



Willingness to grow GM Papaya in South Florida



By Braulia De Oleo, Edward Evans
and Jonathan Crane

Objective of the study

- Assess growers' willingness to cultivate the crop.
- Obtain current information on South Florida papaya industry.

How was it done?

- Qualtrics software
- November 25th, 2013– January 25th, 2014
- 42 answers
- 62% papaya growers



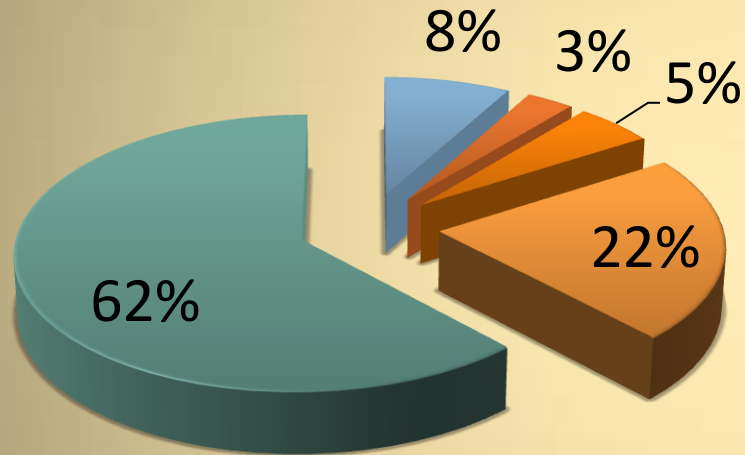
Three sections:

1. Demographic questions
2. Papaya production
3. Perception of GM crops

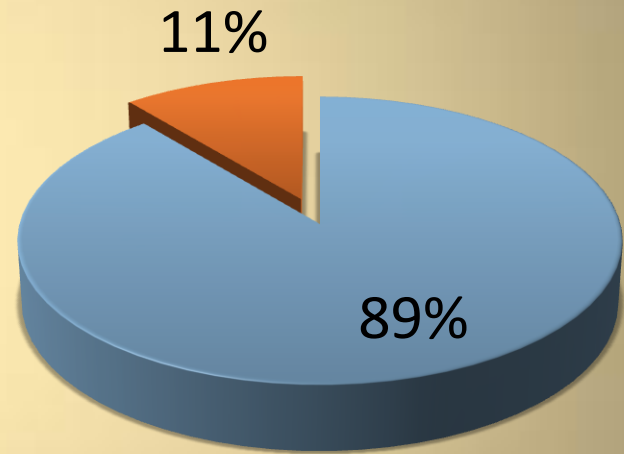


Participants

Age



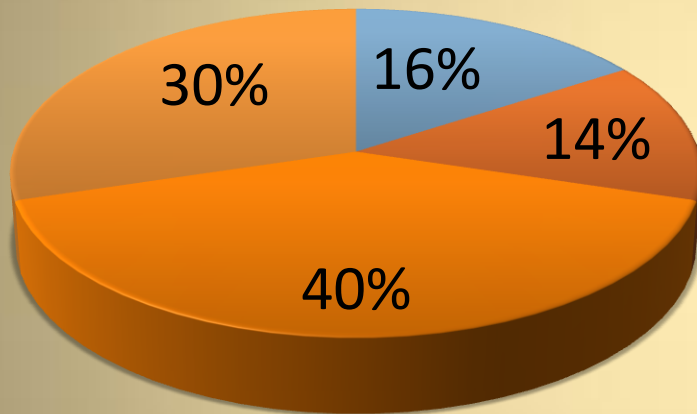
Gender



■ 29 or less ■ 30-39 ■ 40-49
■ 50-59 ■ 60 or more

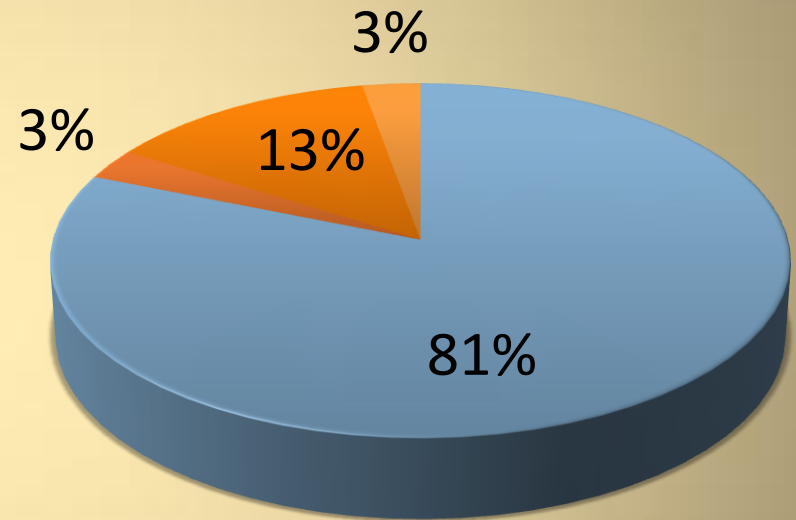
■ Male ■ Female

Education



- Some college (no degree)
- Associate degree
- Bachelor's degree
- Graduate or professional degree

