

Data Sharing Practices of Agricultural Researchers and Their Implications for the Land Grant University Mission

Christopher B. Eaker (ceaker@utk.edu) & Peter Fernandez (pfernand@utk.edu)¹, Miriam Davis (miriams@utk.edu)², & Shea Swauger (shea.swauger@colostate.edu)³
¹University of Tennessee Libraries, ²UT Center for Renewal Carbon, ³Colorado State University Libraries

Poster # 25

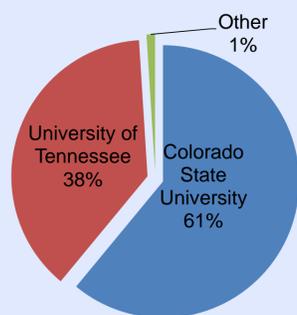
USAIN 2014

Purpose: This project explores the data management practices and data sharing attitudes among agricultural researchers at two public land grant institutions. The researchers intend to determine how these practices and attitudes serve the mission of the land grant university as stated within the Morrill Act of 1862. This poster shares the initial results of the research project.

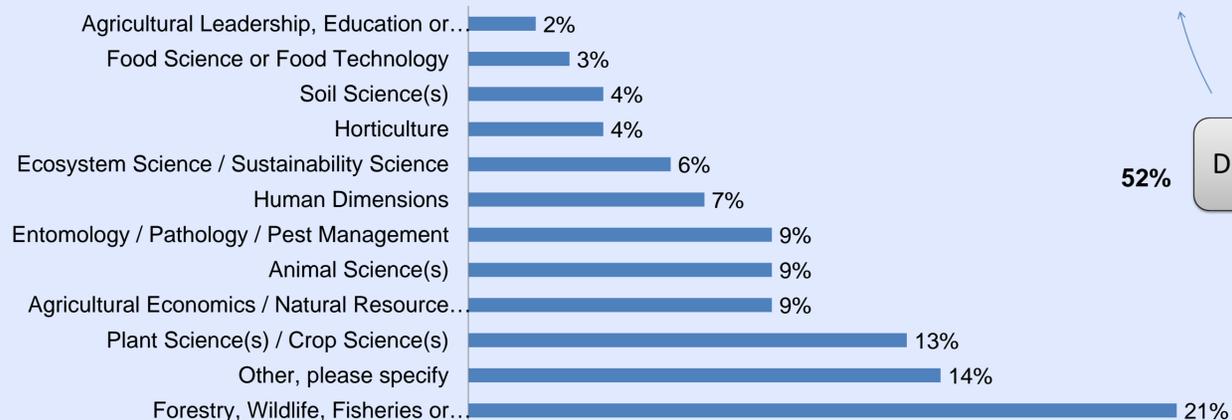
Do you feel you could benefit from assistance with various aspects of working with data?

