
UGANDA AQUACULTURE CENSUS REPORT 2025



Conference hall
Statistics House

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Uganda Bureau of Statistics



30th April 2026

1 Introduction

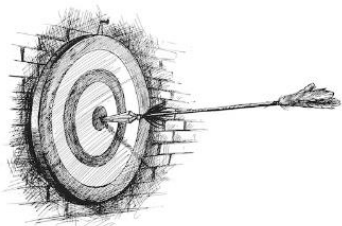
2 Methodology

3 Findings

4 Summary



INTRODUCTION



General Objective

- The general objective of the aquaculture census was to generate data on the structure of aquaculture sector and production levels .

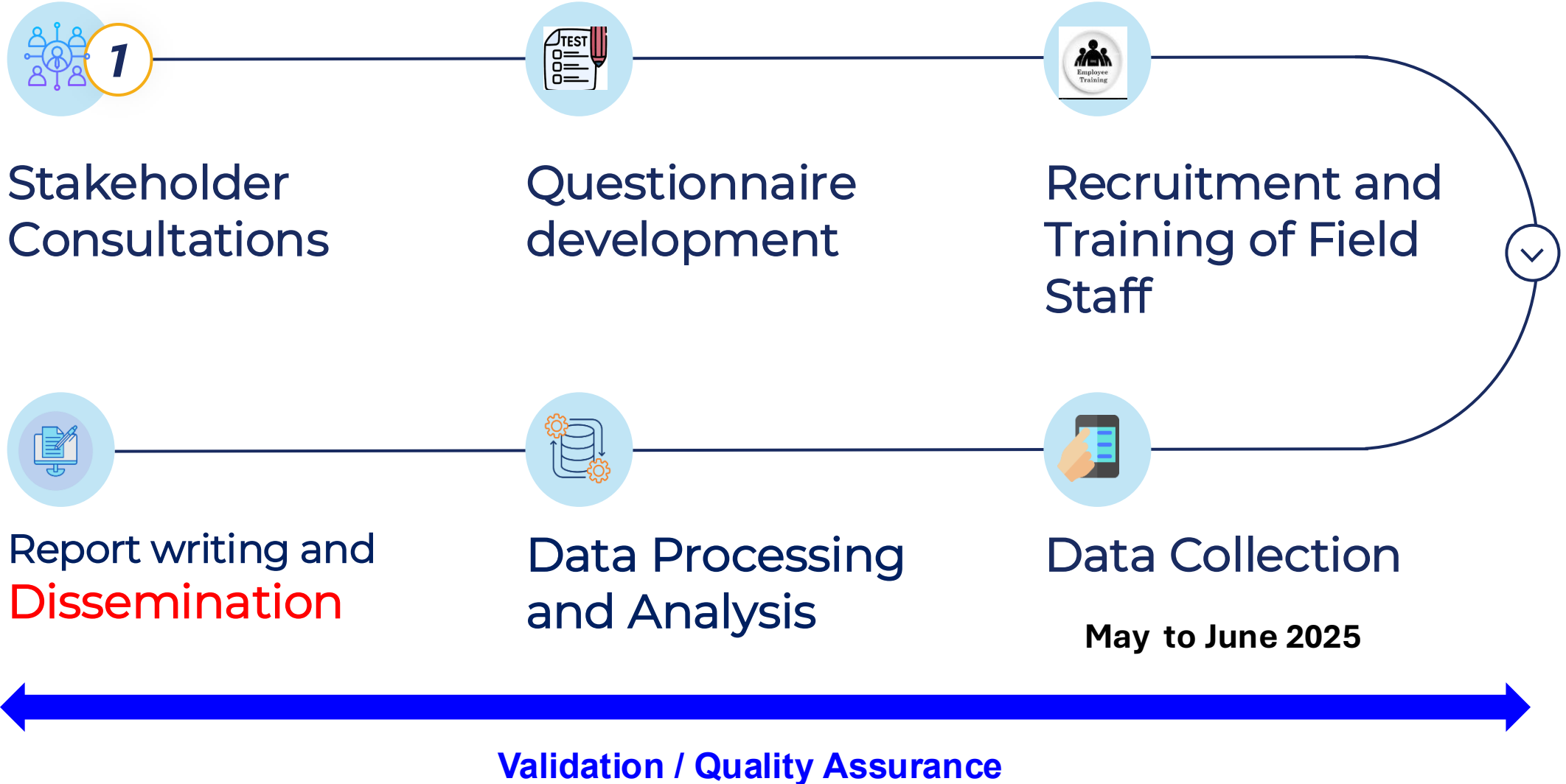
Specific Objectives;

- Establish the number of aquaculture farms in the country
- Establish the number of farms with selected aquaculture facilities
- Establish the production methods used
- Obtain data on production by species
- Obtain data on access to aquaculture extension services

- **Aquaculture** - is the farming of aquatic organisms such as fish, crustaceans, molluscs and plants. It involves rearing aquatic organisms under controlled or semi-controlled conditions (excluding ornamental fish).
 - ✓ For the purpose of the Uganda Aquaculture Census 2025, fish farming was the main focus.
- **Water-based aquaculture**— is practiced within permanent water bodies namely lakes, rivers and swamps using facilities such as cages, and pens
- **Land-based aquaculture**— is practiced on land using facilities notably ponds and tanks.
- **Aquaculture Census:** Is a large-scale statistical operation for collecting, processing and disseminating data on the structure of aquaculture, covering the whole or a significant part of a country.

- **An aquacultural farm** (holding) - an economic unit of aquacultural production under single management, comprising of all aquaculture facilities without regard to title, legal form, or size
- ***For this Census, a farm was considered an aquaculture farm if it had fish stocks at any point in the reference period (July 2024 to June 2025).***
- **Grow-out Farm** – This is an aquaculture facility where fish seed are raised until market size.
- **Hatchery-** This is a specialised facility for breeding, hatching, and raising the early stages of aquatic organisms before transferring them to grow-out units.

Census Process



METHODOLOGY

❖ **Aquaculture census was complete coverage**

- A list of aquaculture farms from National Population and Housing Census 2024
- Complimented by District Local Government lists of aquaculture farms were used to ensure complete coverage.

❖ **Coverage**

- Fresh Water and Land-based Aquaculture Systems
- Grow-outs and
- Hatcheries

❖ **Scope**

❖ **Census Period**

- ✓ Census reference period was from July 2024 to June 2025
- ✓ 12 months production period
- ✓ Data collection was from May 2025 to June 2025

❖ **Statistical Unit of enumeration**

- ✓ Aquaculture Farm

❖ Scope cont'd

❖ Content

- ✓ Farm characteristics: nature of production activity, facilities on the farm and main purpose of production.
- ✓ Production methods (Ponds, Cages, Tanks and other methods)
- ✓ Production volumes and utilization,
- ✓ Fish species,
- ✓ Inputs (labour, feed, seed)
- ✓ Machinery and equipment
- ✓ Extension services

