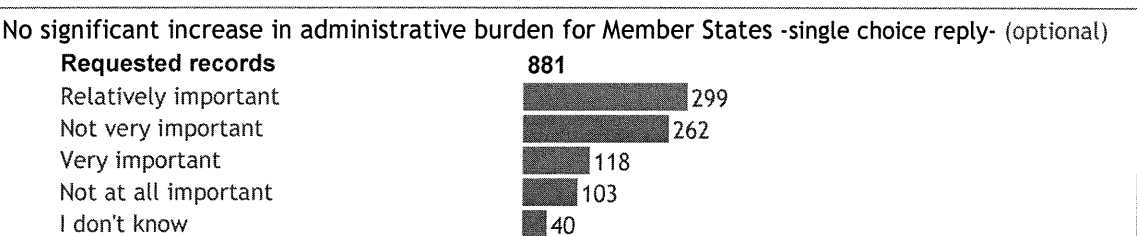
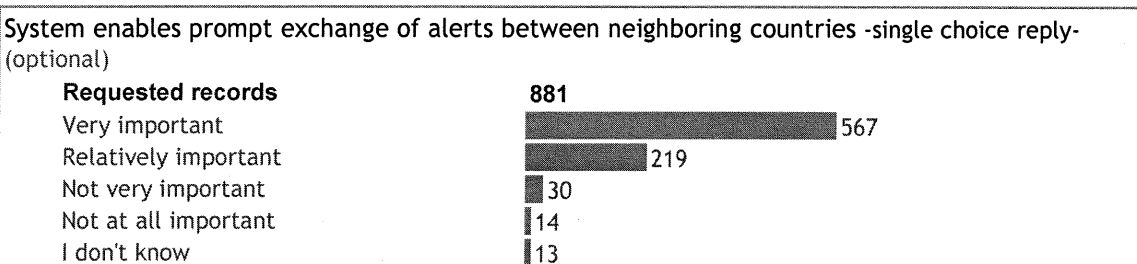
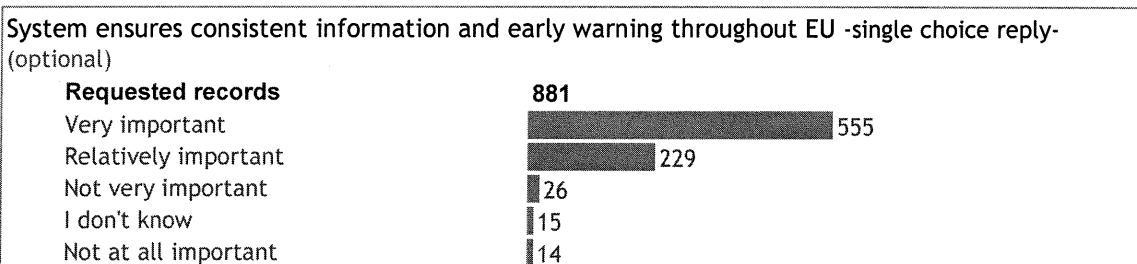
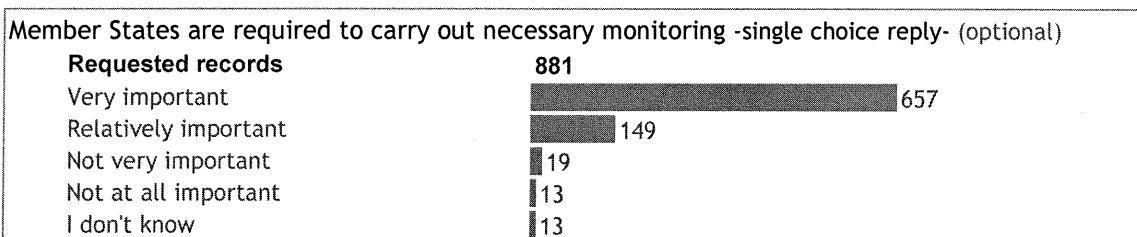
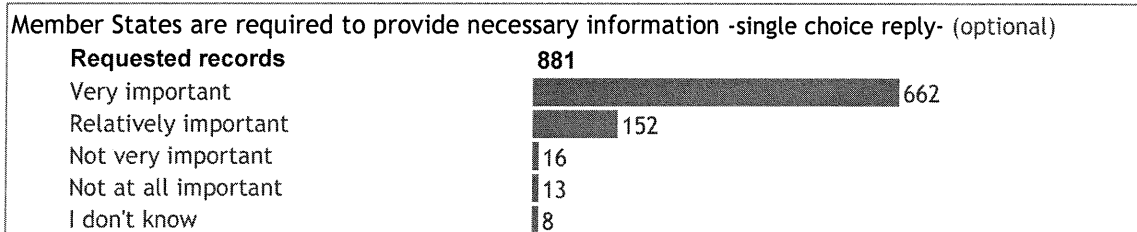