Yes = 65%
 No = 12%
 Not Sure = 23%

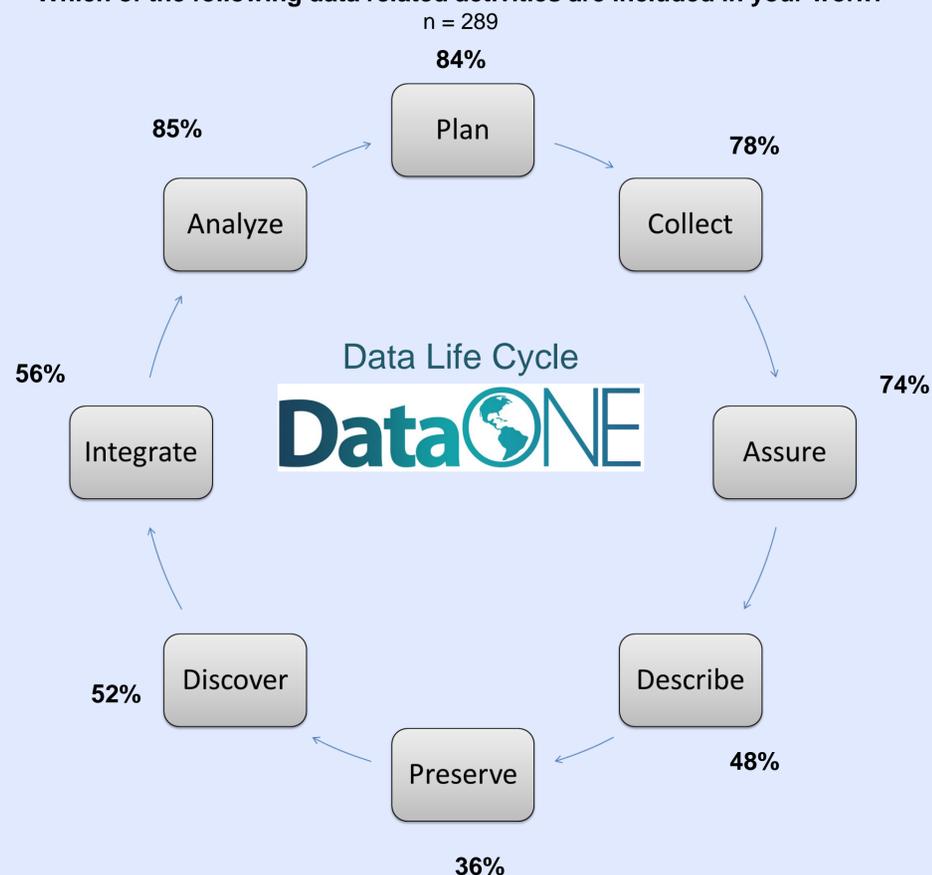
Percent of Respondents per Institution



Percent of Respondents per Discipline



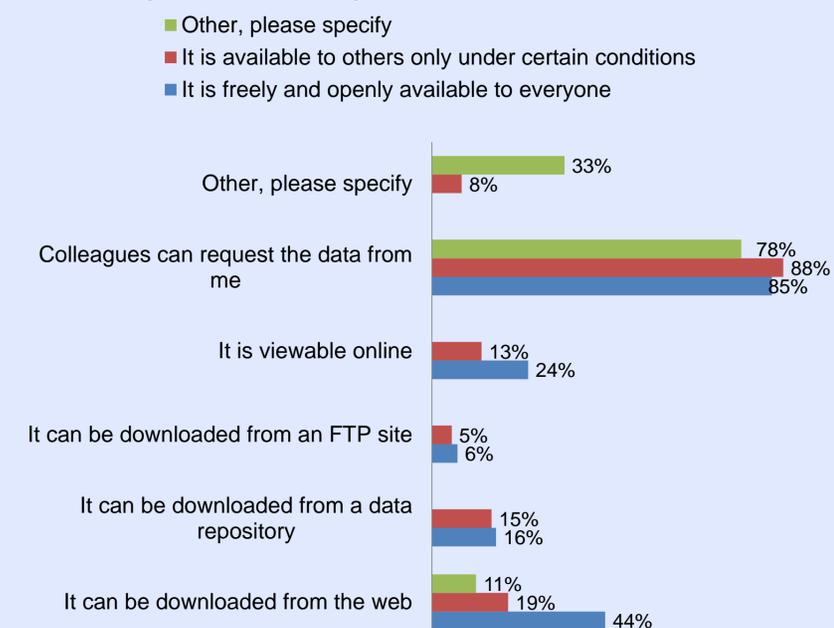
Which of the following data related activities are included in your work?



Of those who answered 'Yes' Where Would You Most Likely Seek Help?



Degree of Data Sharing vs. How the Data Can be Accessed



Summary & Looking Forward:

- Participants work with data across the life cycle → Fewer than half **describe** or **preserve** their data.
 - What are the implications for data sharing and preservation as well as the dissemination mission of the Land Grant system?
- Participants relatively **unlikely** to seek help from librarians.
- Colleagues** and **Data Managers** have influence and may be good sources of training and assistance.
- 44% provide downloadable data freely on the web. 85% say colleagues can request the data.