PRODUCTION METHOD USED

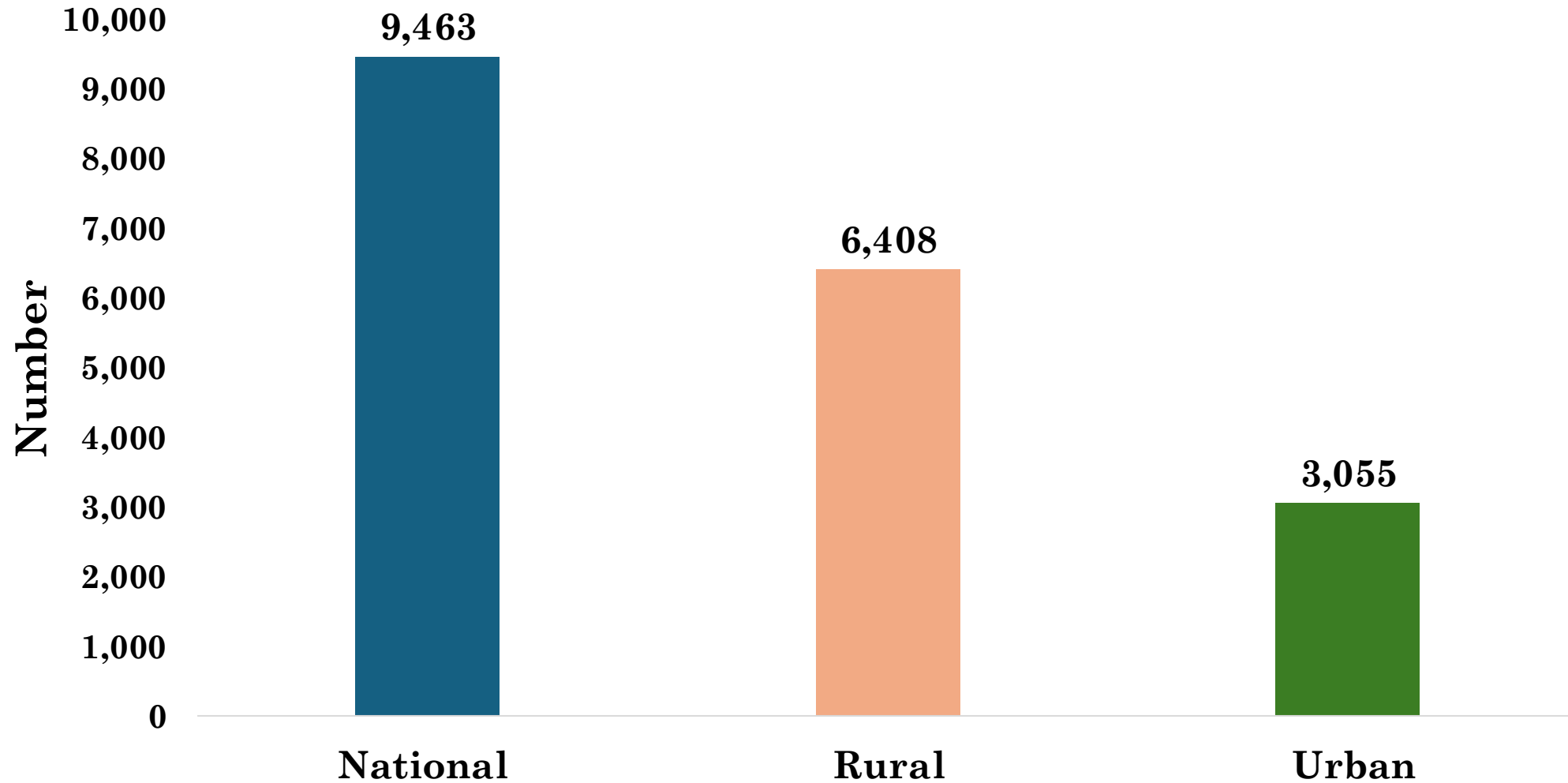


PRODUCTION METHOD USED

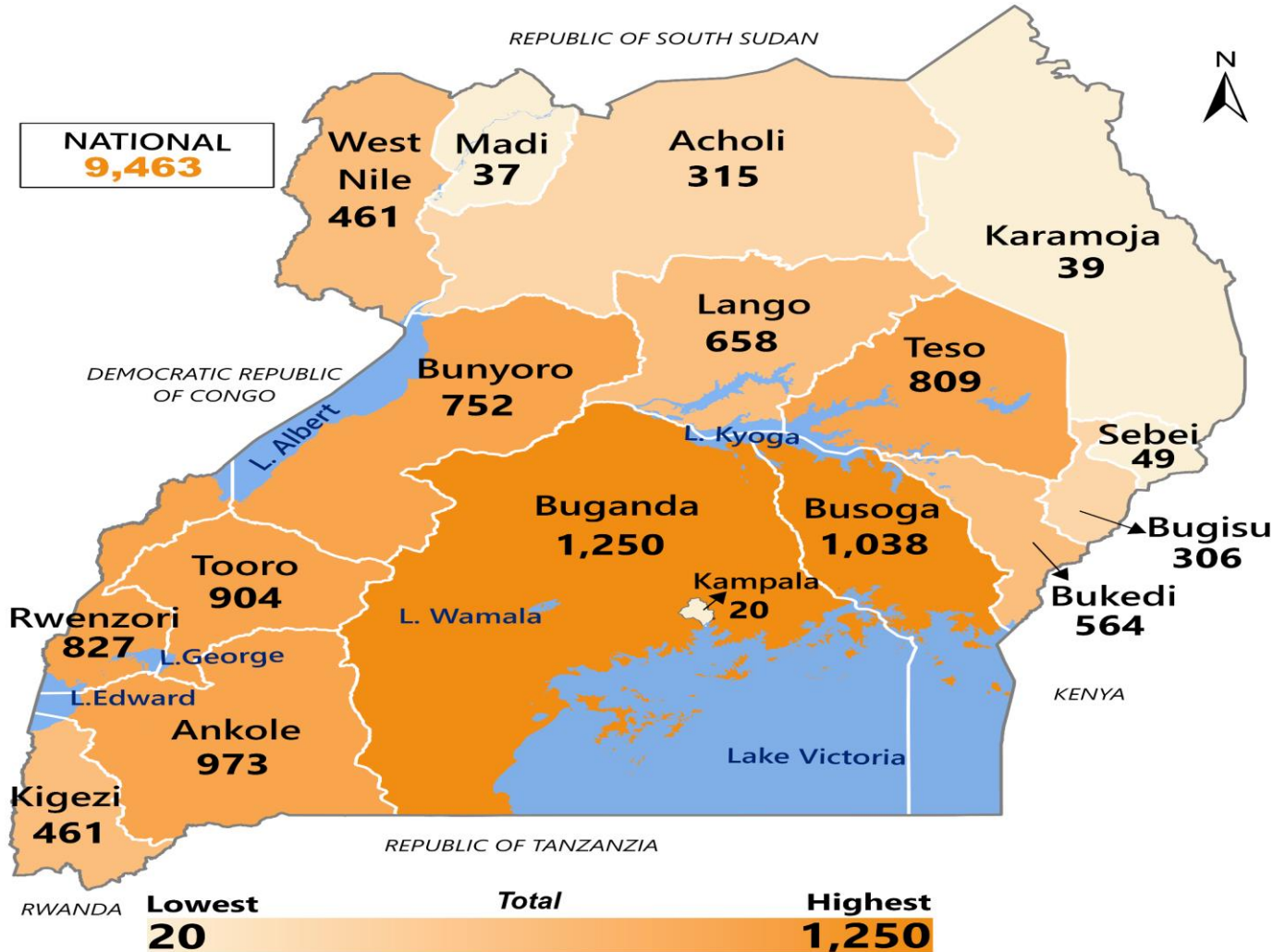


FINDINGS

Aquaculture Farms

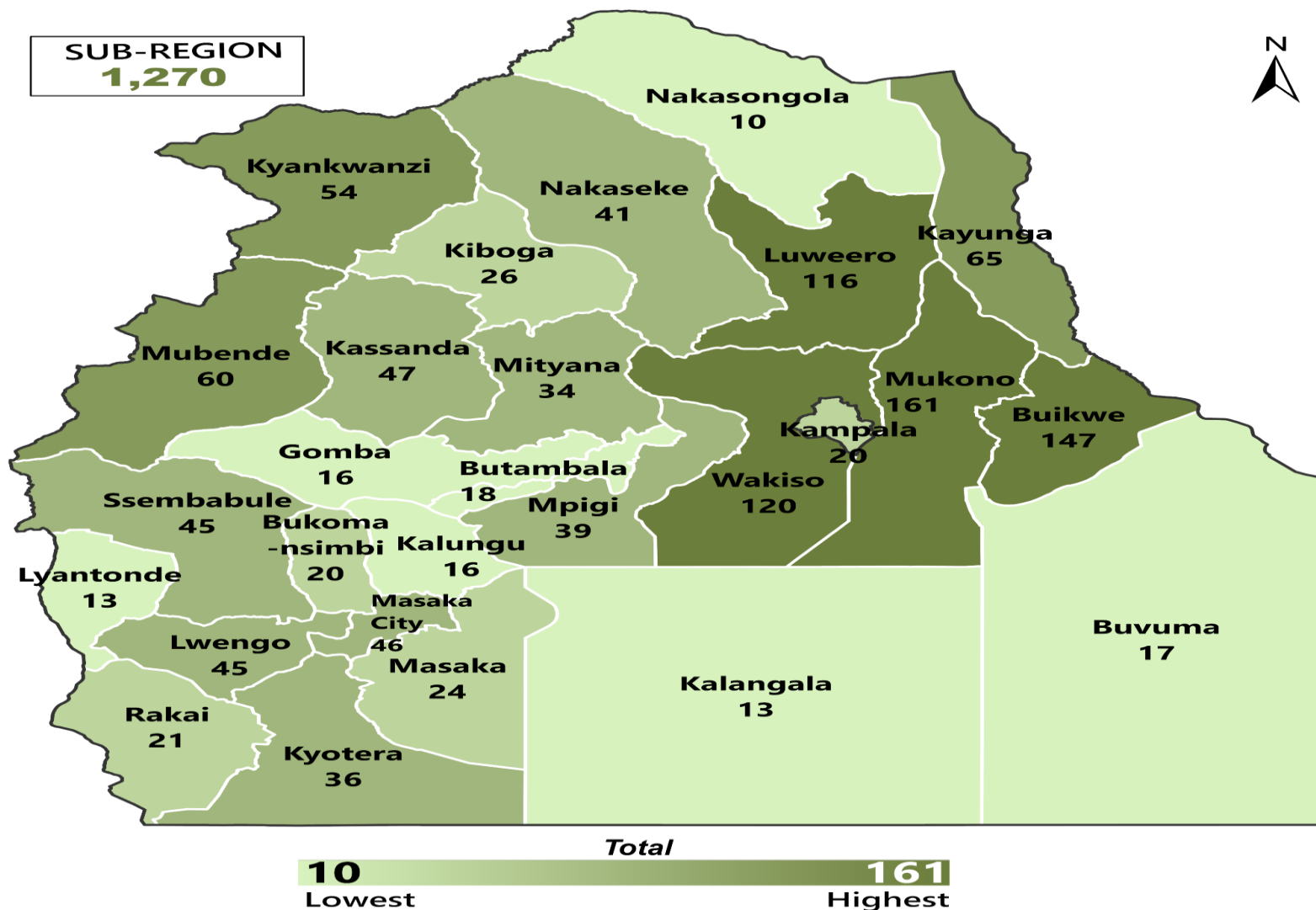


Aquaculture Farms by Sub-Region

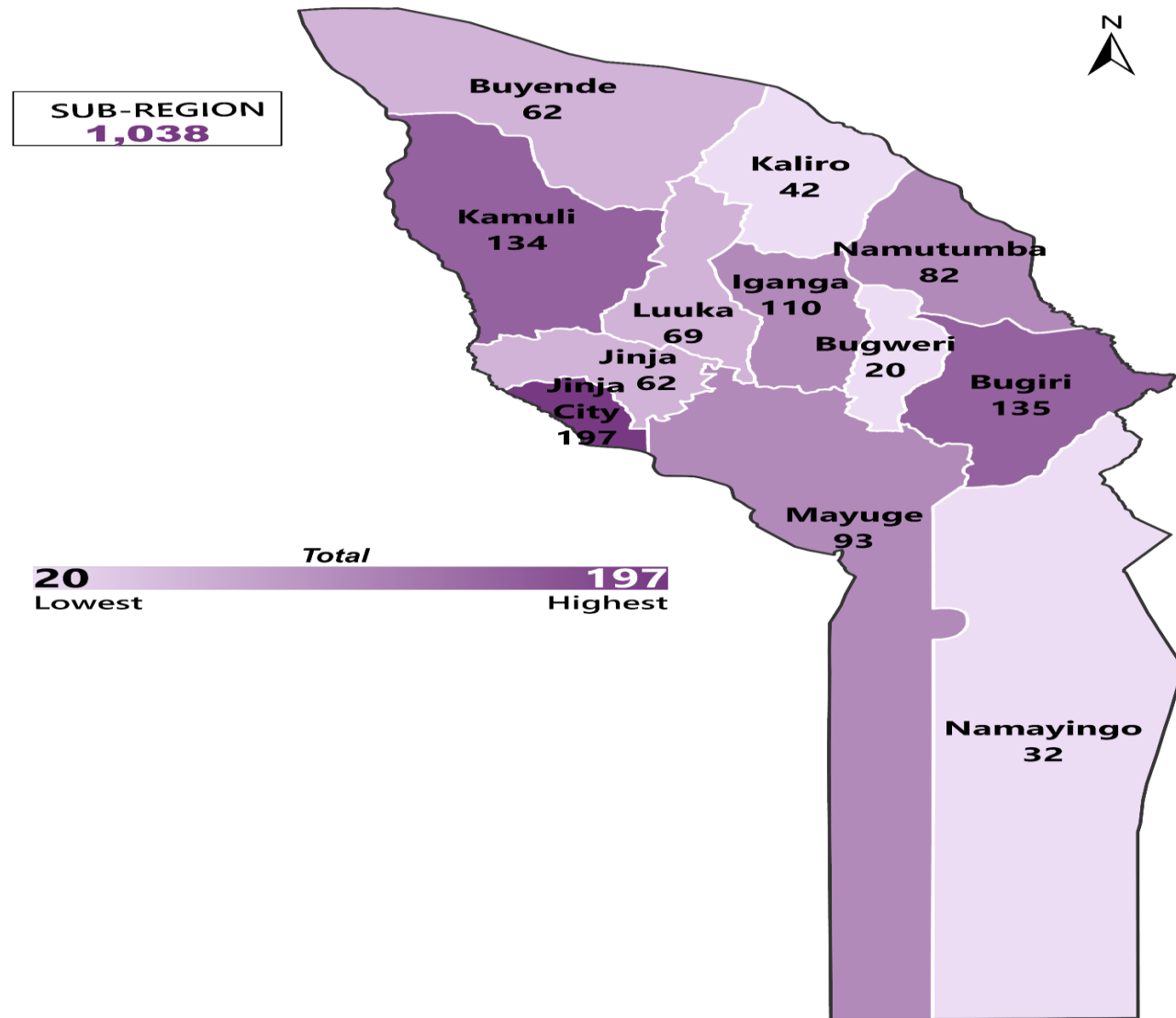


Buganda (13.4%) had the highest share of farms

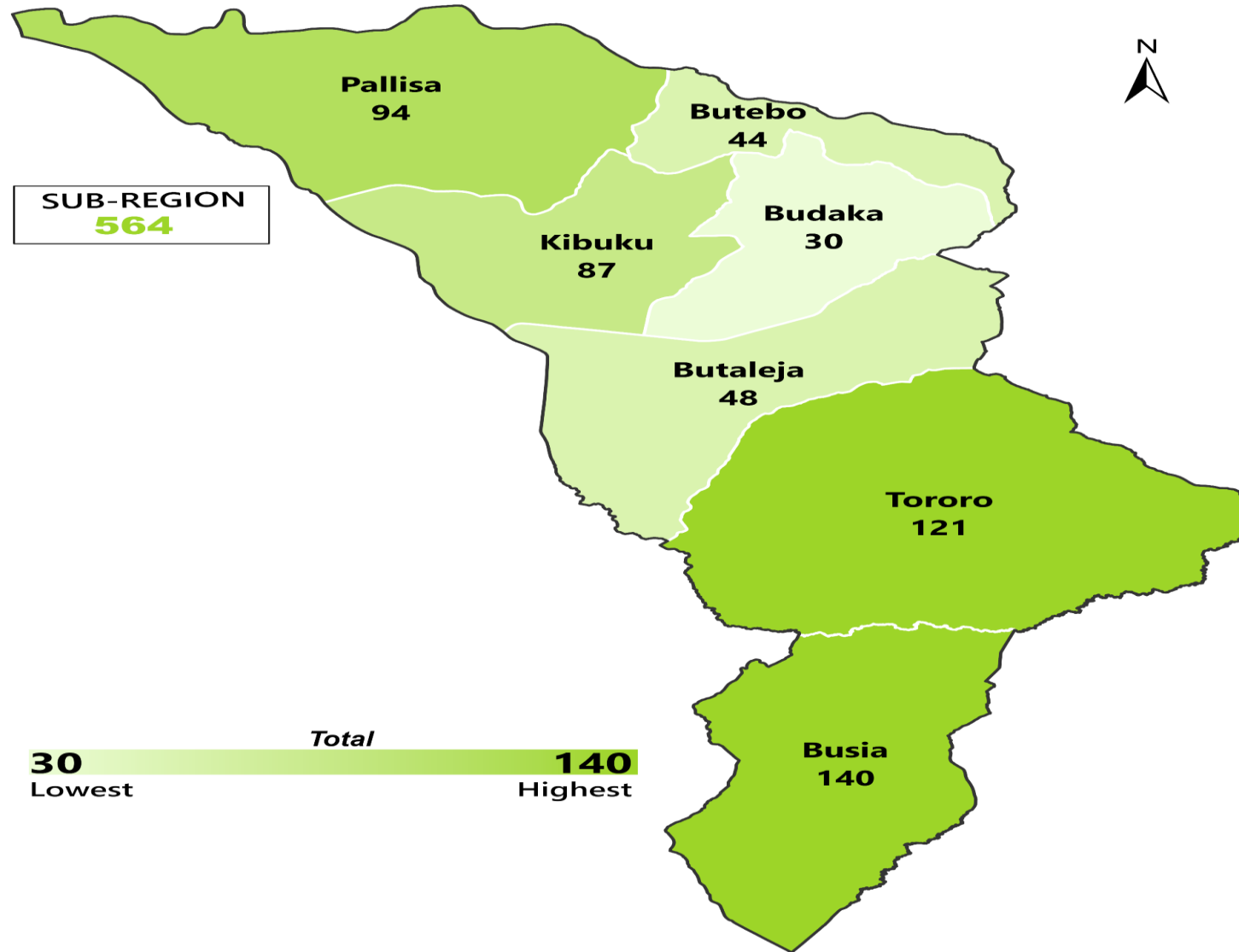
Aquaculture Farms in Kampala Capital City & Buganda Sub-Regions