Question 8 : Risks of unintentional introductions need to be tackled through measures adapted to different pathways for introduction. Among the proposals listed below, please choose up to three options that in your opinion would do most to foster responsible practice and stimulate innovation in relevant economic sectors. -multiple choices reply- (optional)



SECTION 3 : EARLY WARNING AND RAPID RESPONSE – OPTIONS FOR DELIVERY

Question 9 : A system for early warning and exchange of information could be established at EU level, including a central ‘library’ of information and an inventory of invasive alien species in Europe, a database on control measures and a surveillance and alert system for newly-detected IAS. If established this system should preferably build on existing networks (see Background documents – useful links). Please indicate how important you think each of the following criteria is for any future EU system for early warning and rapid response.



Information is accessible to the public -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records

881

Very important

506

Relatively important

269

Not very important

57

Not at all important

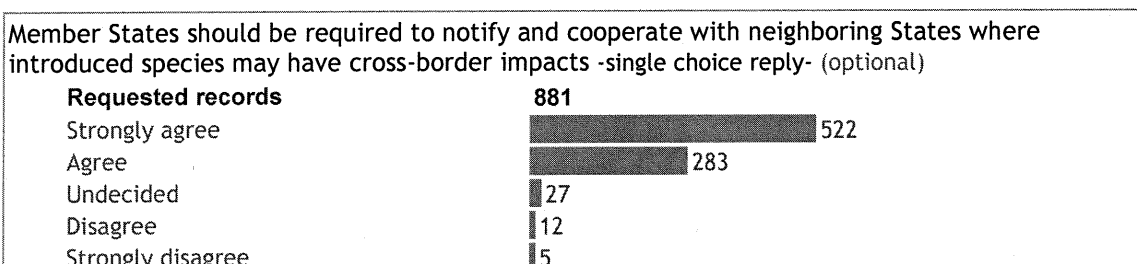
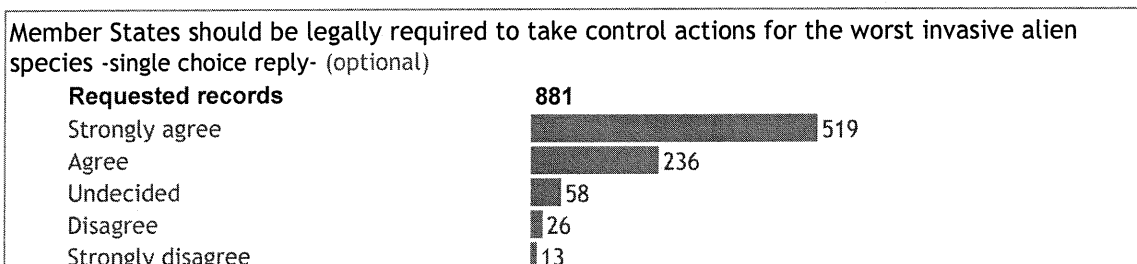
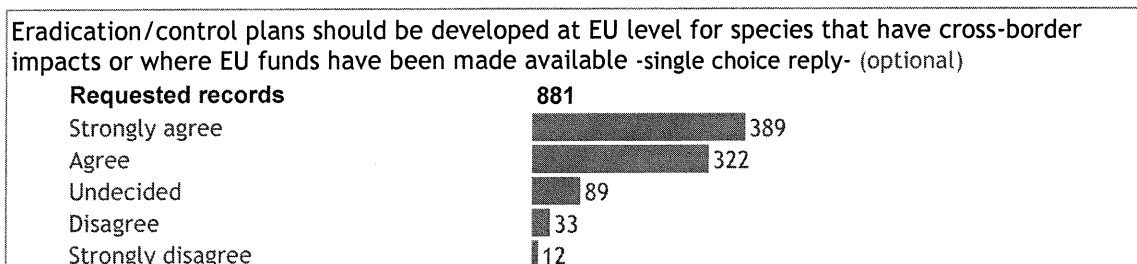
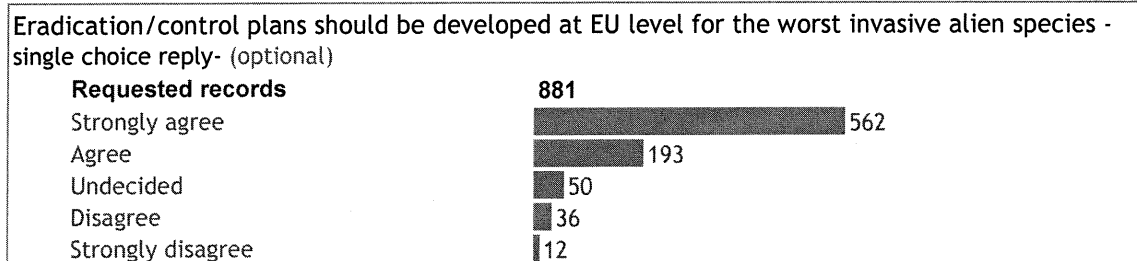
10