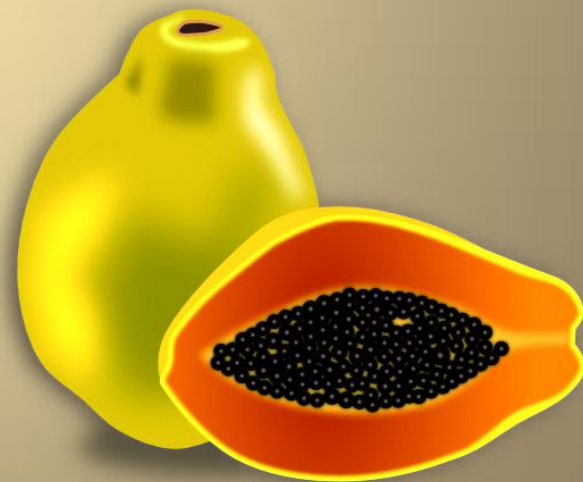
Race



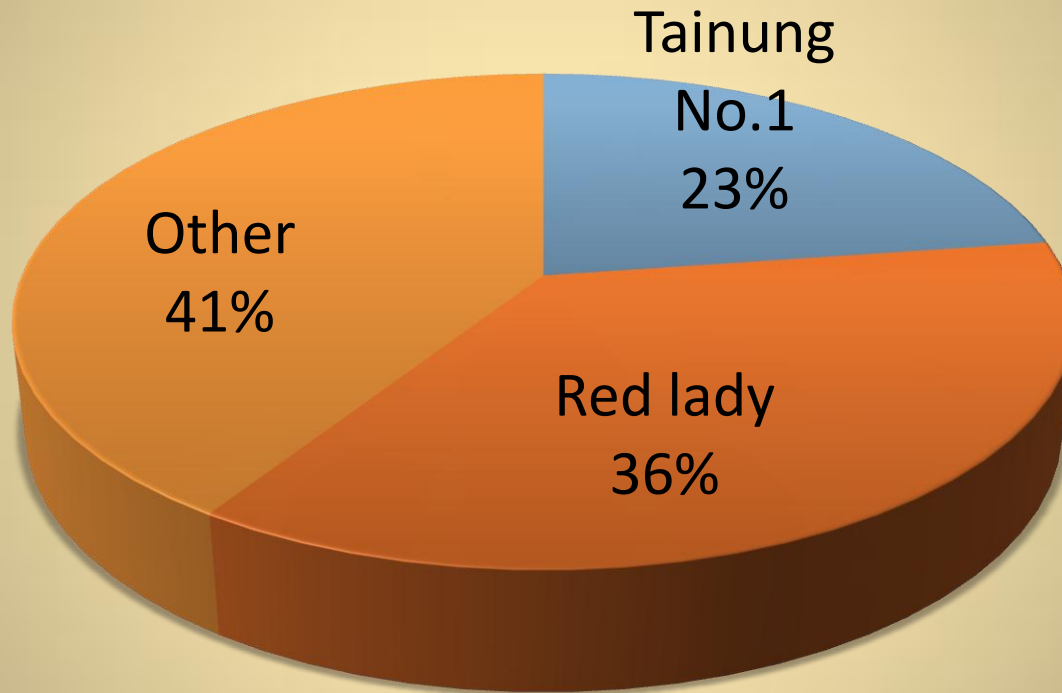
- White
- Black or African American
- Hispanic or Latino
- Multi-racial