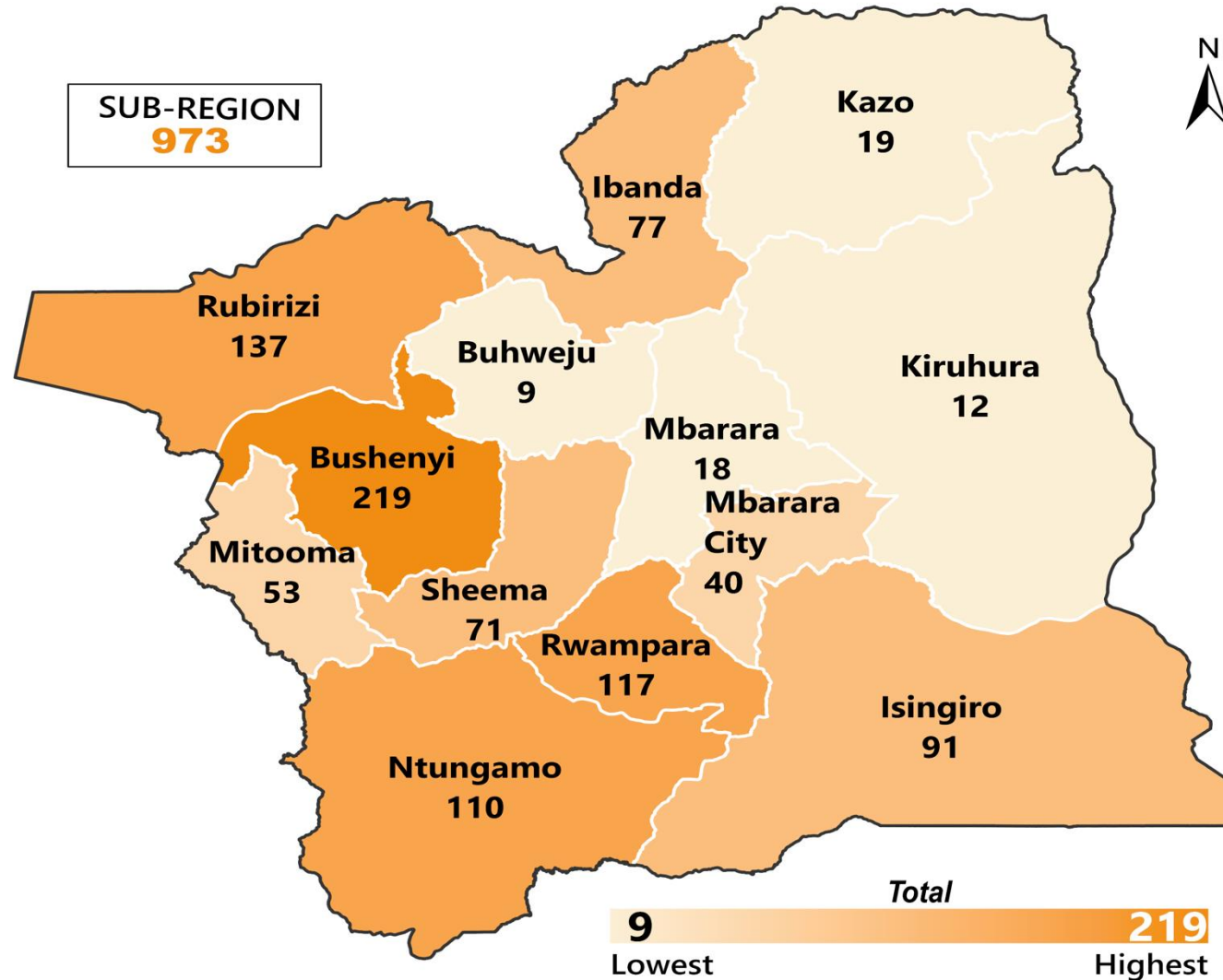
Aquaculture Farms in Busoga Sub-Region



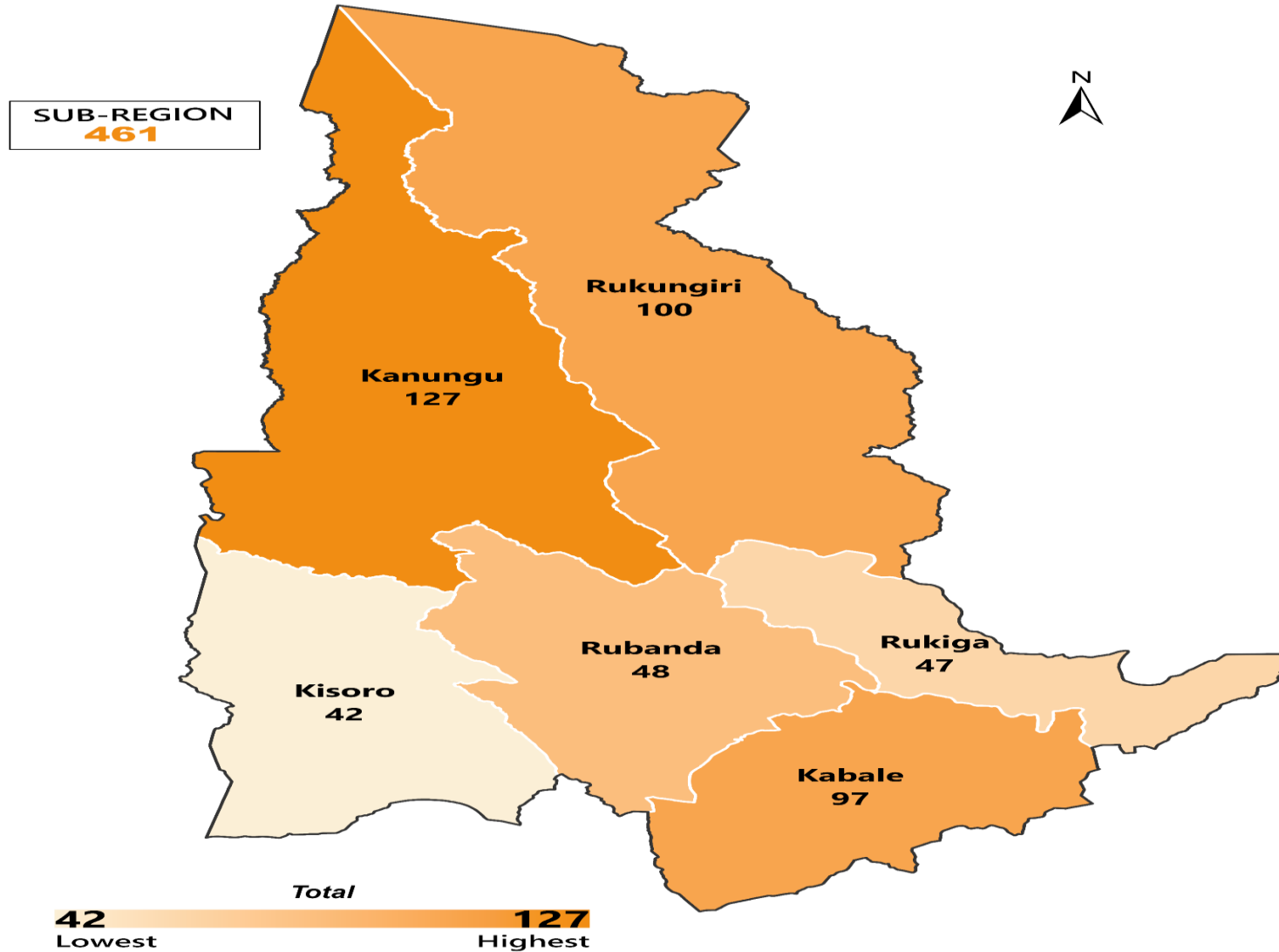
Aquaculture Farms in Bukedi Sub-Region



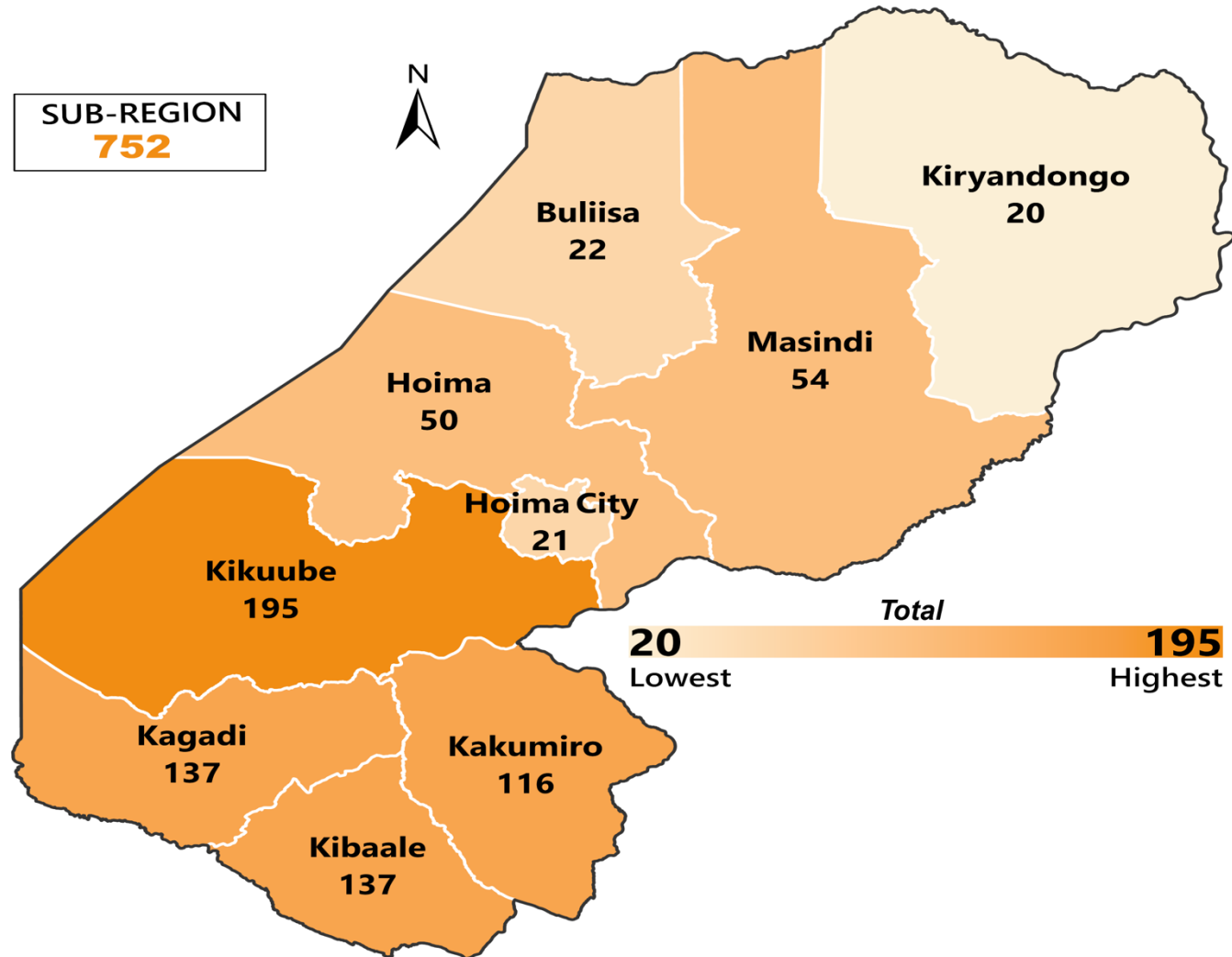
Aquaculture Farms in Ankole Sub-Region

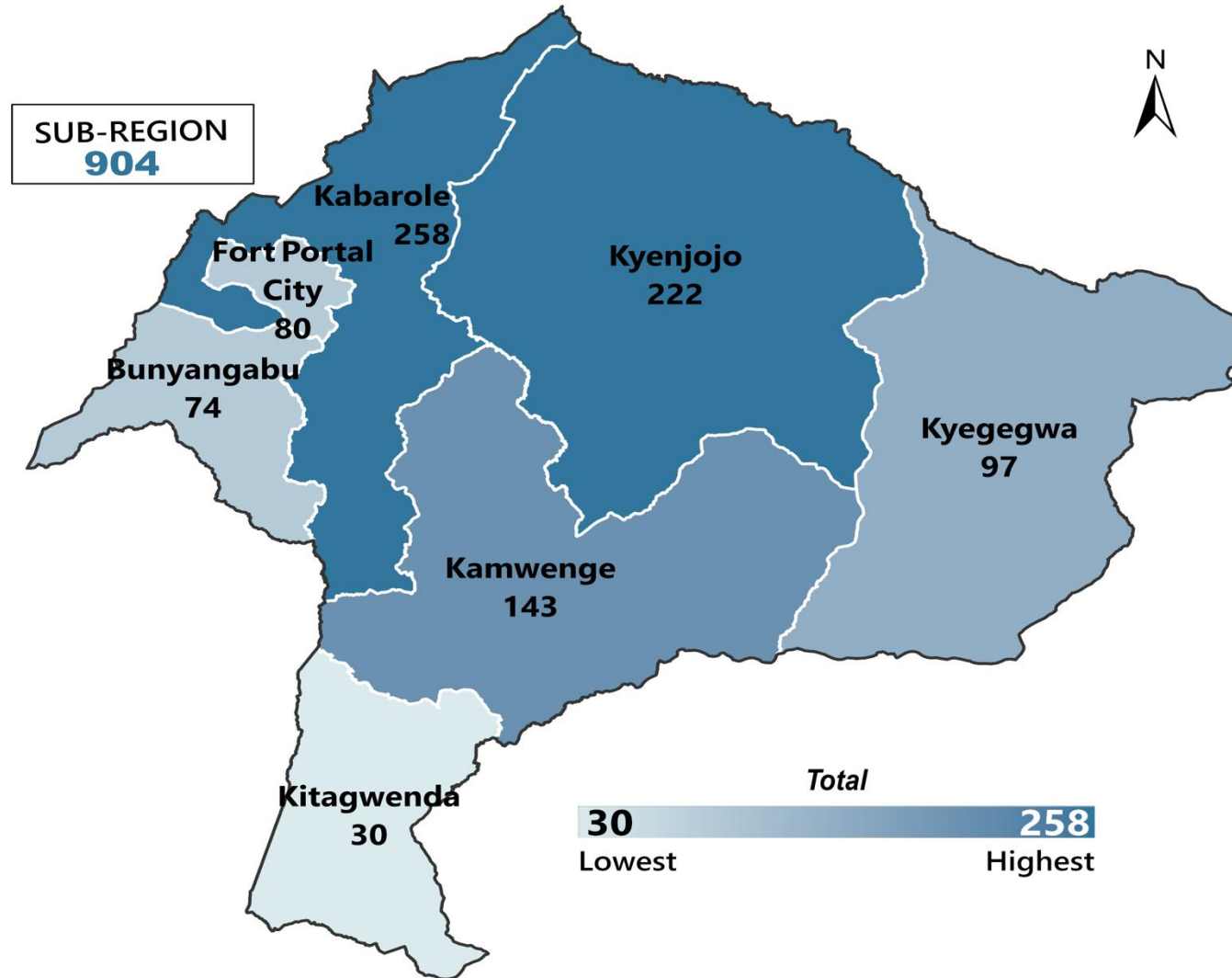


Aquaculture Farms in Kigezi Sub-Region

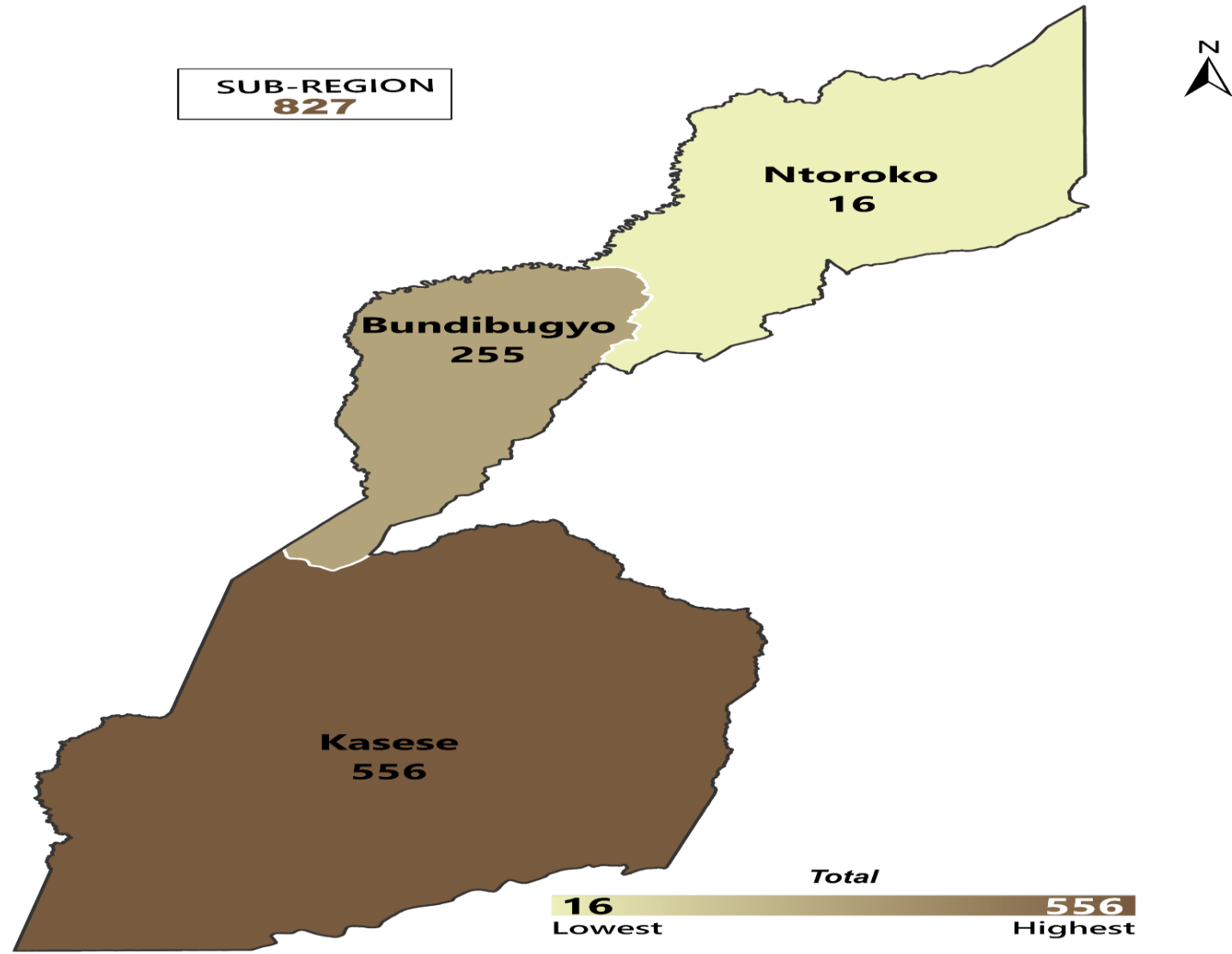


Aquaculture Farms in Bunyoro Sub-Region

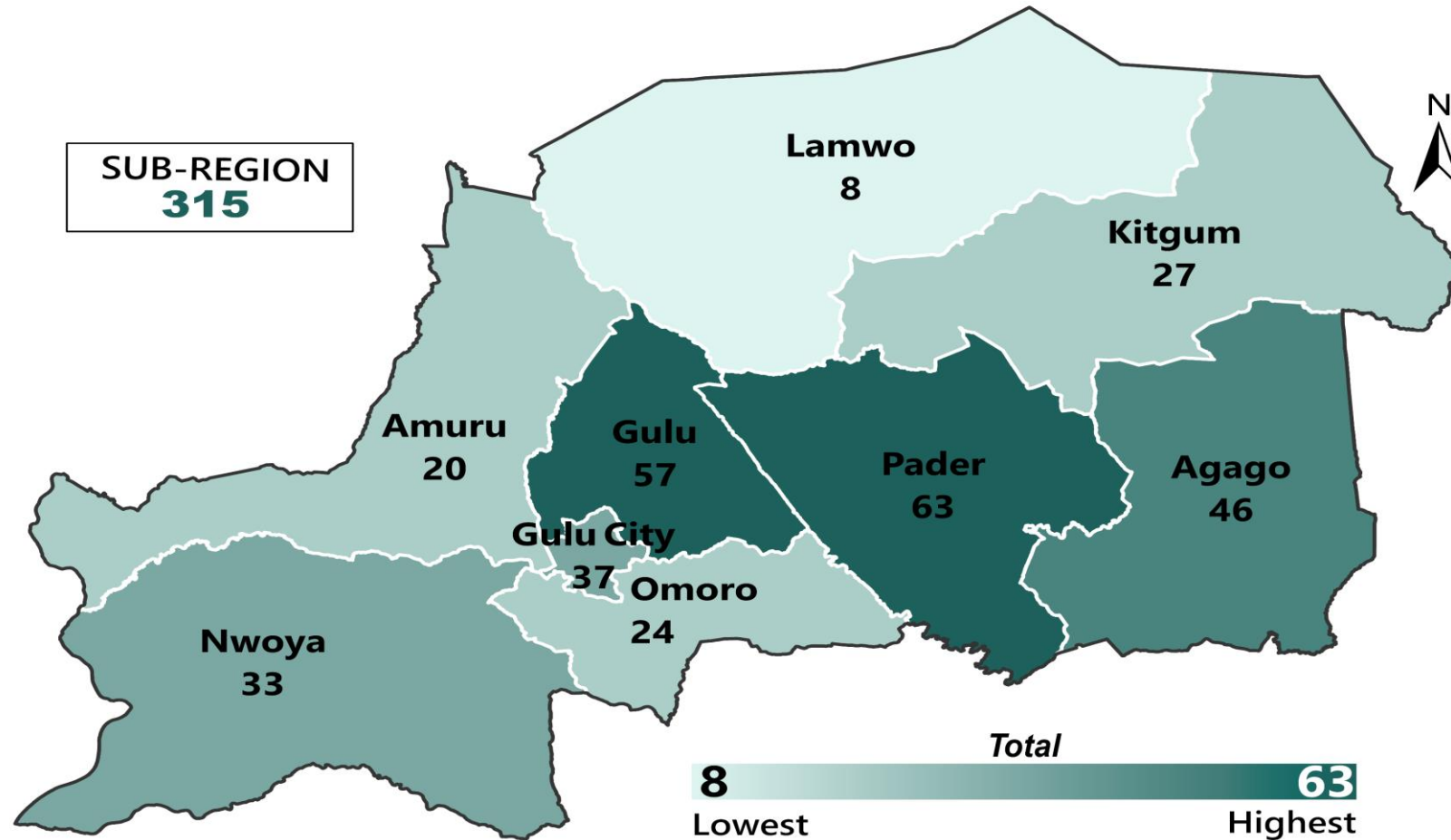




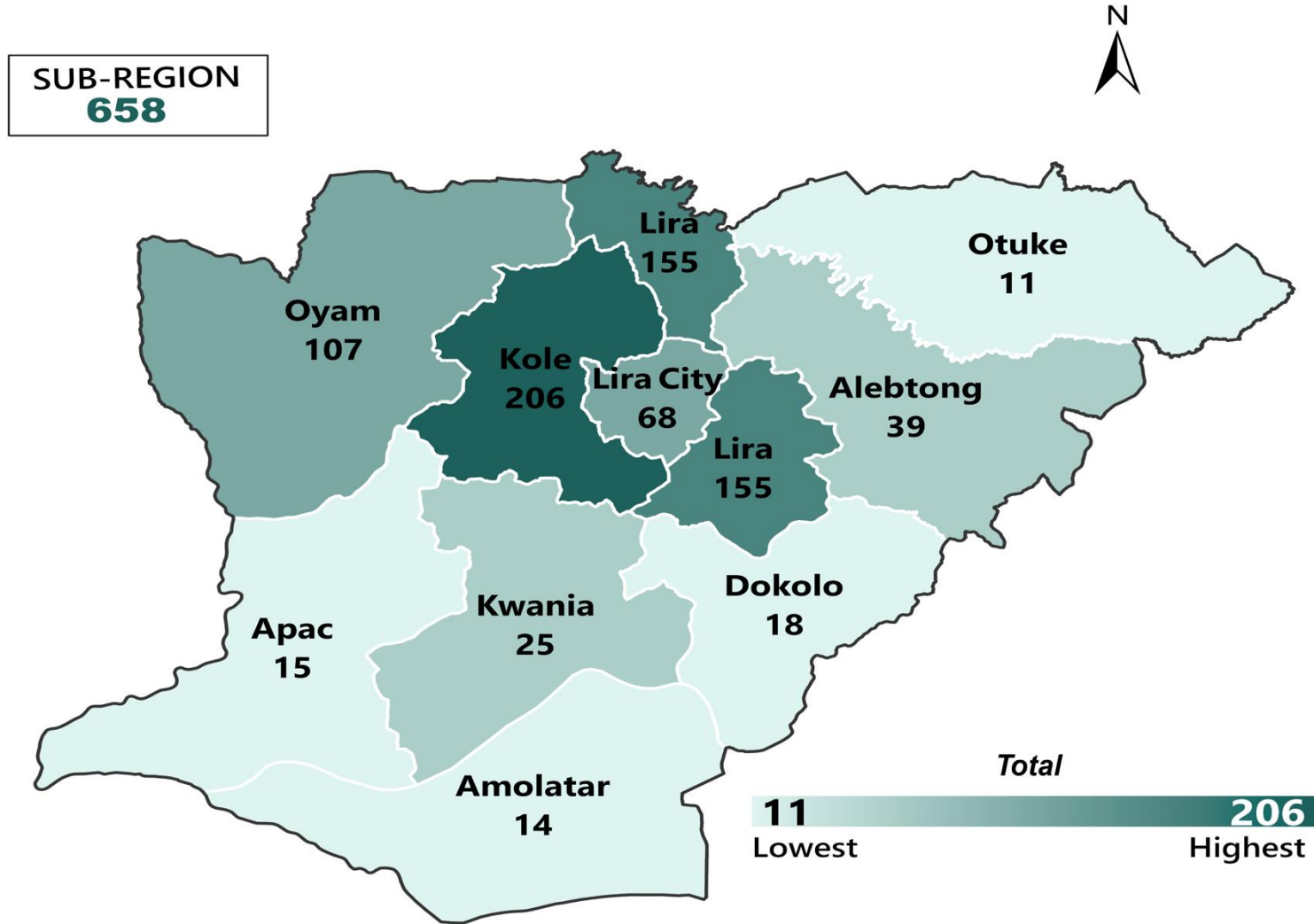
Aquaculture Farms in Rwenzori Sub-Region