I don't know

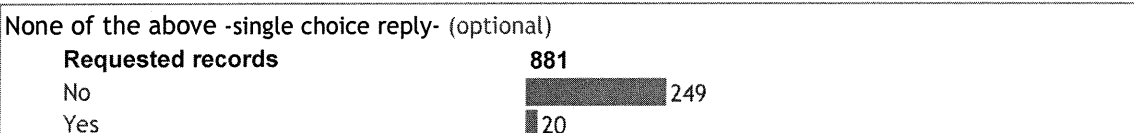
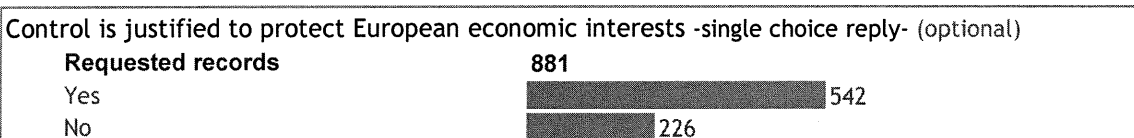
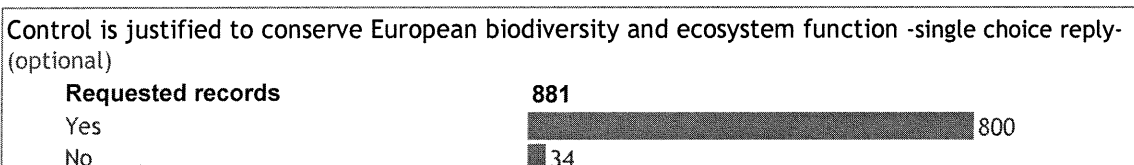
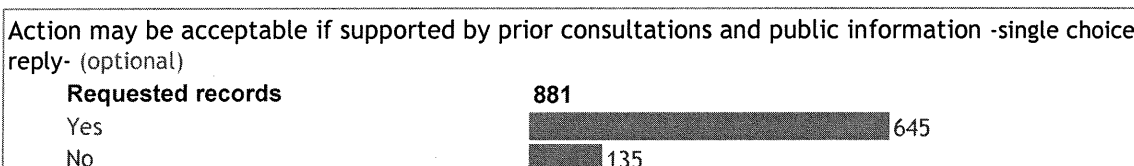
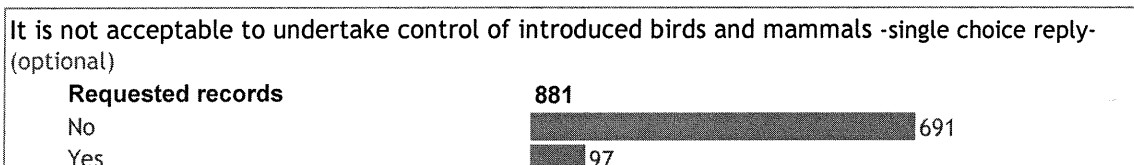
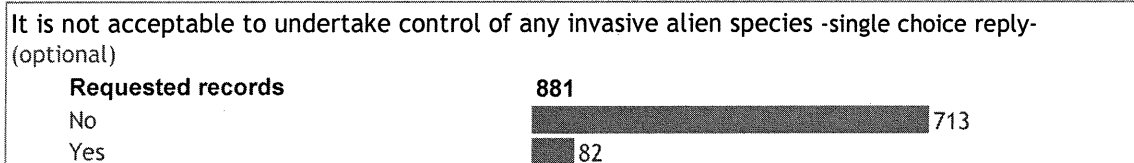
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SECTION 4 : CONTROLLING INVASIVE ALIEN SPECIES – OPTIONS FOR DELIVERY