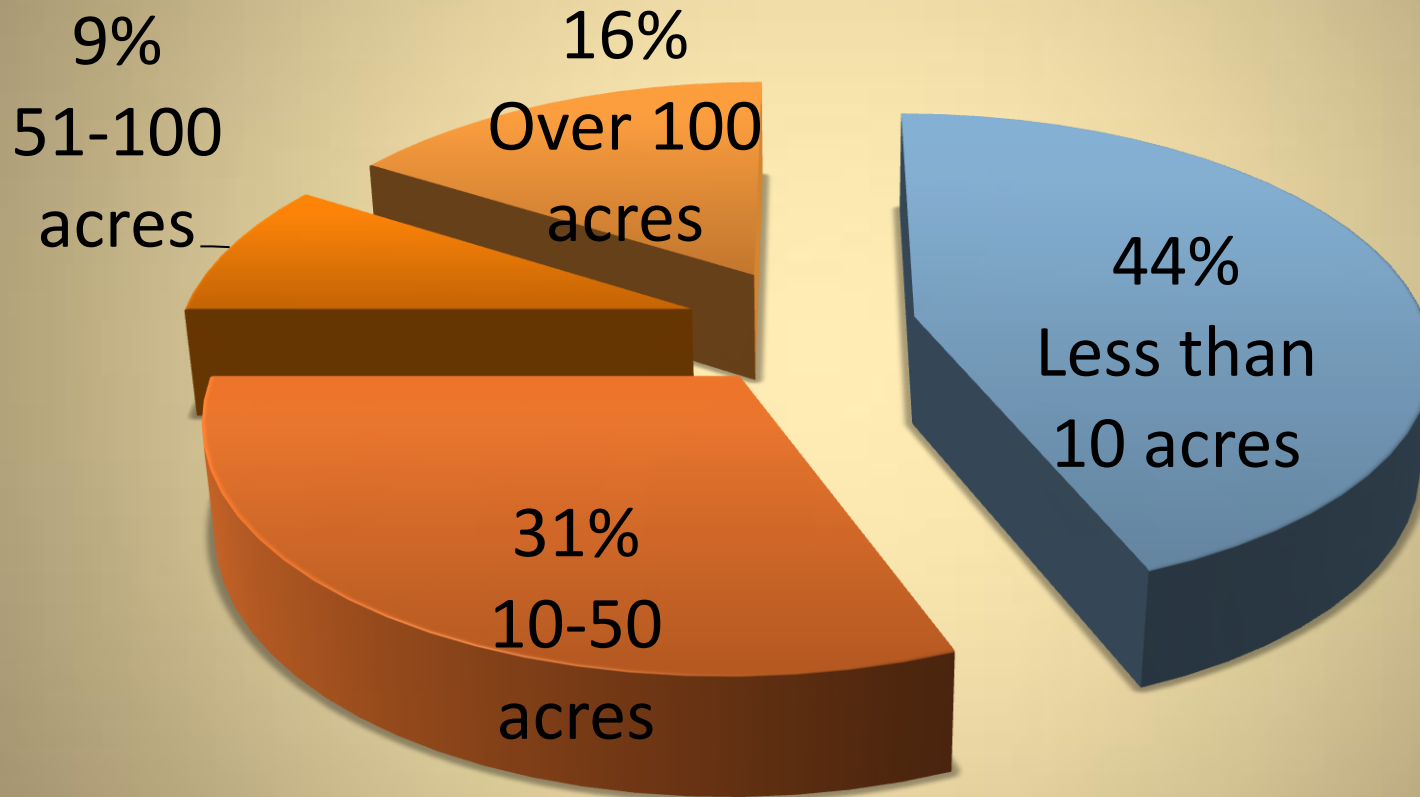
Papaya production



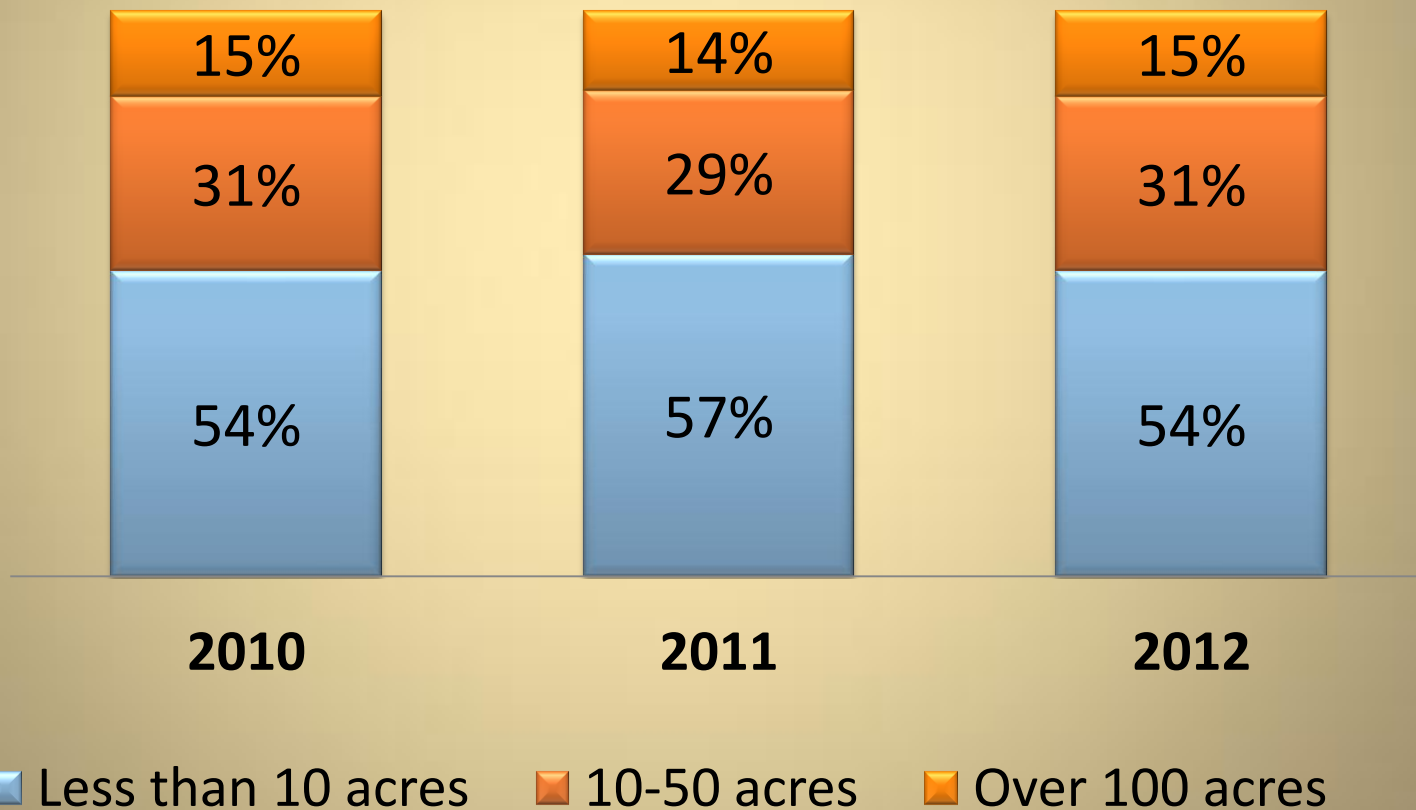
Papaya Varieties



Farm sizes



Acres of papaya grown (by farm sizes)