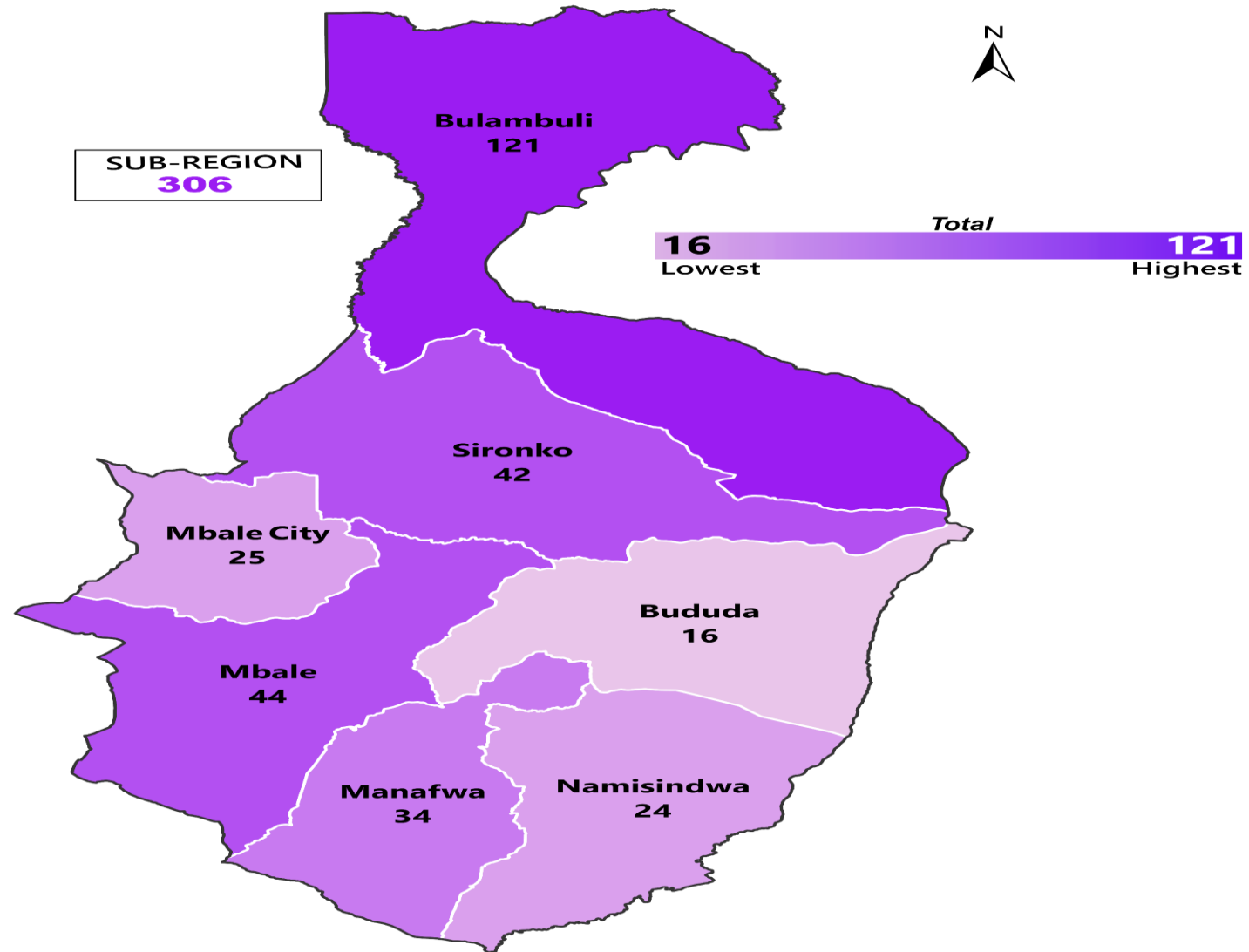
Aquaculture Farms in Acholi Sub-Region



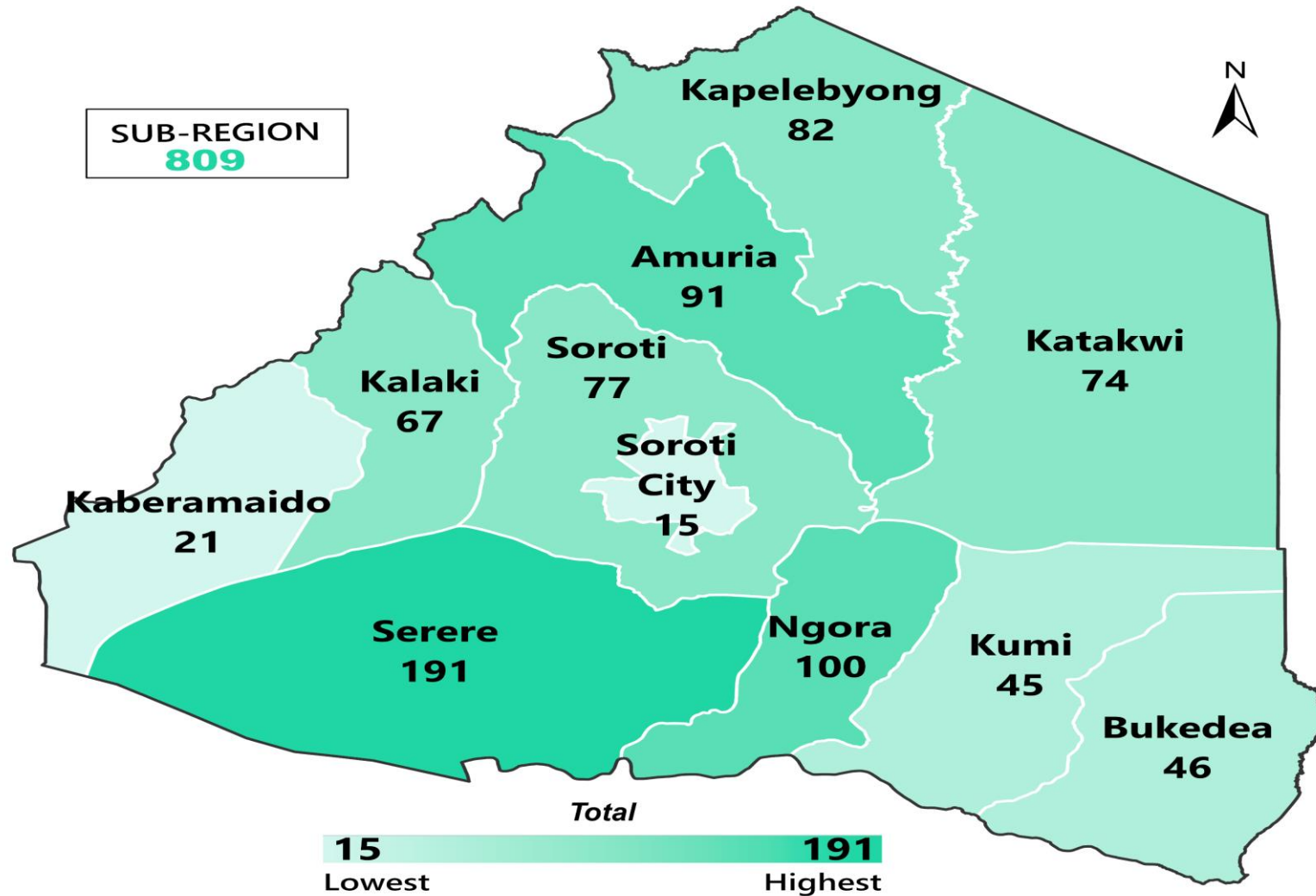
Aquaculture Farms in Lango Sub-Region



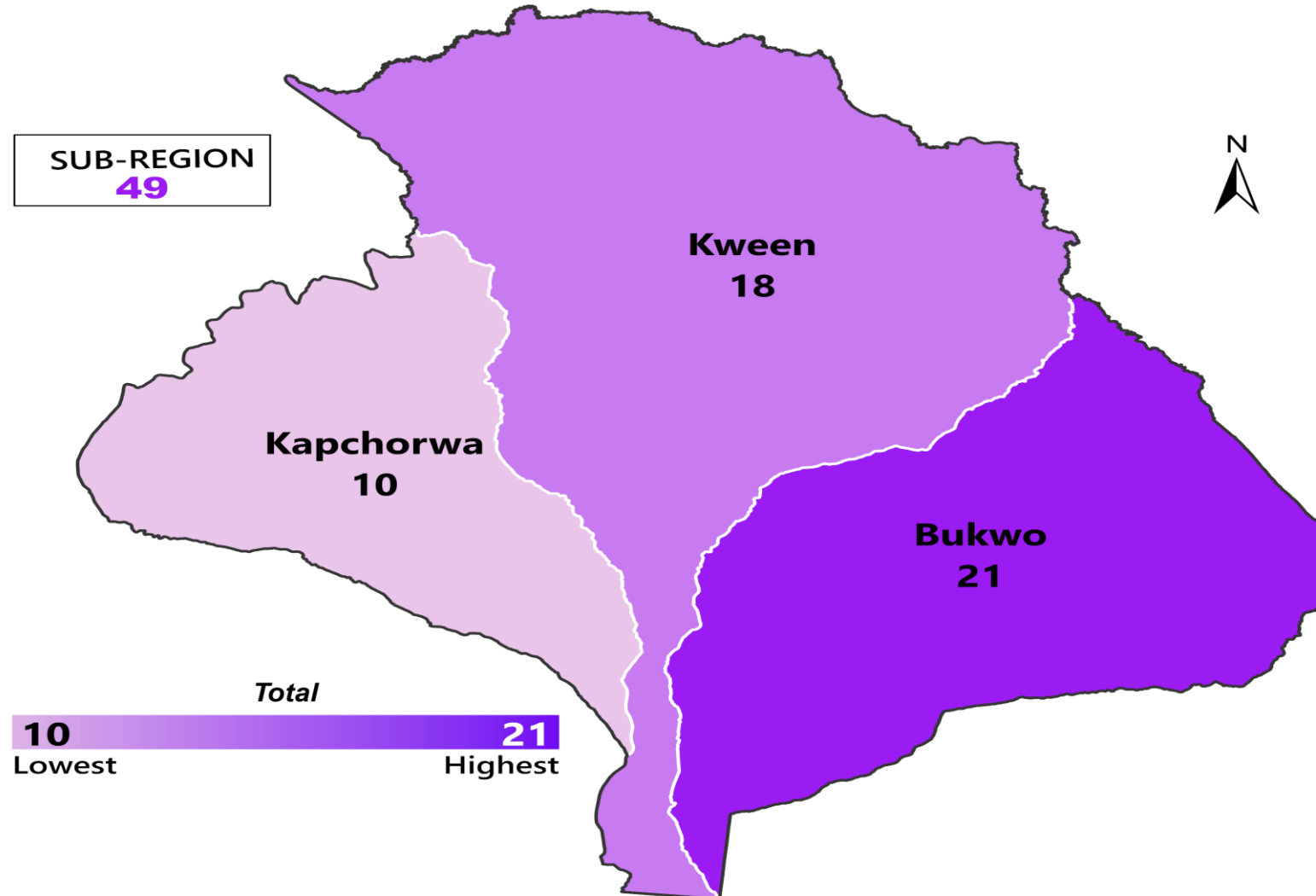
Aquaculture Farms in Bugisu Sub-Region



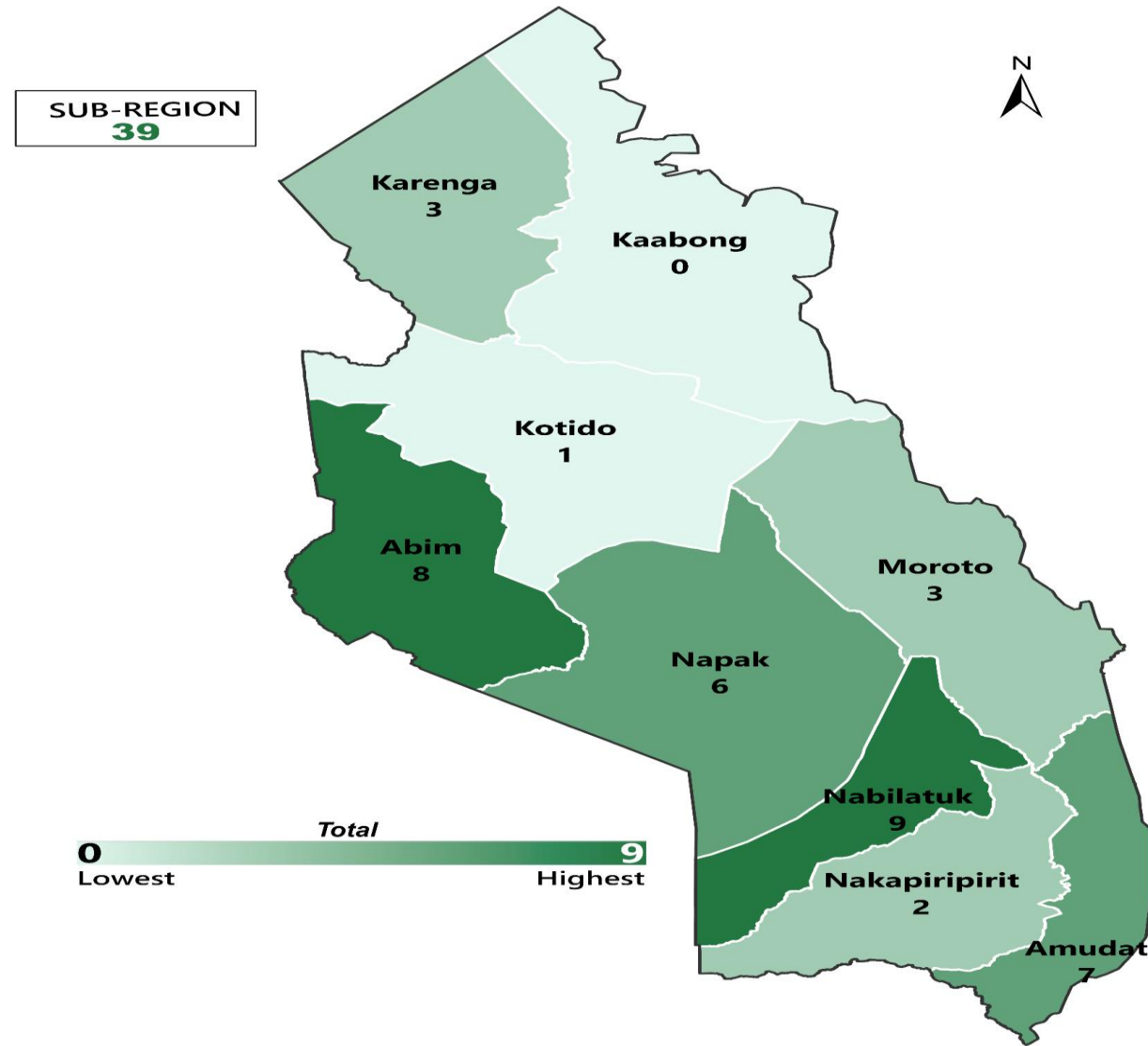
Aquaculture Farms in Teso Sub-Region



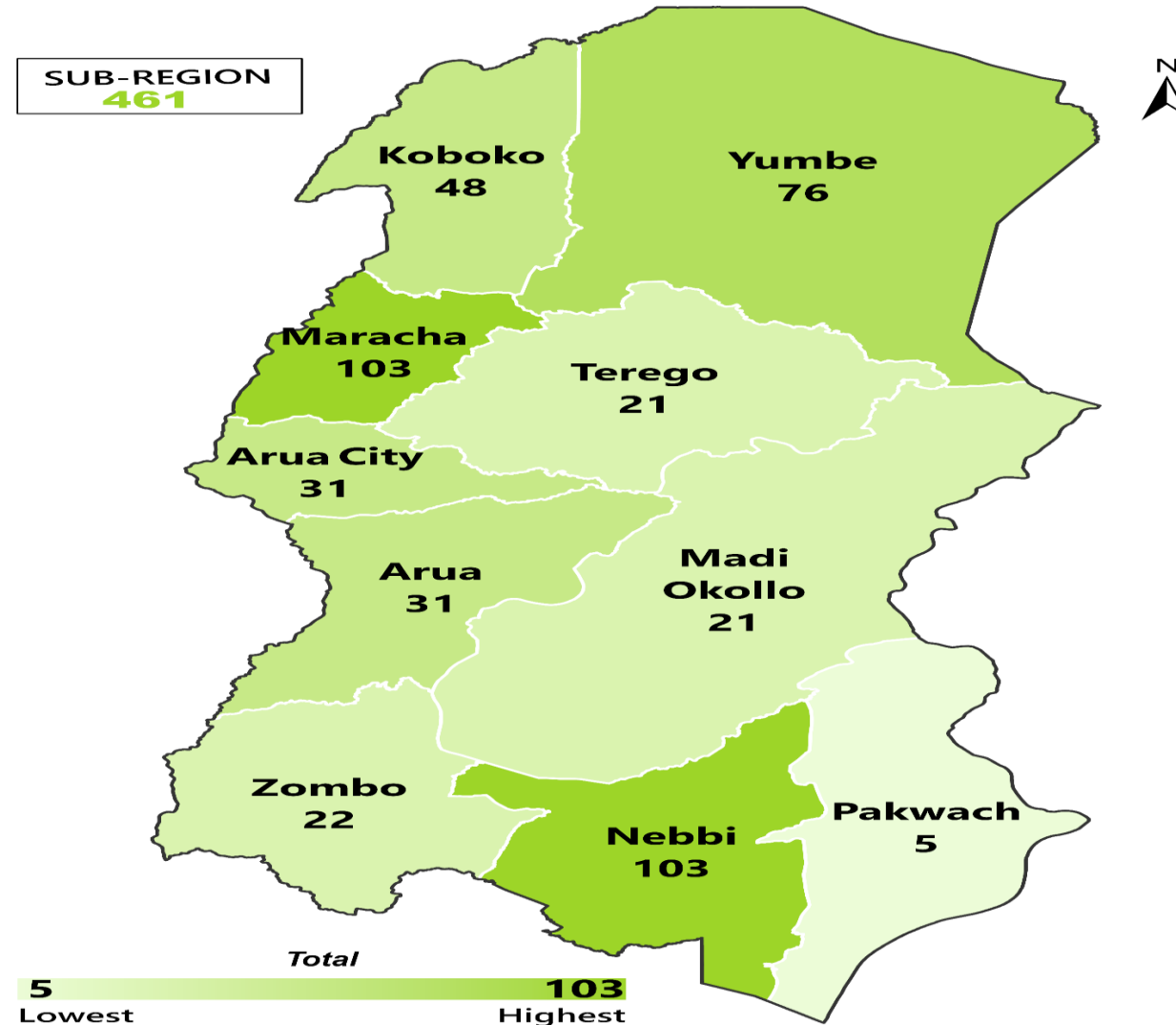
Aquaculture Farms in Sebei Sub-Region



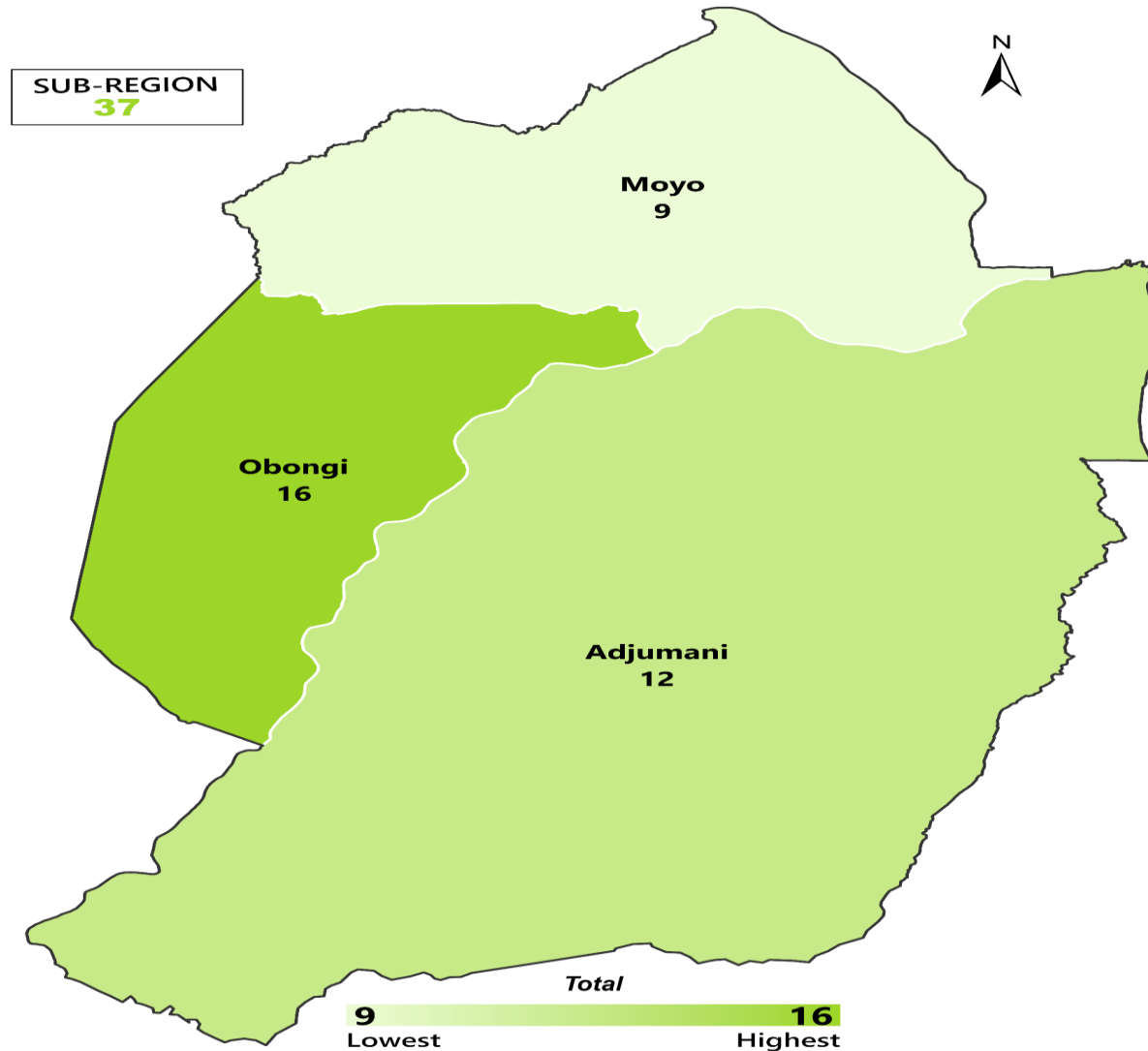
Aquaculture Farms in Karamoja Sub-Region



Aquaculture Farms in West Nile Sub-Region