Question 10 : Where prevention fails, rapid eradication at the first outbreak is cheaper than long-term control and containment for invasive alien species that become established. Planning can be used to set priorities, establish rapid response procedures and coordinate implementation of long-term control programmes. Please indicate how far you agree with each of the options identified below.



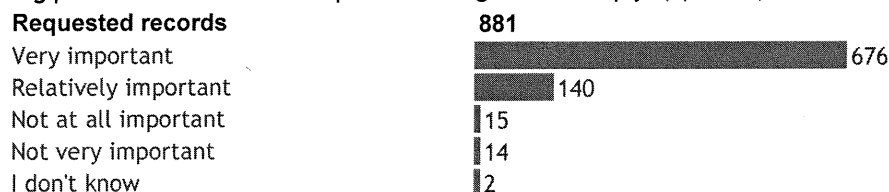
Question 11 : Eradication and control measures based on sound impact assessment may involve the destruction of introduced species to prevent environmental, economic or social impacts. This is a sensitive issue for some members of civil society. Please indicate which of the following statements reflect your views on this issue.



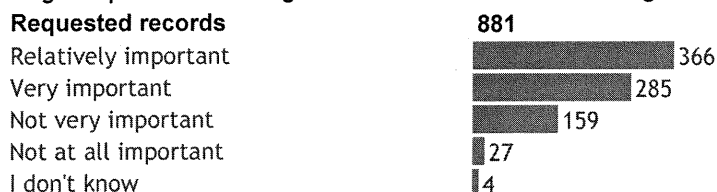
SECTION 5 : CONDITIONS FOR SUCCESS – THE BIGGER PICTURE

Question 12 : To be effective, an EU Framework to combat Invasive Alien Species must be well understood and widely supported by the general public, relevant economic sectors and governments. Please indicate how important you think the following are to successful action across the EU.

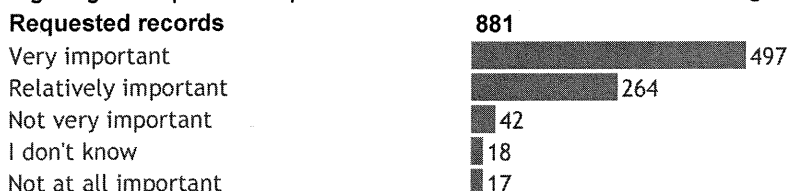
Building public awareness of the problem -single choice reply- (optional)



Involving the public in finding alternatives and solutions -single choice reply- (optional)