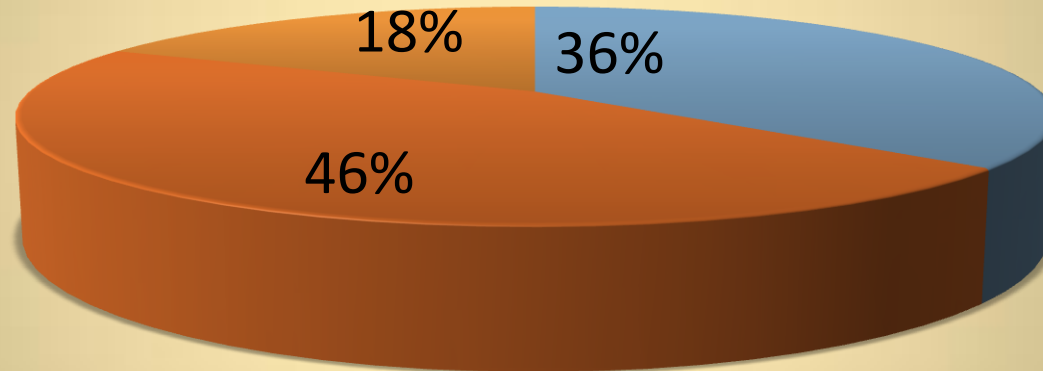


Longevity of plantation



Average papaya yield

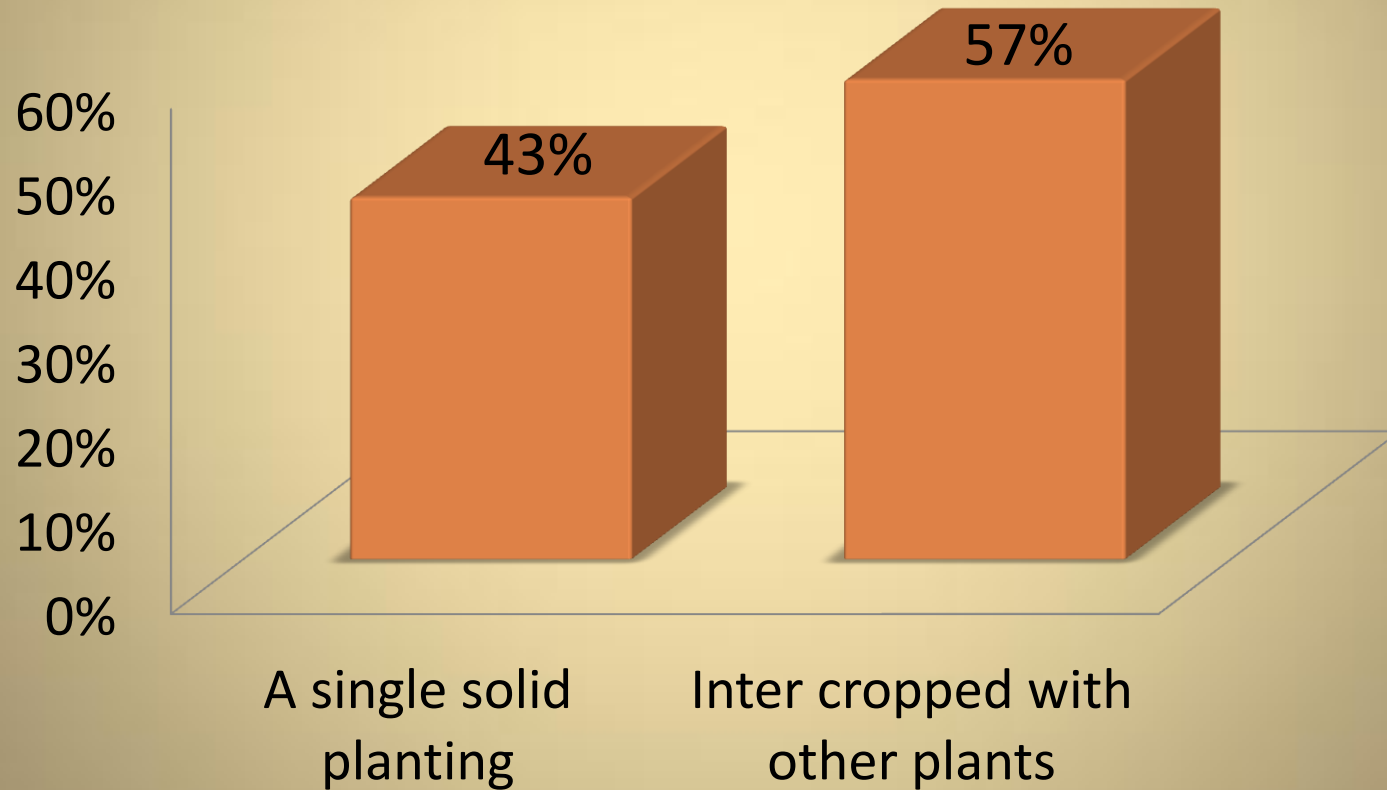
(Pounds/acre/year)



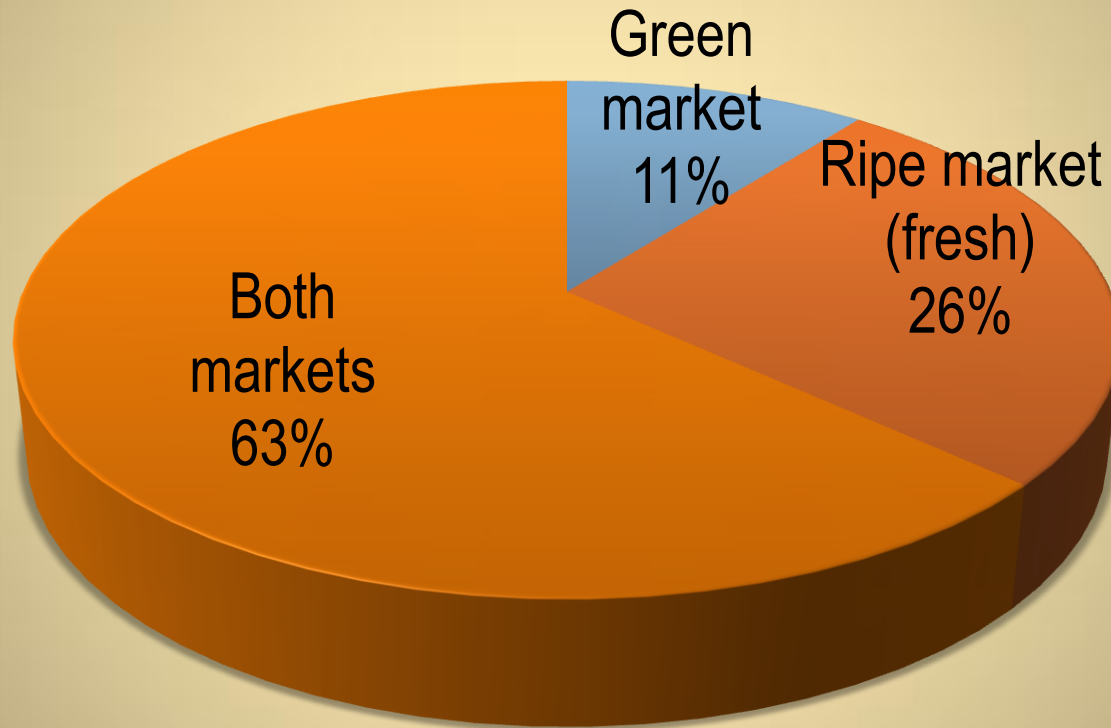
■ Less than 10,000 ■ 10,000-60,000 ■ Over 100,000