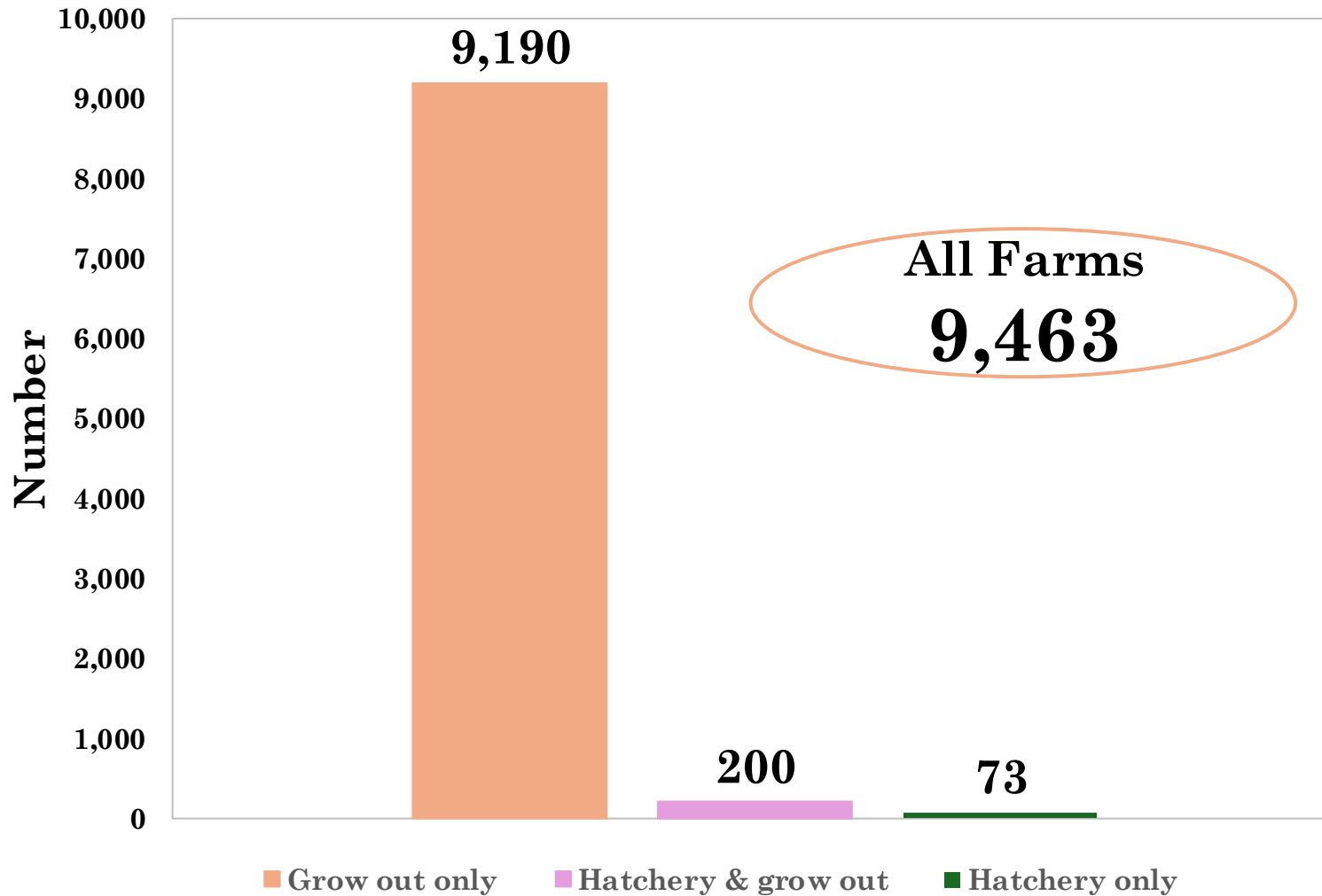


Aquaculture Farms in Madi Sub-Region



AQUACULTURE FARM CHARACTERISTICS

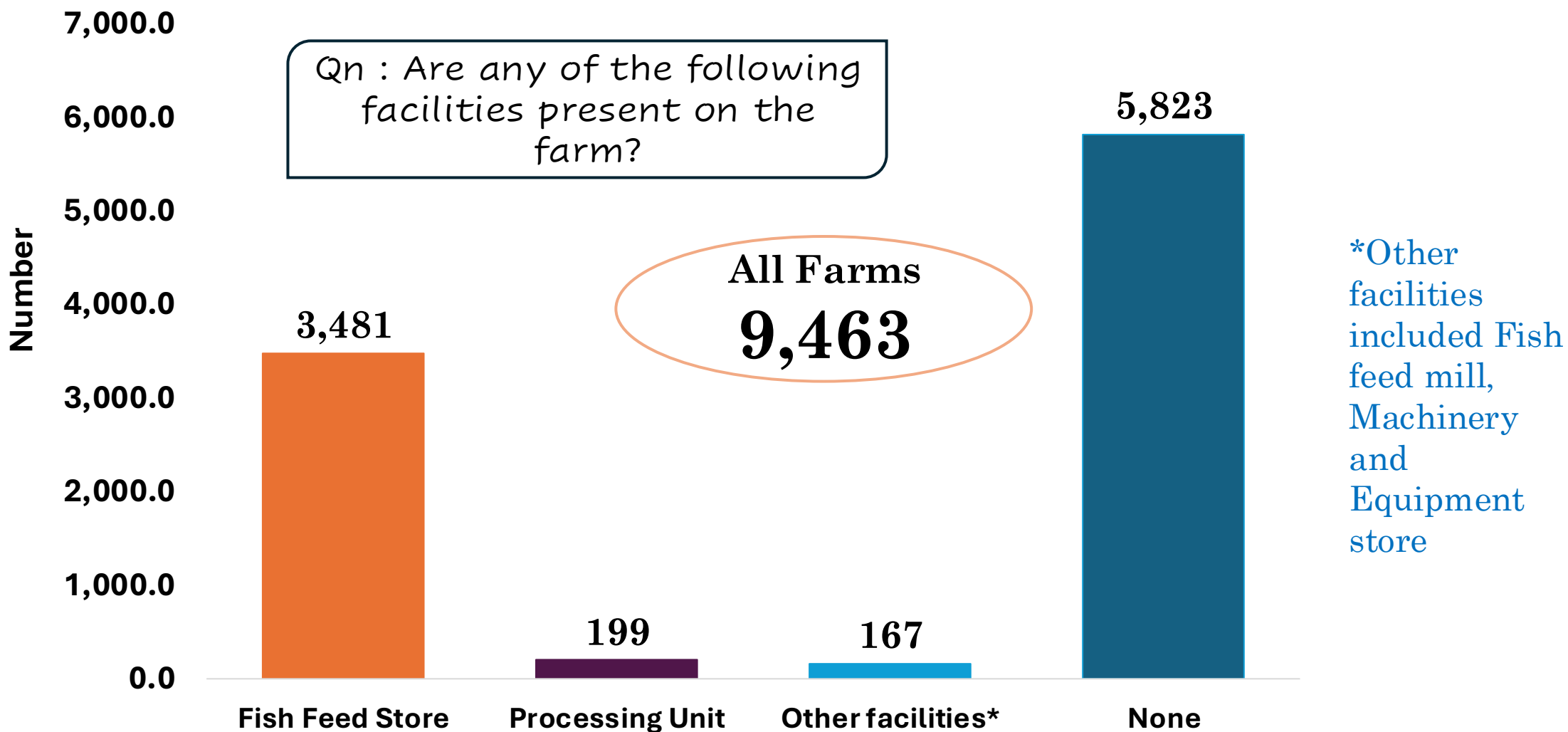
Farms by Nature of Production Activity



Grow-out, Hatchery or Both

- **97.1 percent** of the farms engaged in grow-out production only,
- **2.1 percent** engaged in both grow-out and hatchery production
- **0.8 percent** of the farms were engaged in hatchery only

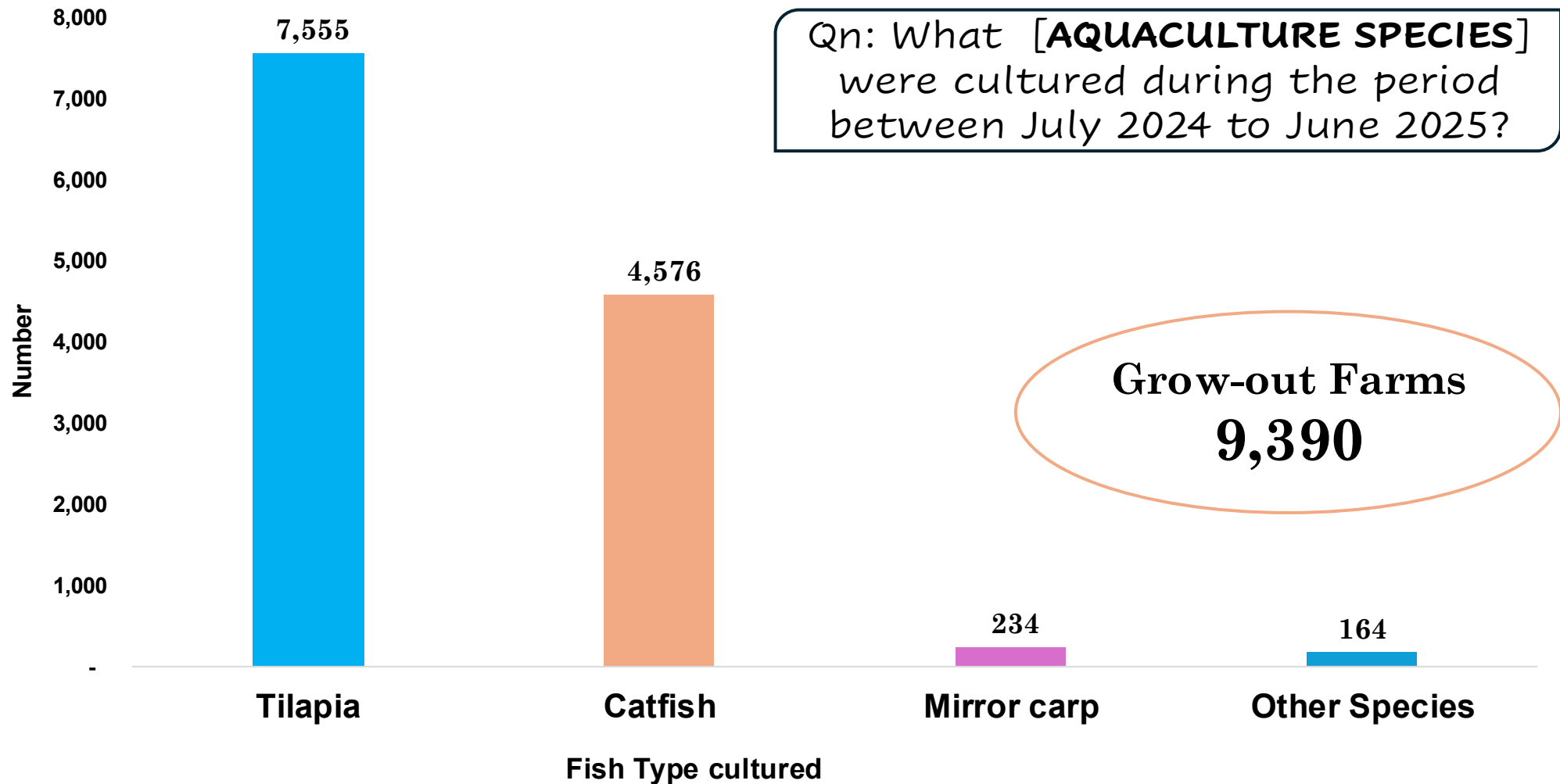
Aquaculture Farms by Presence of an Aquaculture Facility