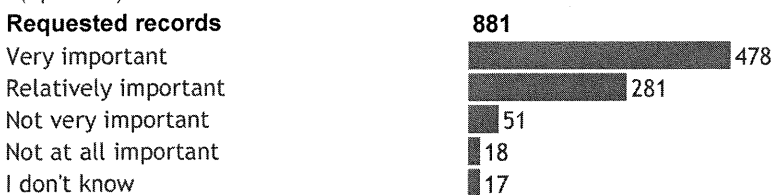
Building long-term partnerships with concerned sectors and users -single choice reply- (optional)

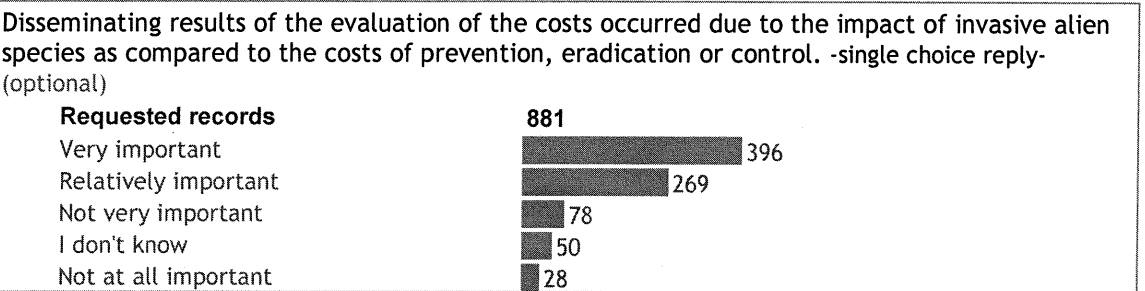
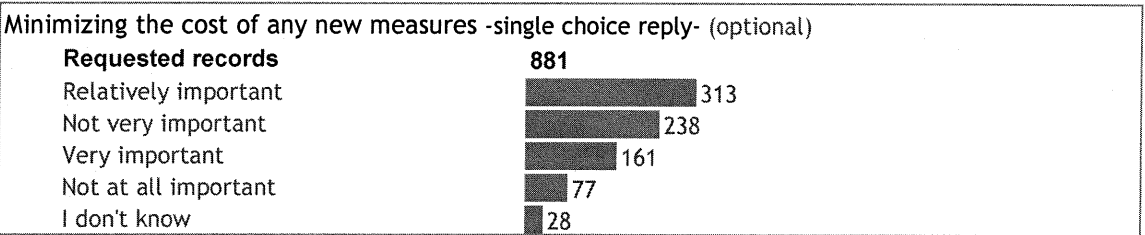
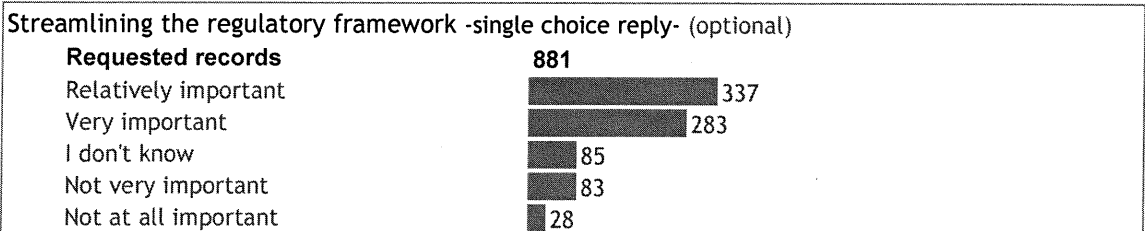
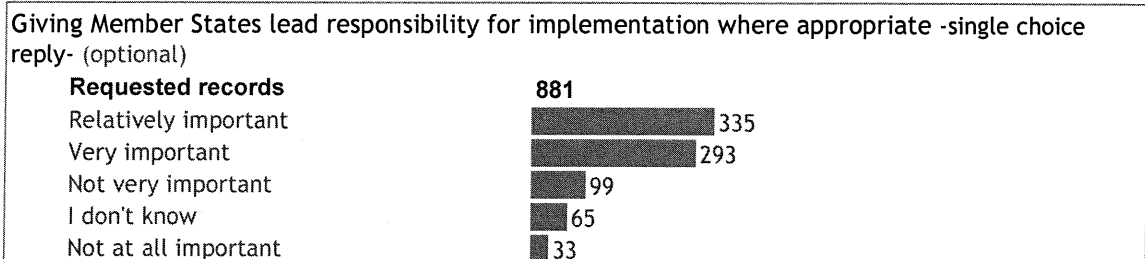