Pound/acre/year

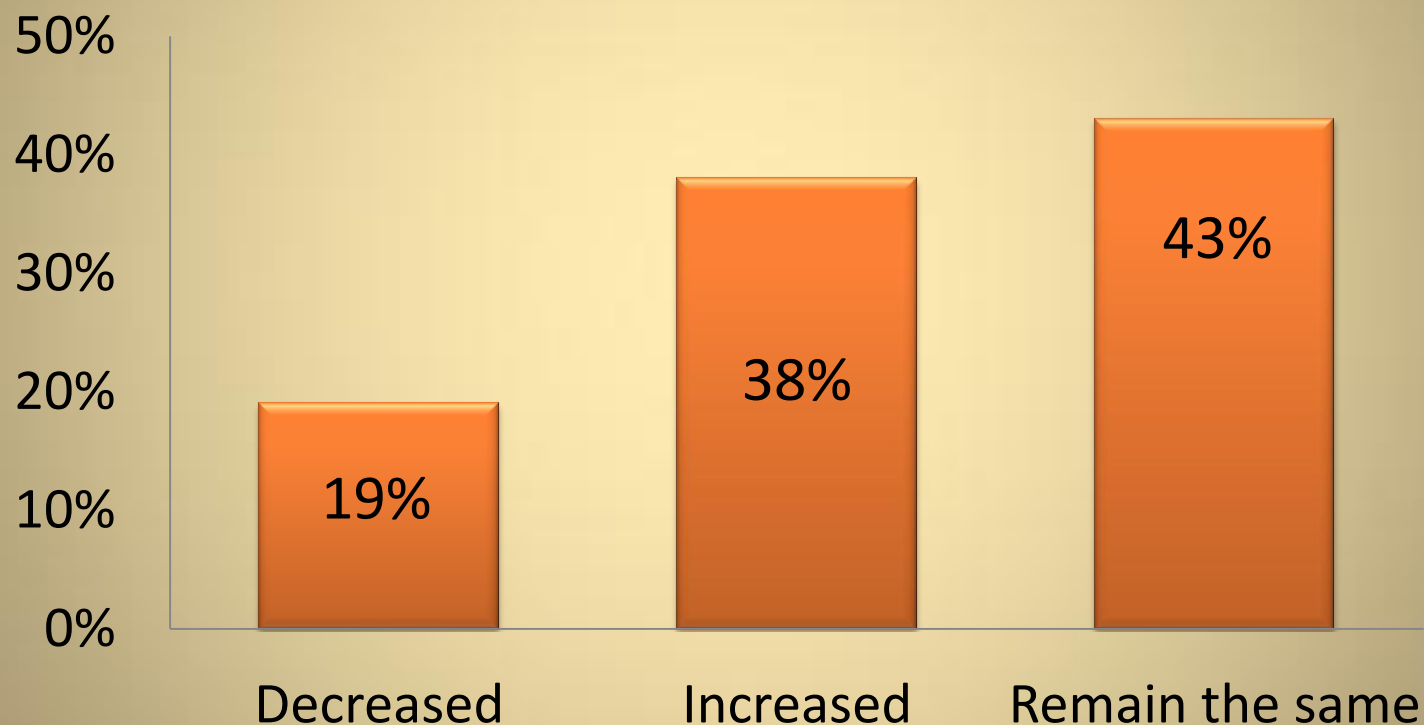
Grow papaya as:



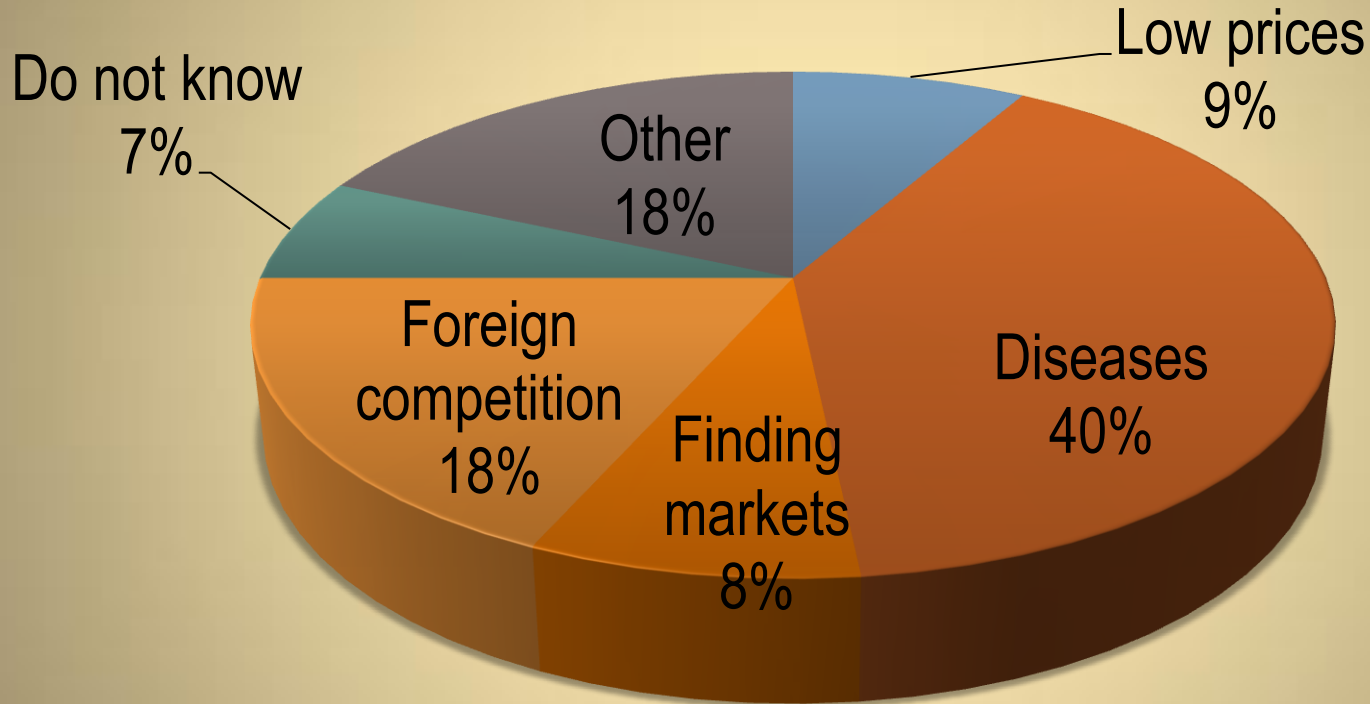
Types of Market



Papaya growers' future plans



Constrains to growing papaya



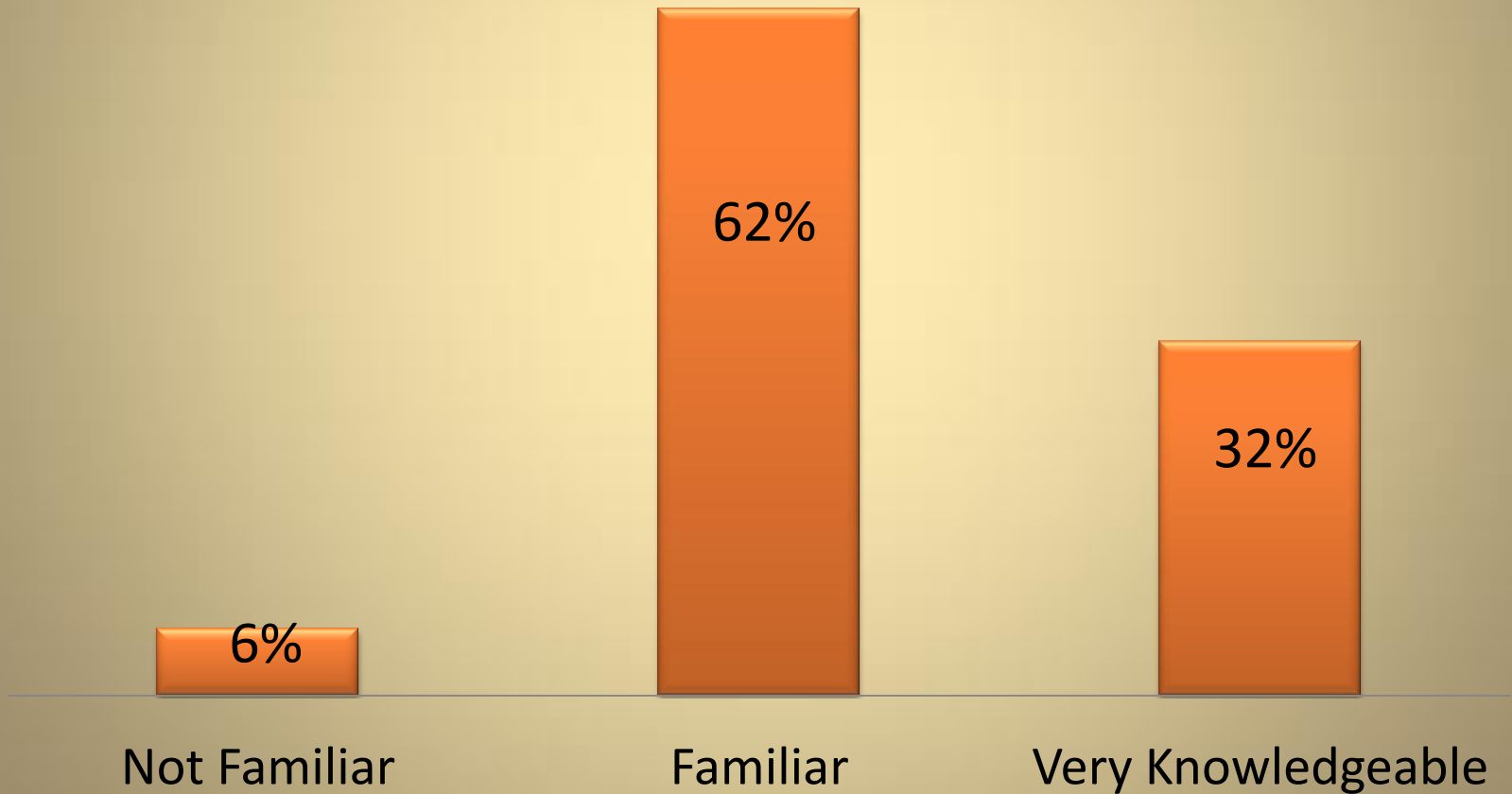
Others: Virus, insects, weather, papaya wasp, Marketing issues



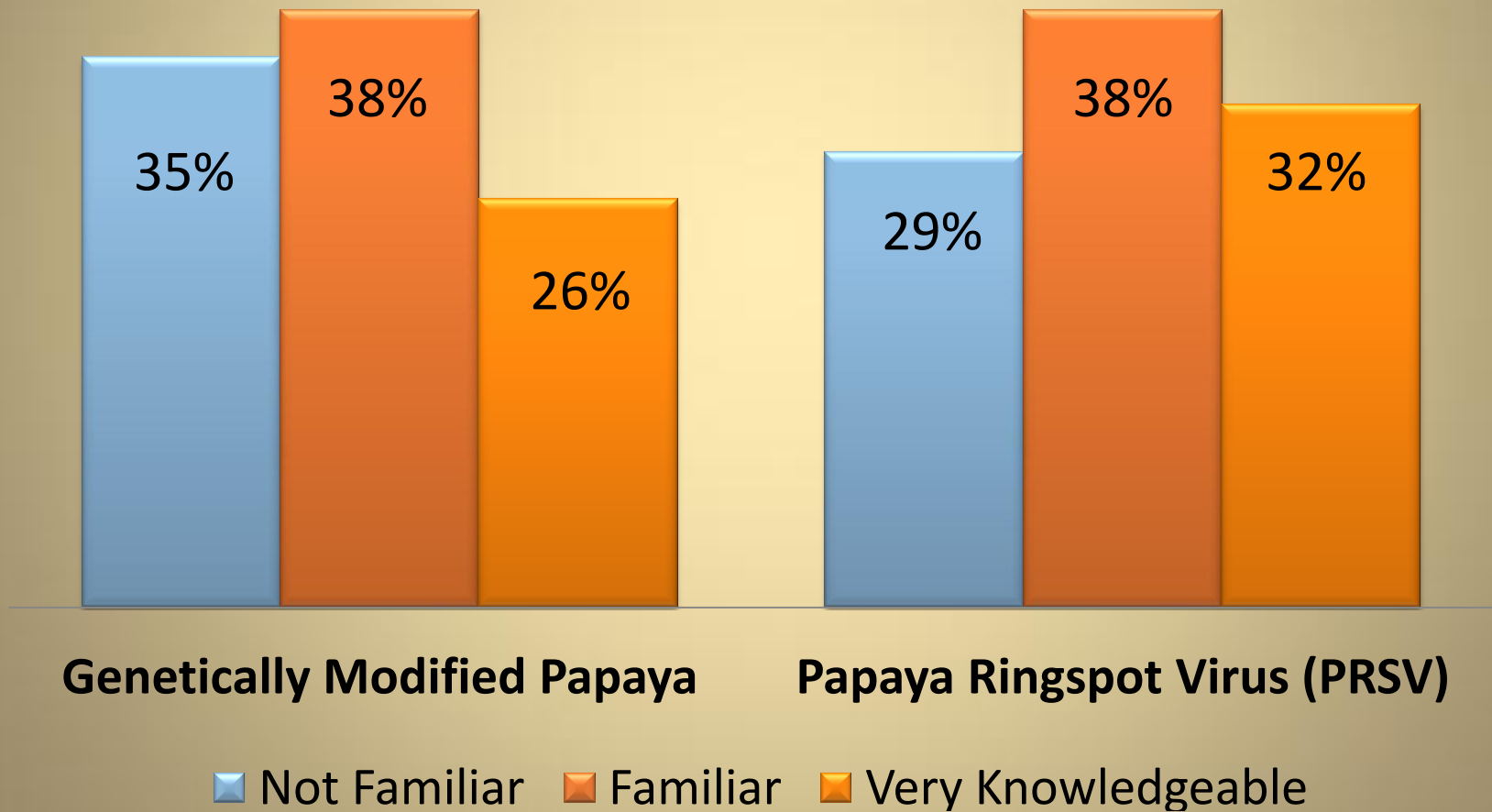
Perception on genetically modified crops