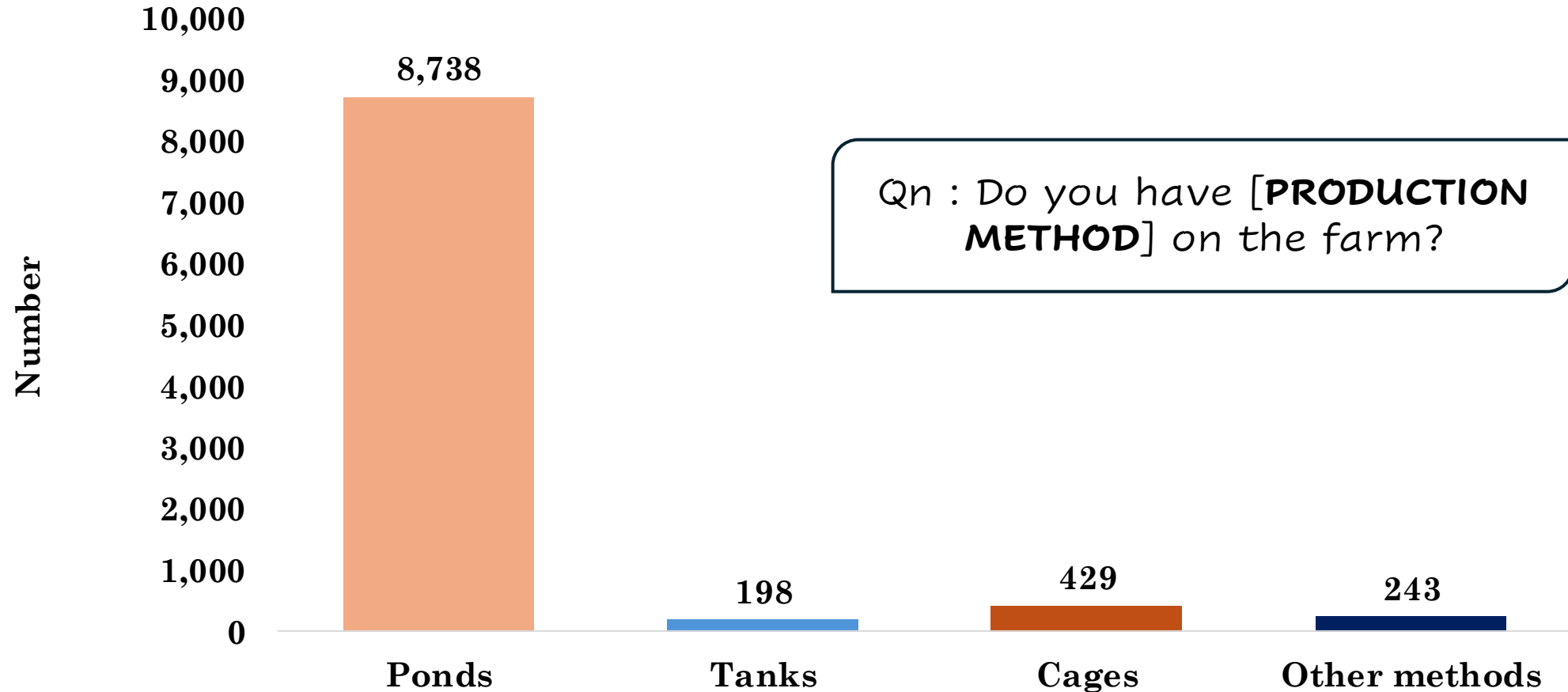


SPECIES CULTURED AND PRODUCTION METHOD USED

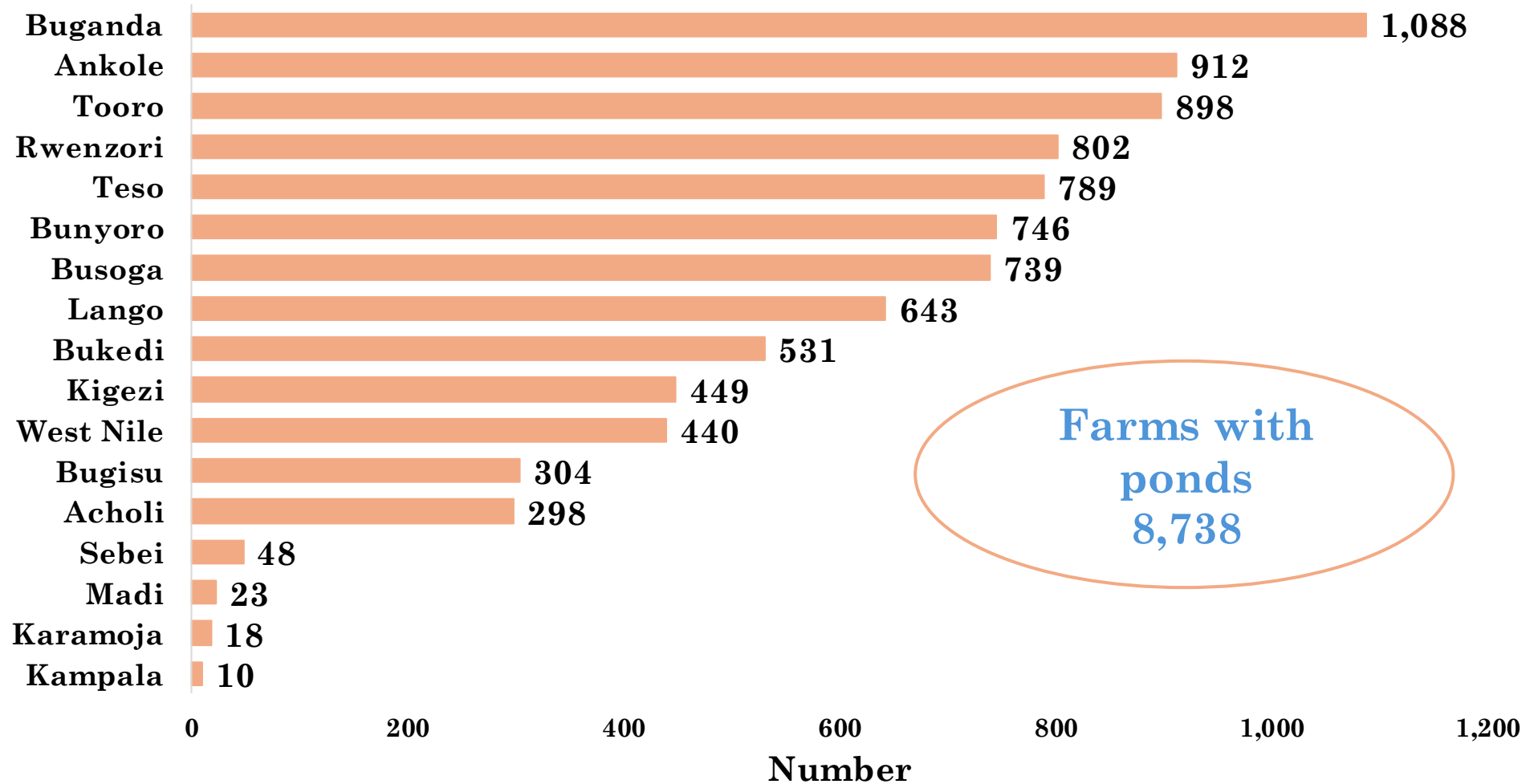


Grow-out Farms by Fish Species cultured





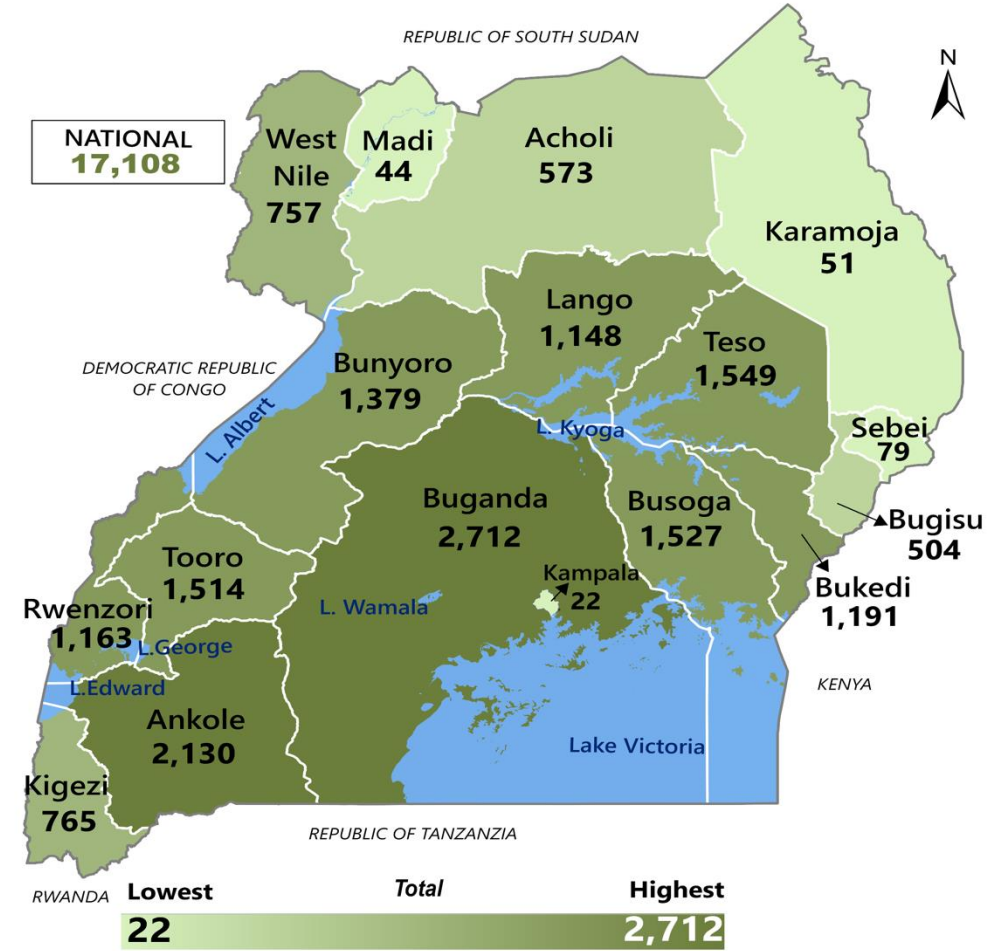
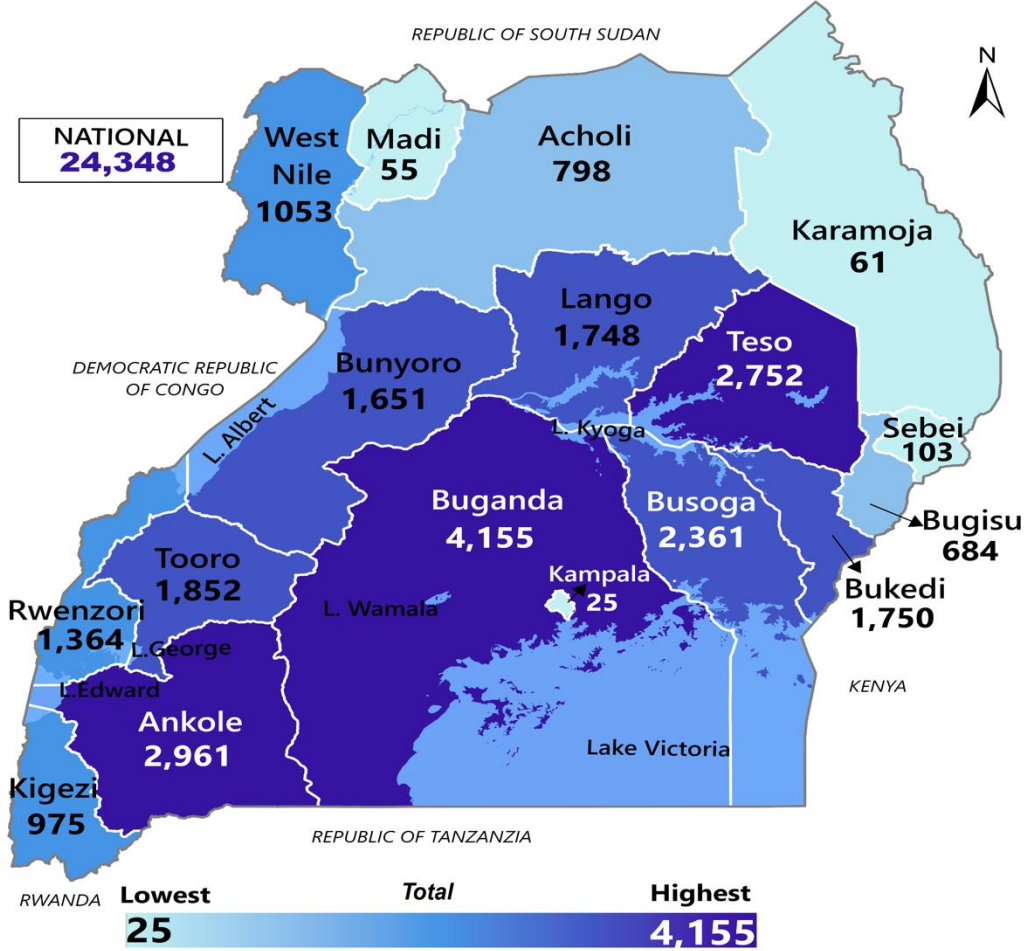
Grow-out Farms with Ponds by Sub region



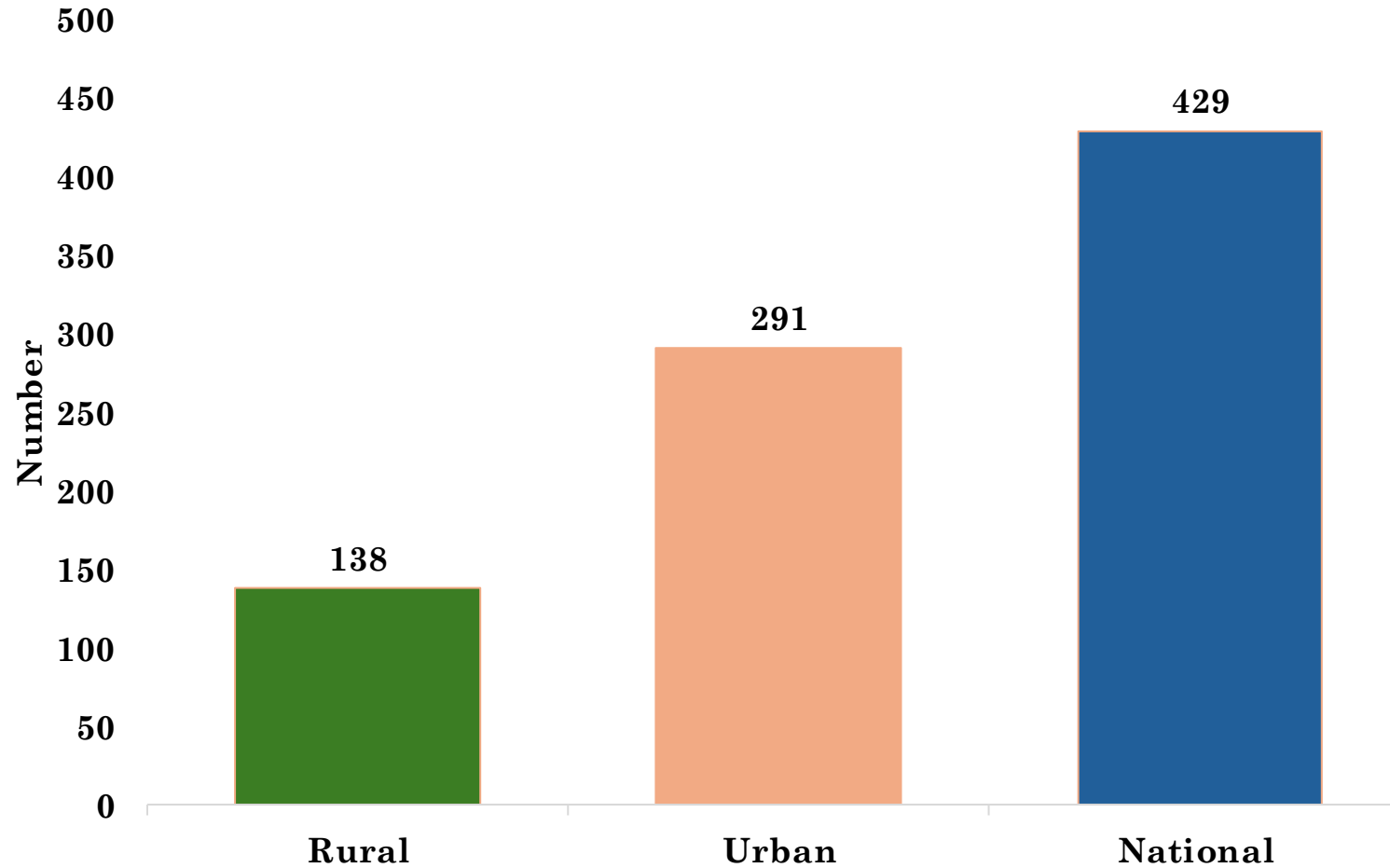
Number of Ponds by Sub-region & Stocking Status