Encouraging voluntary approaches and best practices where feasible -single choice reply- (optional)

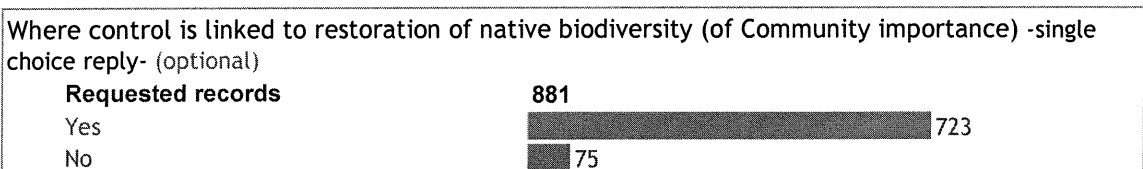
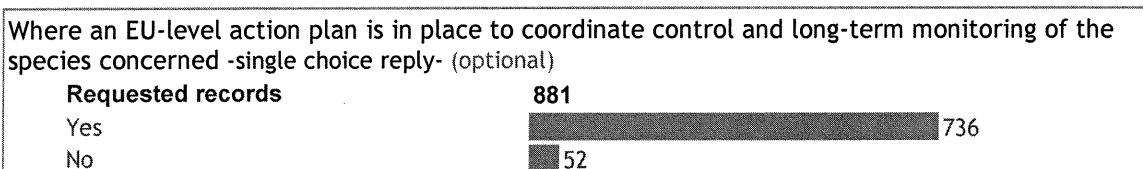
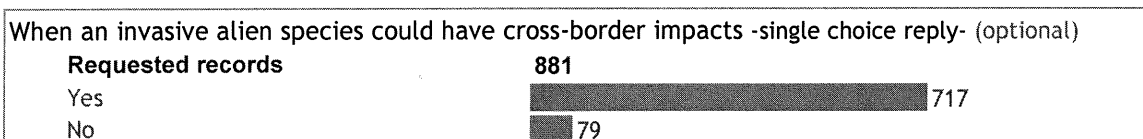
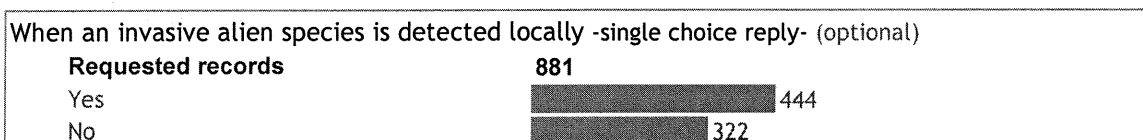
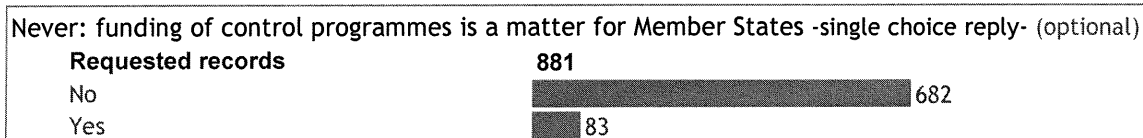


Creating a 'one-stop' easy-access information resource on alien species in the EU -single choice reply- (optional)



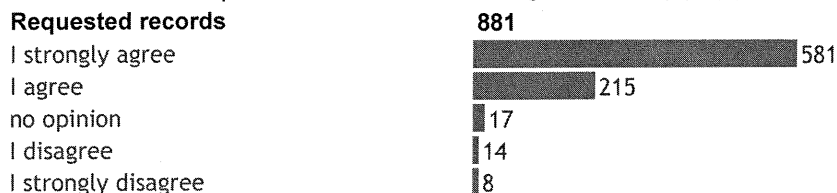


Question 13 : Strong prevention and control frameworks have financial implications for Member States. Incursions do not affect States equally but inaction by one State can lead to increased costs and environmental impacts for other Member States. EU financial support could be designed to encourage or require Member States to take prompt action before problems spread across borders. Options could include adjustment of existing instruments or development of new mechanisms (e.g. similar to a solidarity fund under EU plant protection policy). Please tick boxes below to indicate if and when you think EU funds should be available for eradication/control measures.