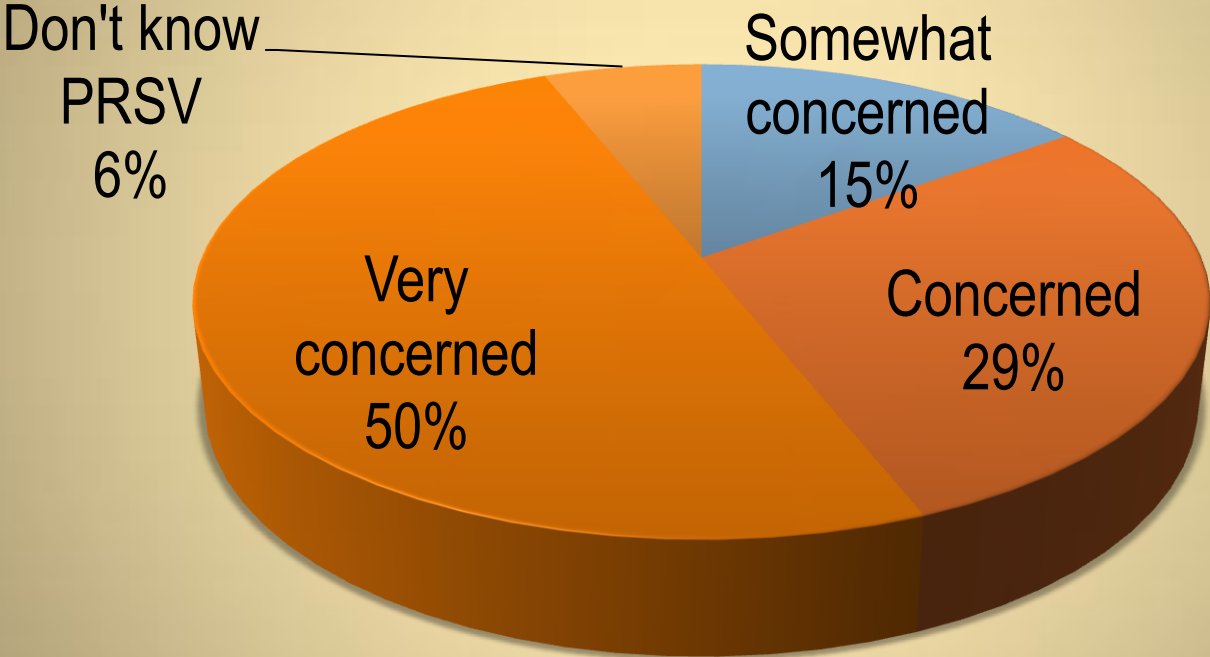
Knowledge on GM Crops



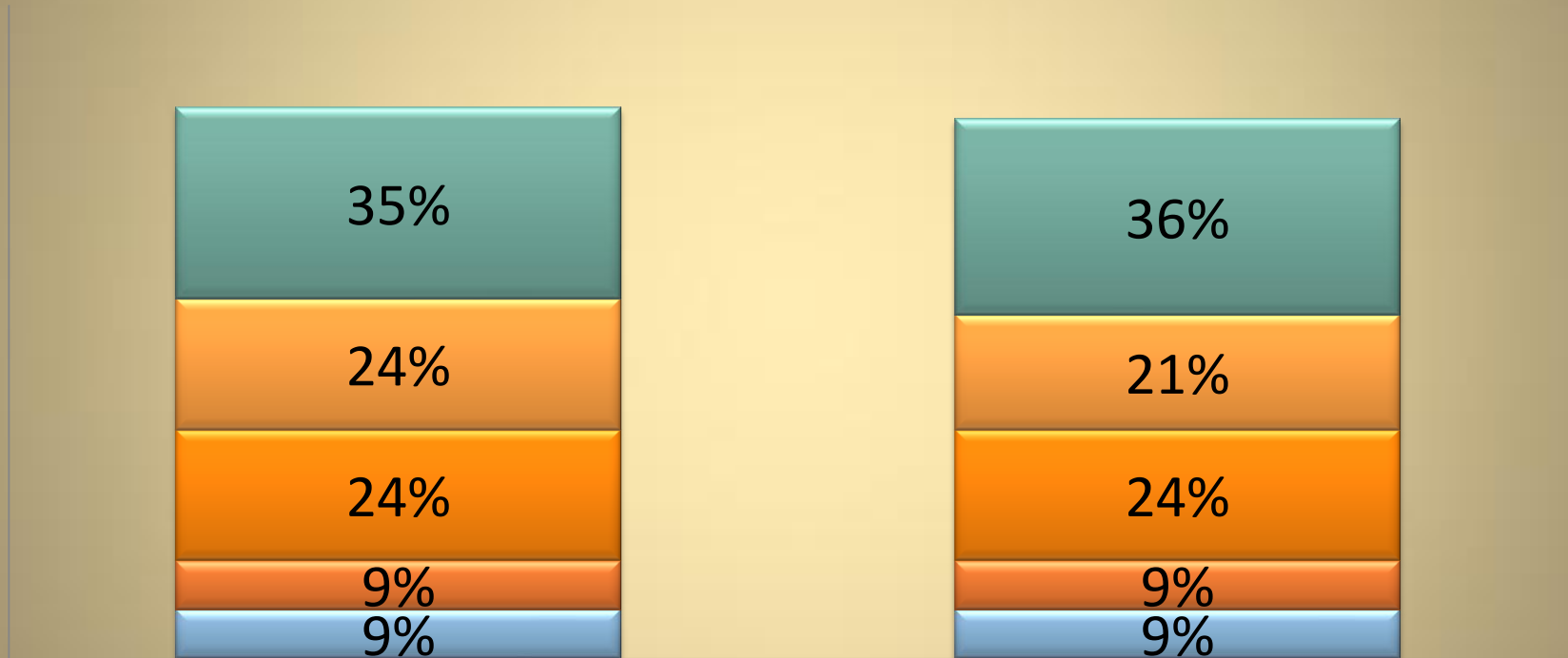
Knowledge on:



Level of concern regarding PRSV



Labeling of GMO's

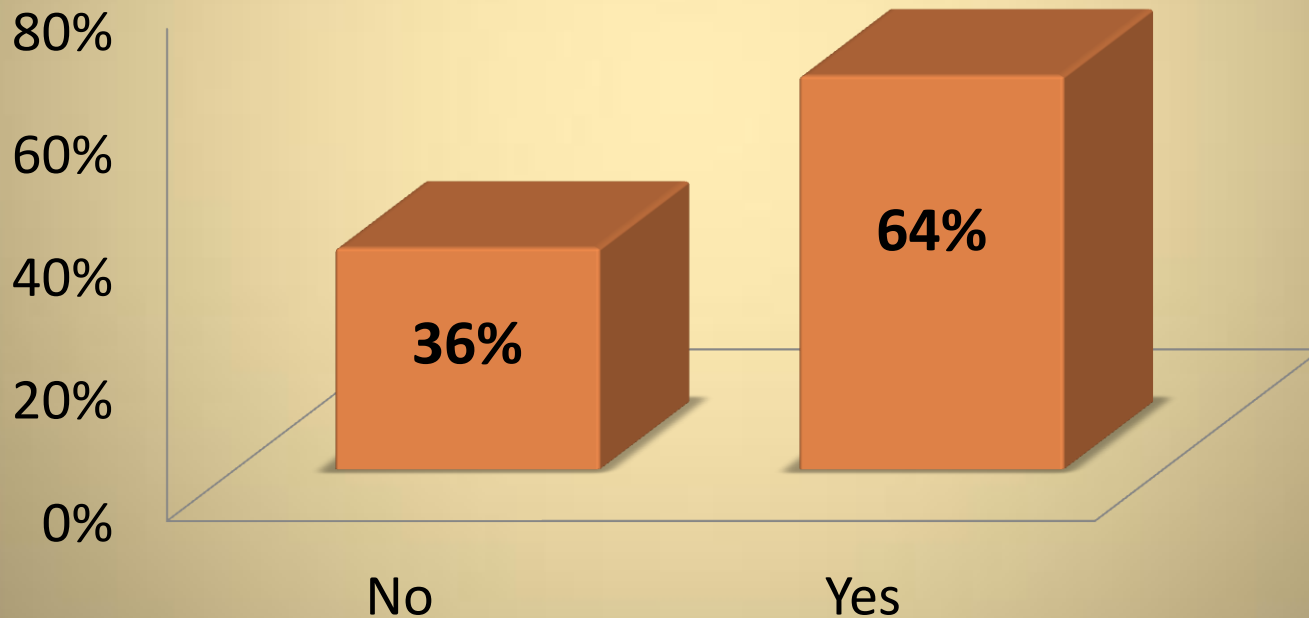


Foods with GM ingredients should be labeled

GM crops should be labeled

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly agree

Willingness to grow GM Papaya

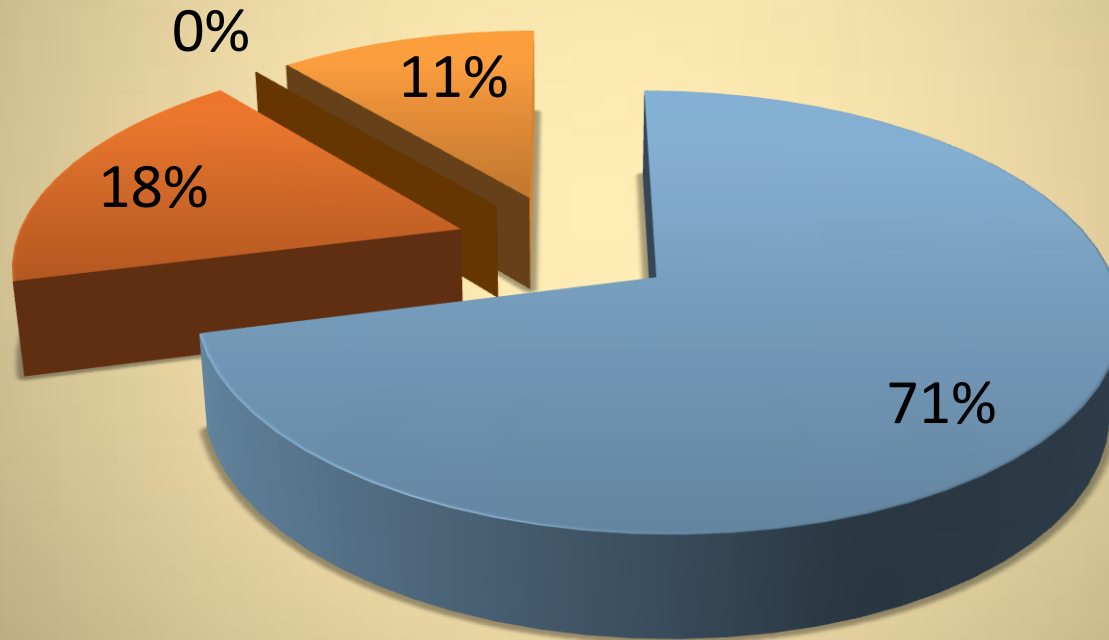


Reasons for not growing papaya:

Reason	Percentage
Health risks	26%
Environmental reasons	12%
Higher cost of planting material	08%
Cannot re-utilize seeds	08%
Market acceptance	19%
Other	27%

Other: retailers will not purchase GM papaya (letter agreement required)

Acres of papaya to be grown



■ Less than 10 acres ■ 10-50 acre ■ 50-90 acres ■ Over 90 acres

Concluding remarks

- 62% of the growers are willing to grow genetically modified papaya
- The biggest concerns regarding GM papaya are market acceptance and possible health risks caused by it.