All Ponds

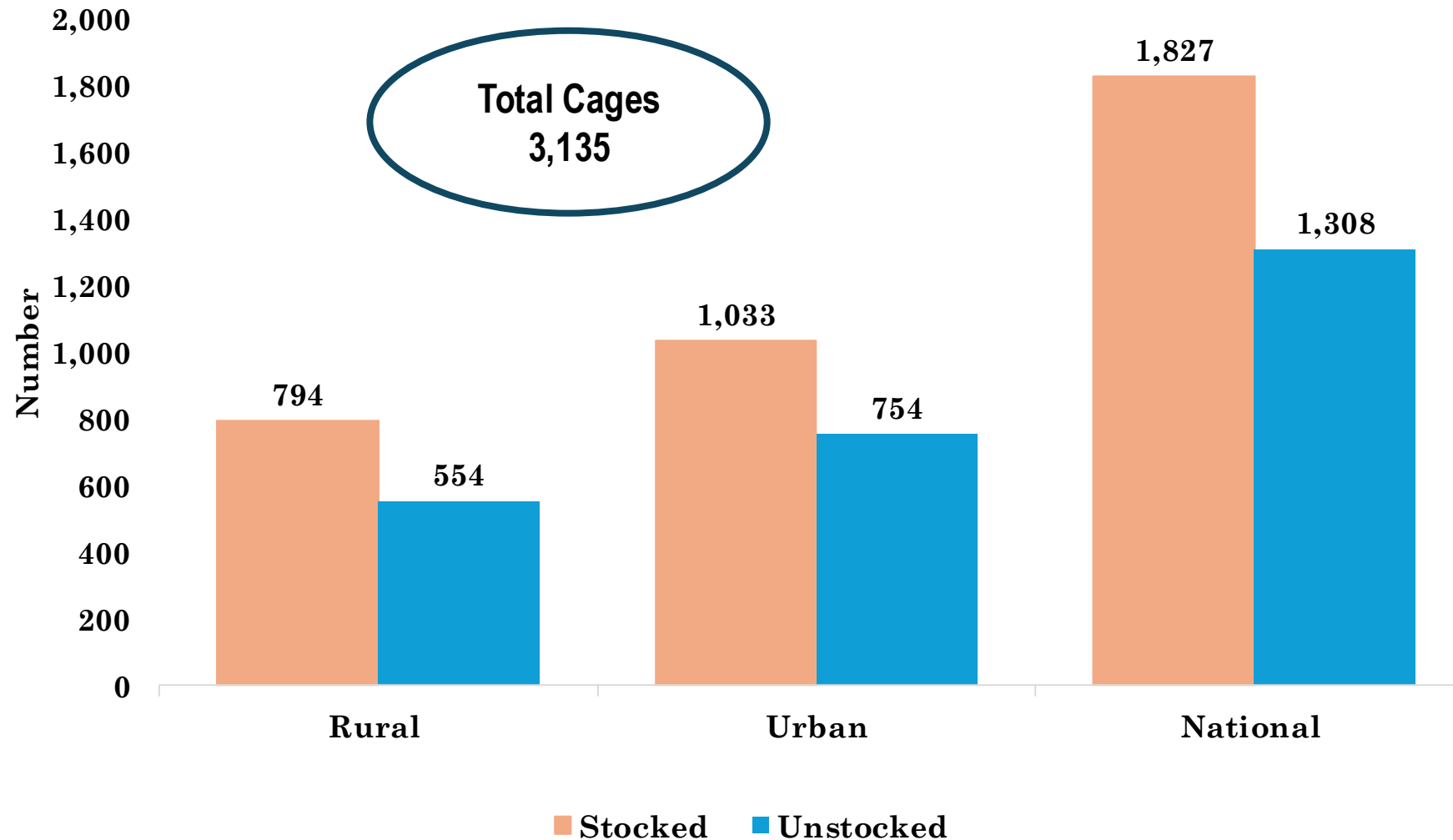
Stocked Ponds



Grow-out farms with Cages

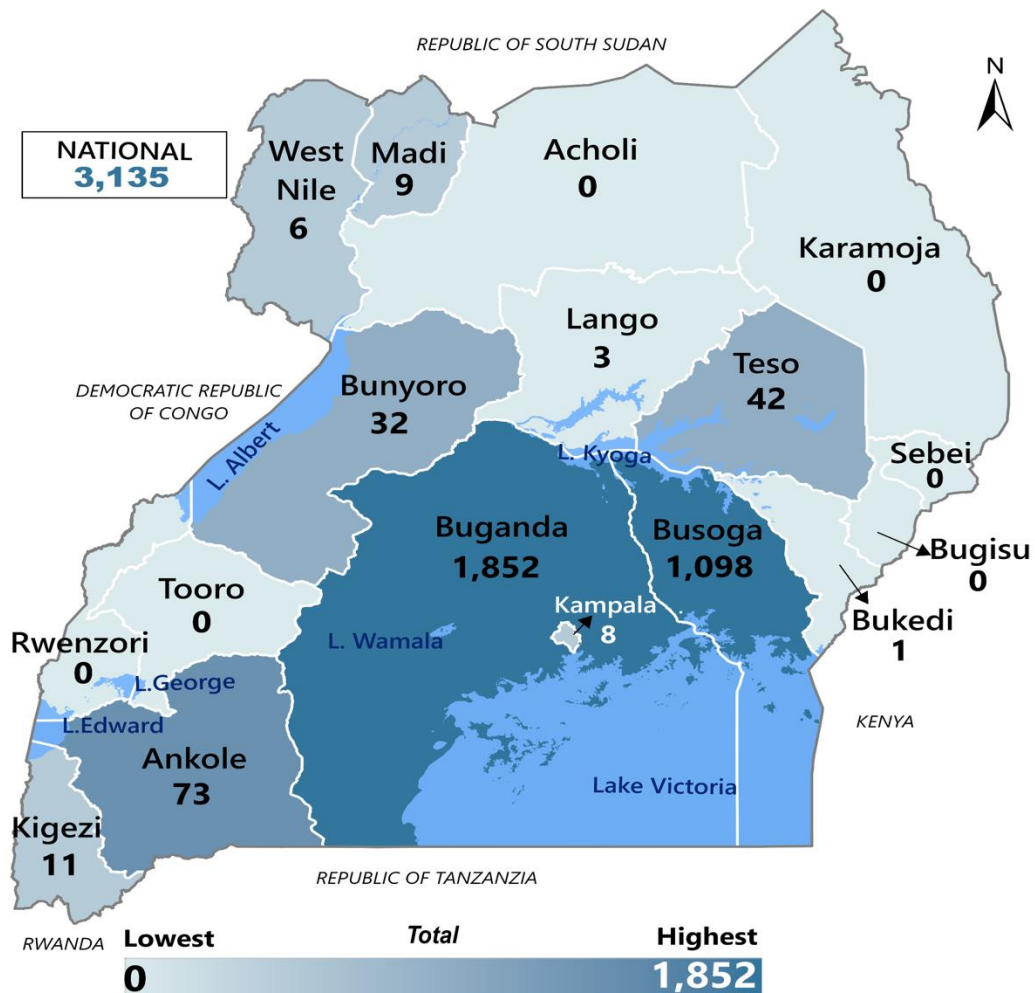


Number of Cages by Stocking Status and Rural-Urban

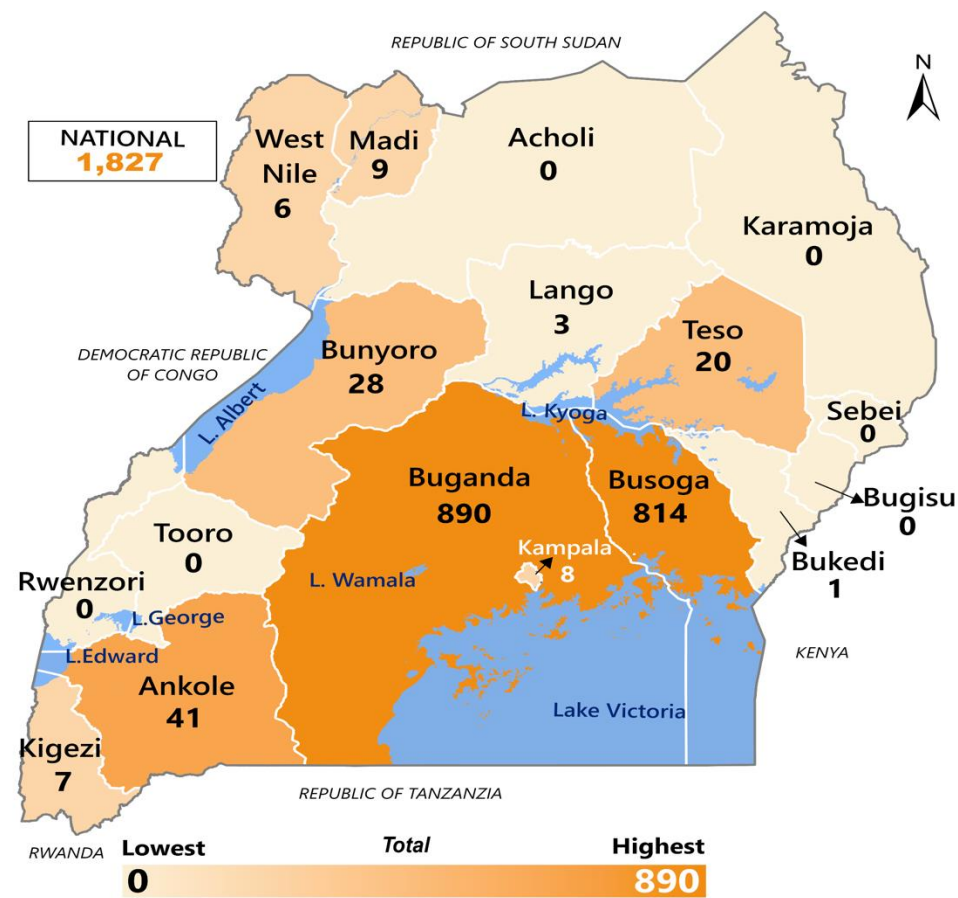


Number of Cages by Sub-region & Stocking Status

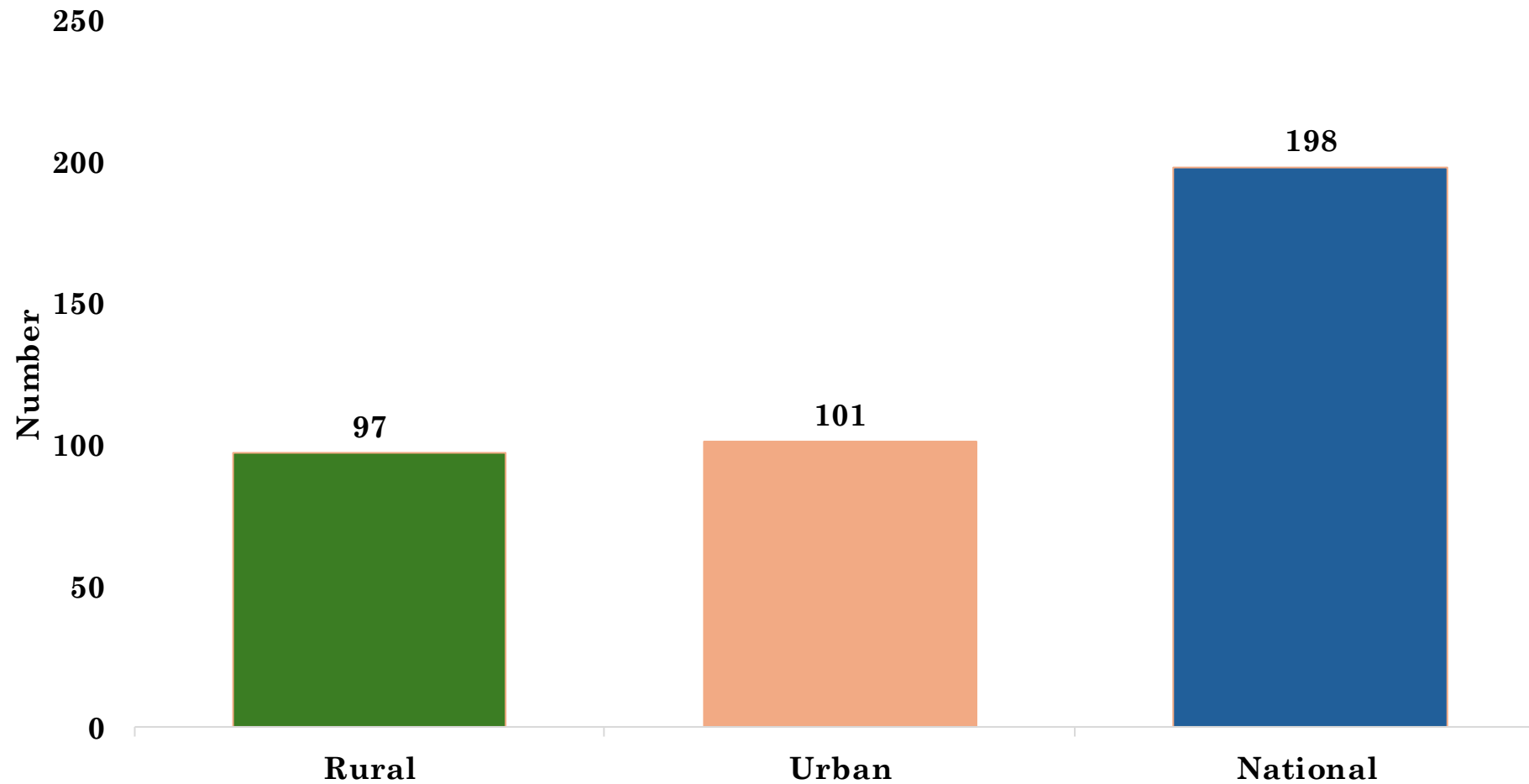
All Cages



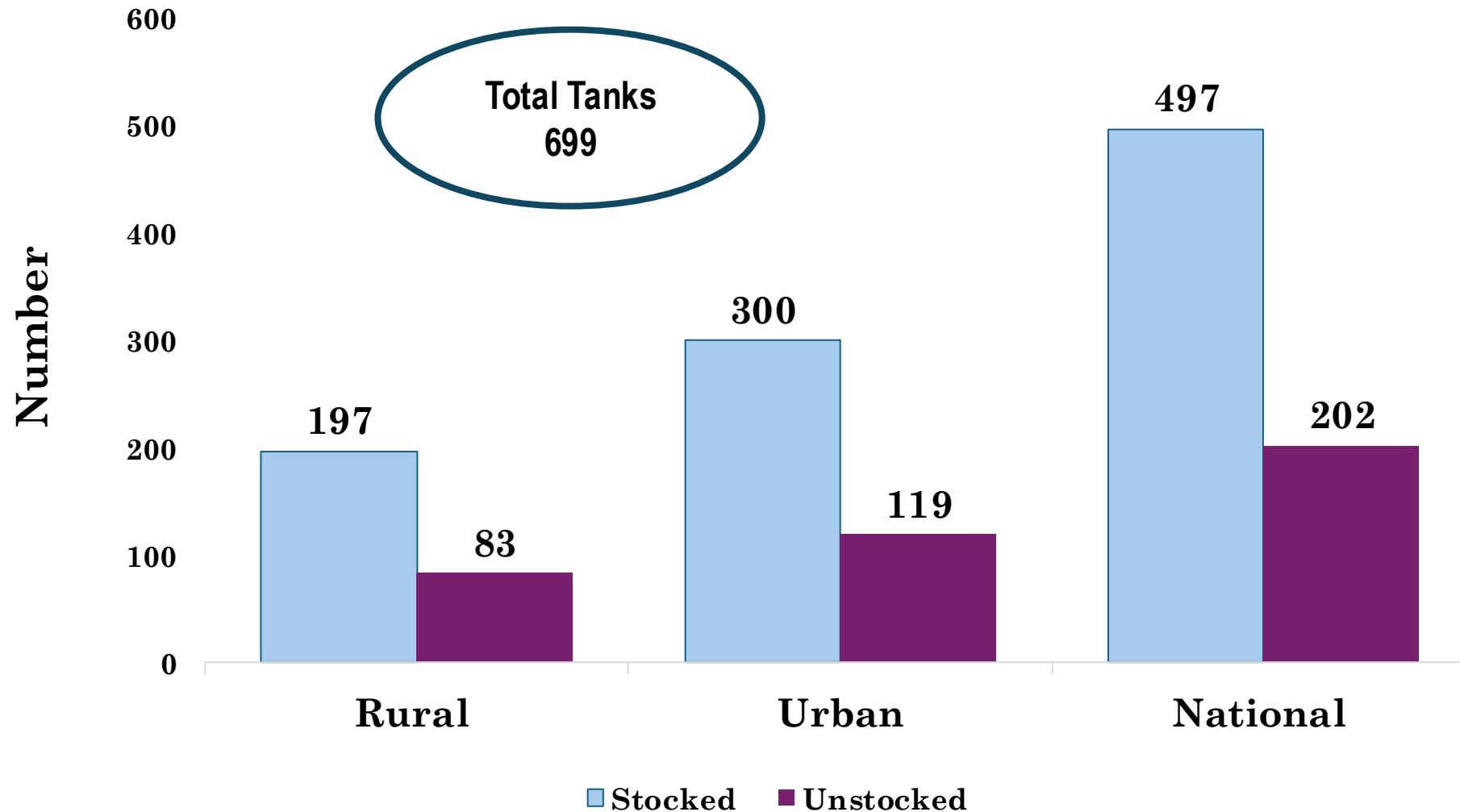
Stocked Cages



Grow-out Farms with Tanks by Rural-Urban



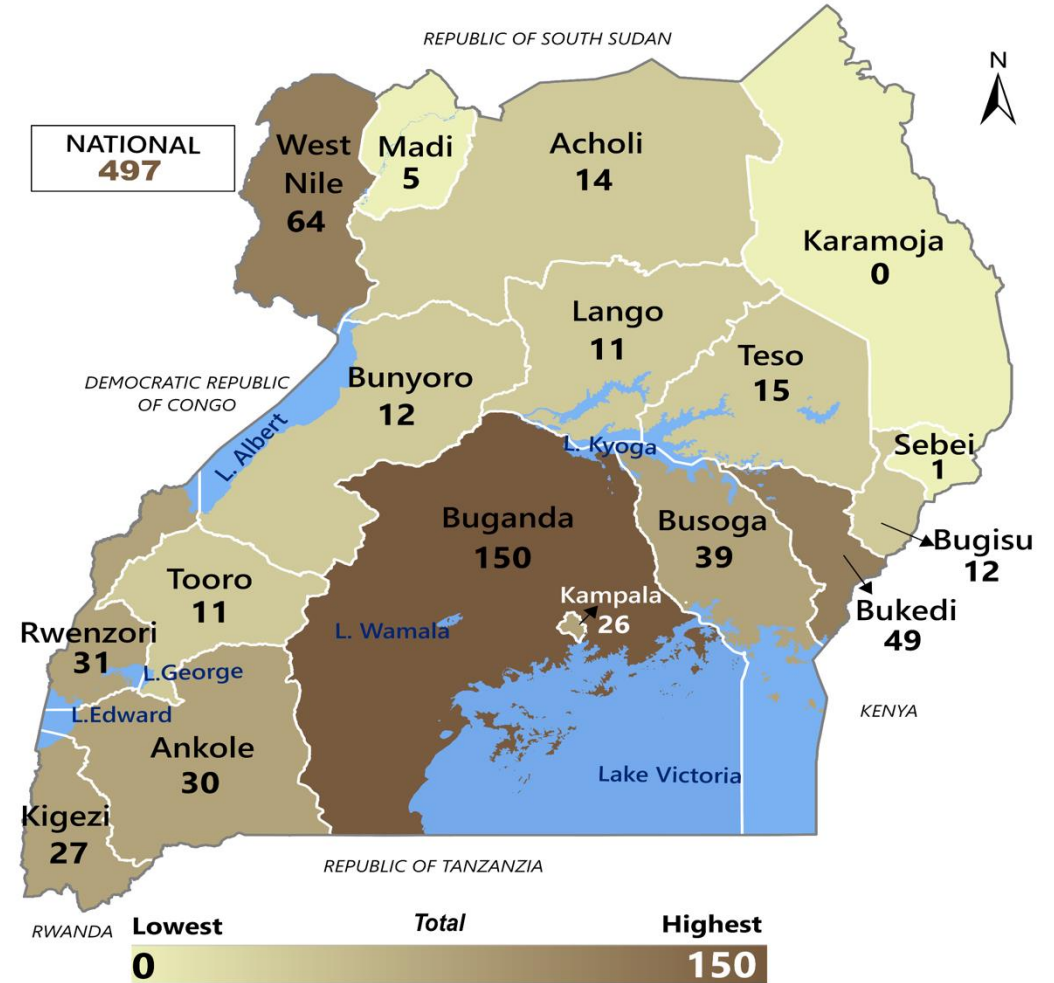
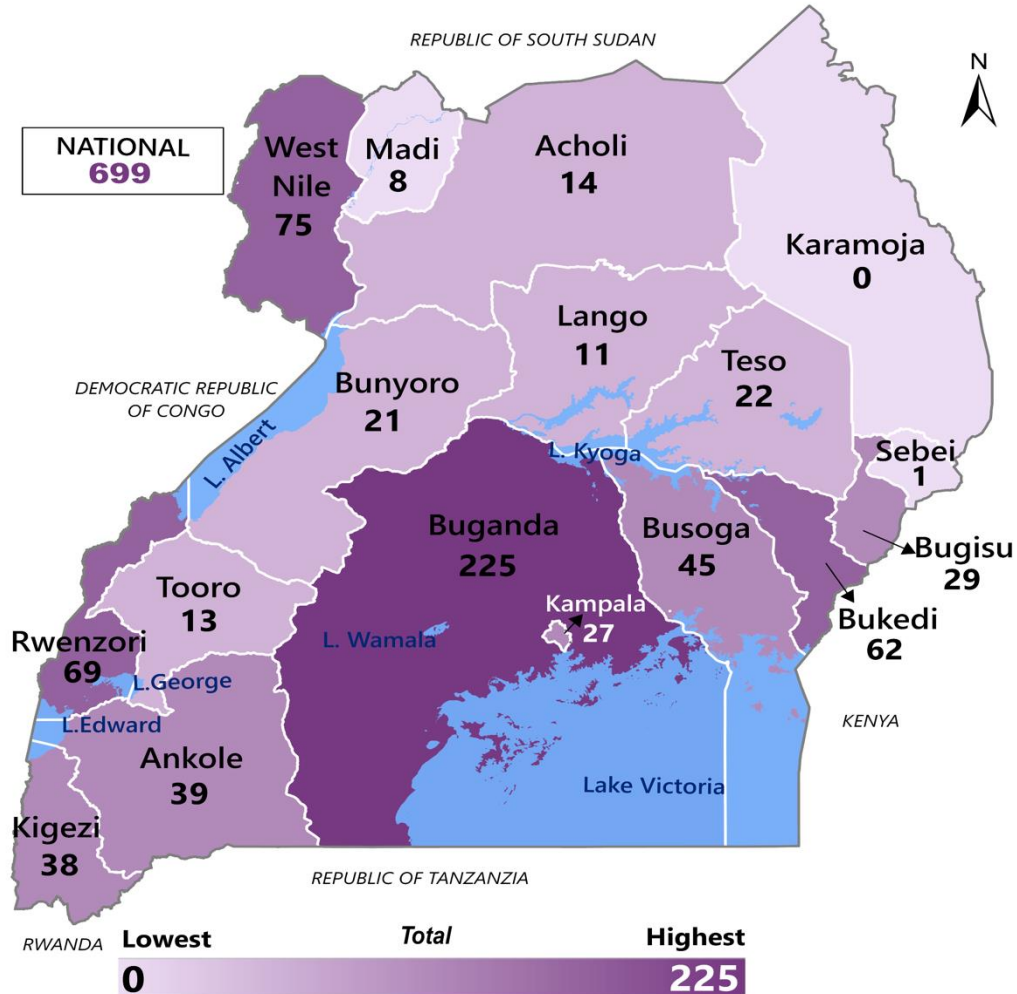
Number of Tanks by Stocking Status and Rural Urban