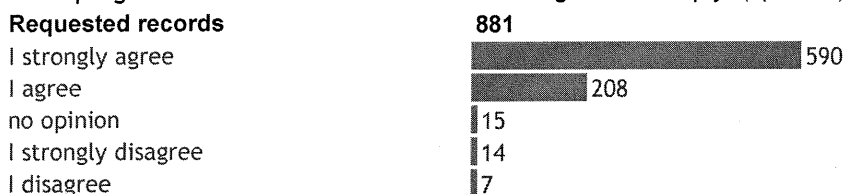


Question 14 : As a major exporter, the EU contributes to the spread of potential invasive alien species to other countries. As a major donor, it provides financial support for programmes in developing countries that may involve introduction and use of potentially invasive alien species. Risks of this type are not currently addressed in EU development cooperation work. Please indicate if you agree or disagree with the statements:

The EU and Member States should recognize the risk that activities under their control may pose to other countries as a potential source of IAS -single choice reply- (optional)

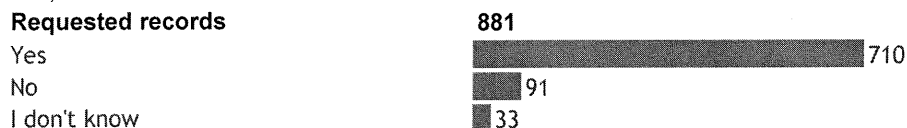


The EU should take appropriate steps in their export-related activities and development assistance programmes to minimize risks of IAS. -single choice reply- (optional)

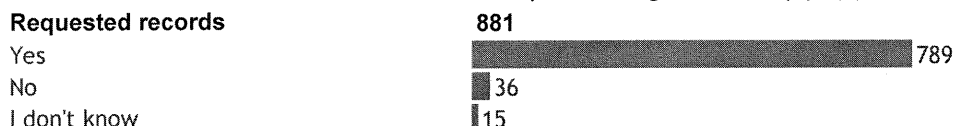


Question 15 : What do you consider to be the main barriers to launching stronger policies for prevention and management of invasive alien species in Europe? For each of the following categories, please tick the appropriate box to indicate your view.

Users do not know which species are native and which are introduced -single choice reply- (optional)



Users are not aware of the risks of invasive alien species -single choice reply- (optional)



Alternatives to introduced species are not marketed effectively -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	582
No	129
I don't know	116

There are no incentives to encourage users to switch to native species -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	619
No	111
I don't know	99

Retailers do not have viable alternatives to introduced species -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
No	436
Yes	215
I don't know	166

Invasive alien species get little political and media attention -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	663
No	129
I don't know	32

Governments do not work with industry to address the problem -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	566
I don't know	156
No	94

Laws and administration are complex: it is hard to understand what is allowed or not -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	434
No	245
I don't know	138

Compliance costs of stronger frameworks would be too high for governments -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
No	460
I don't know	193
Yes	161

Stronger measures would deter traders and affect international competitiveness -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
No	483
Yes	194
I don't know	142

Those responsible for introducing invasive alien species do not bear the costs of the consequences of their actions. -single choice reply- (optional)

Requested records	881
Yes	715
No	59
I don't know	58

SECTION 6 : PROFILE OF THE RESPONDENT

Question 16 : Do you reply as an individual or on behalf of an organisation -single choice reply-
(optional)

Requested records**881**

as an individual

639

on behalf of an organisation

225

Thank you for completing the questionnaire