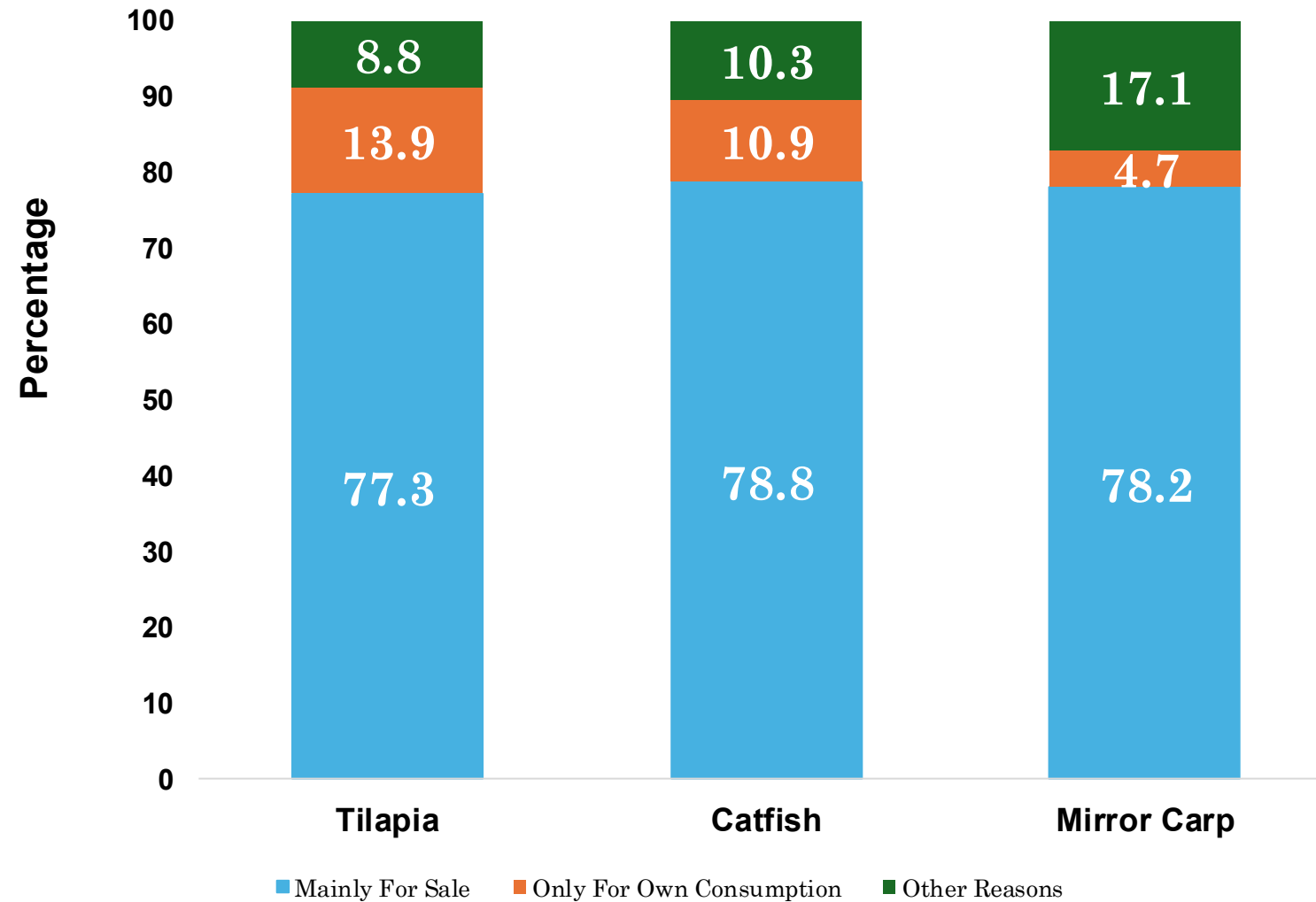
Number of Tanks by Sub-region & Stocking Status

All Tanks

Stocked Tanks



Main Purpose for Fish Farming by Fish Species

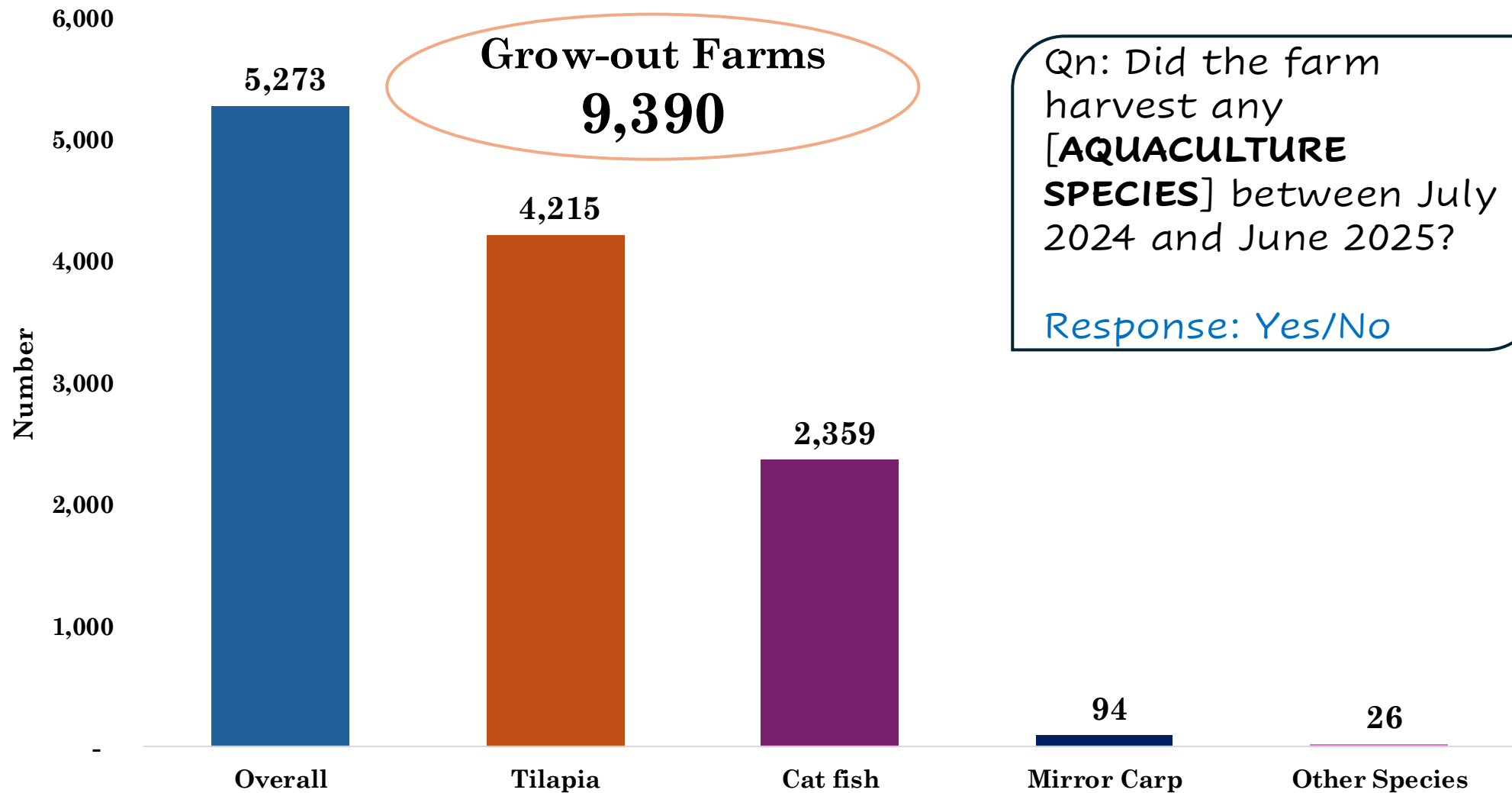


Qn: What was the main purpose of production of [AQUACULTURE SPECIES]?

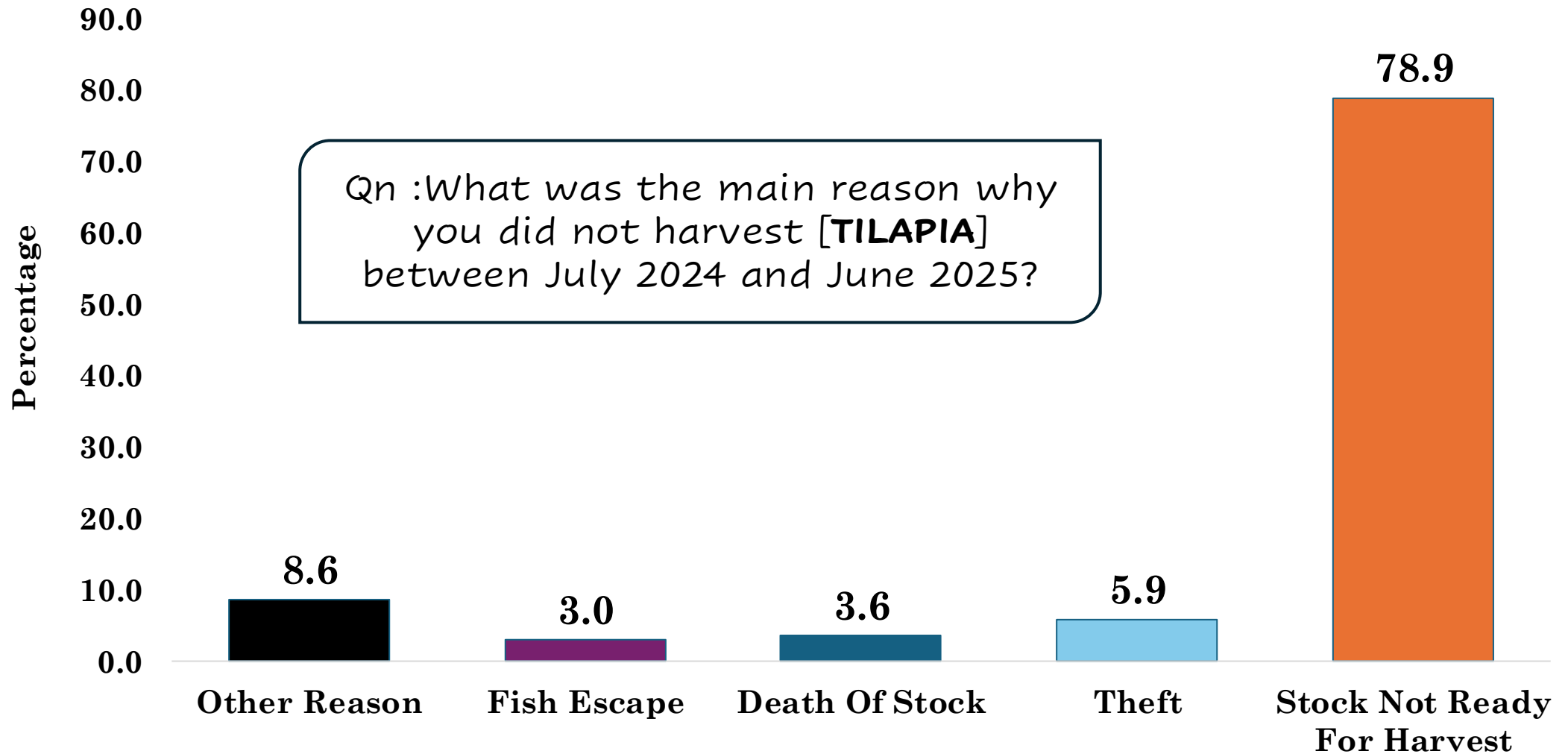
Other reasons include; Bait, training, recreation

AQUACULTURE PRODUCTION

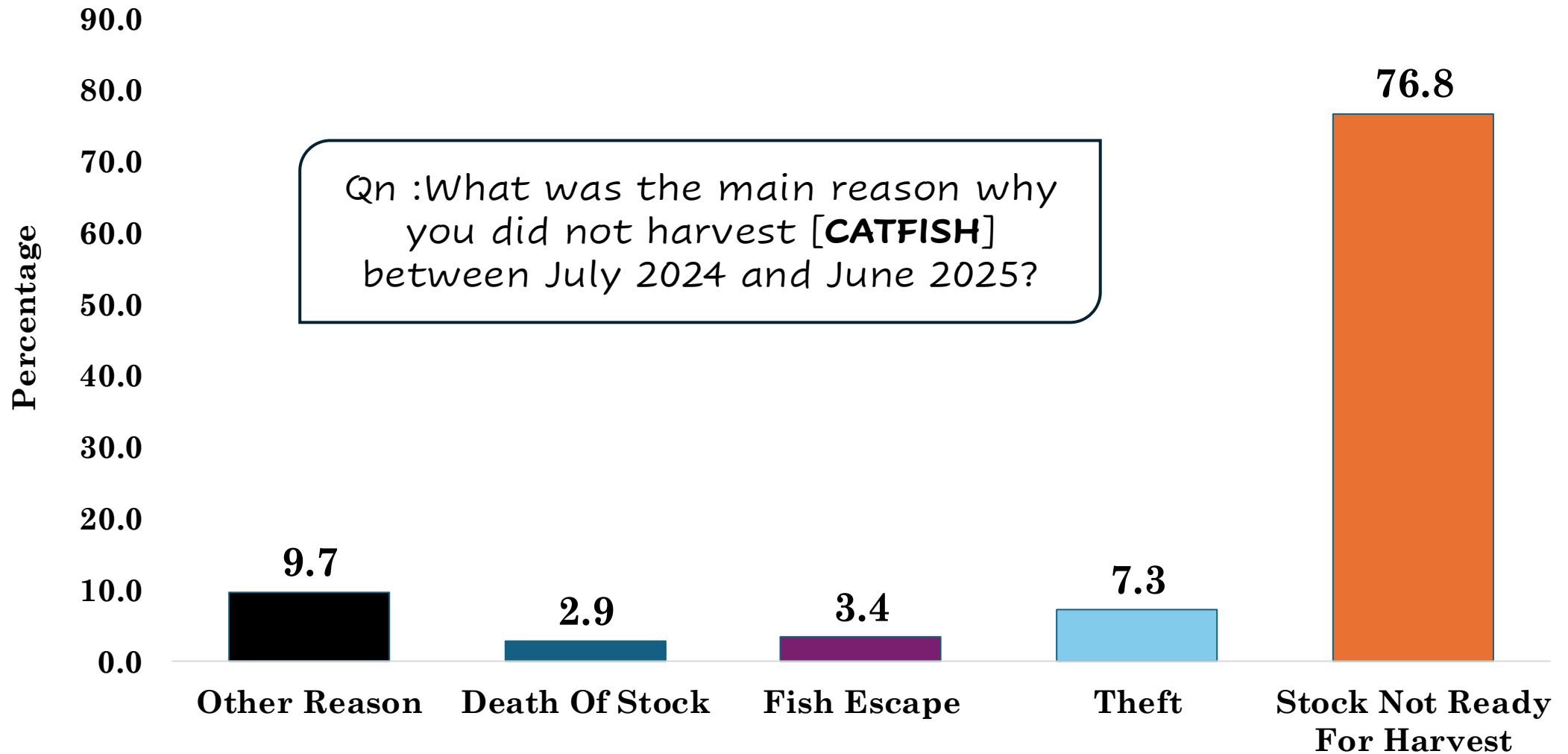
Number of Grow-out Farms that Harvested by Species



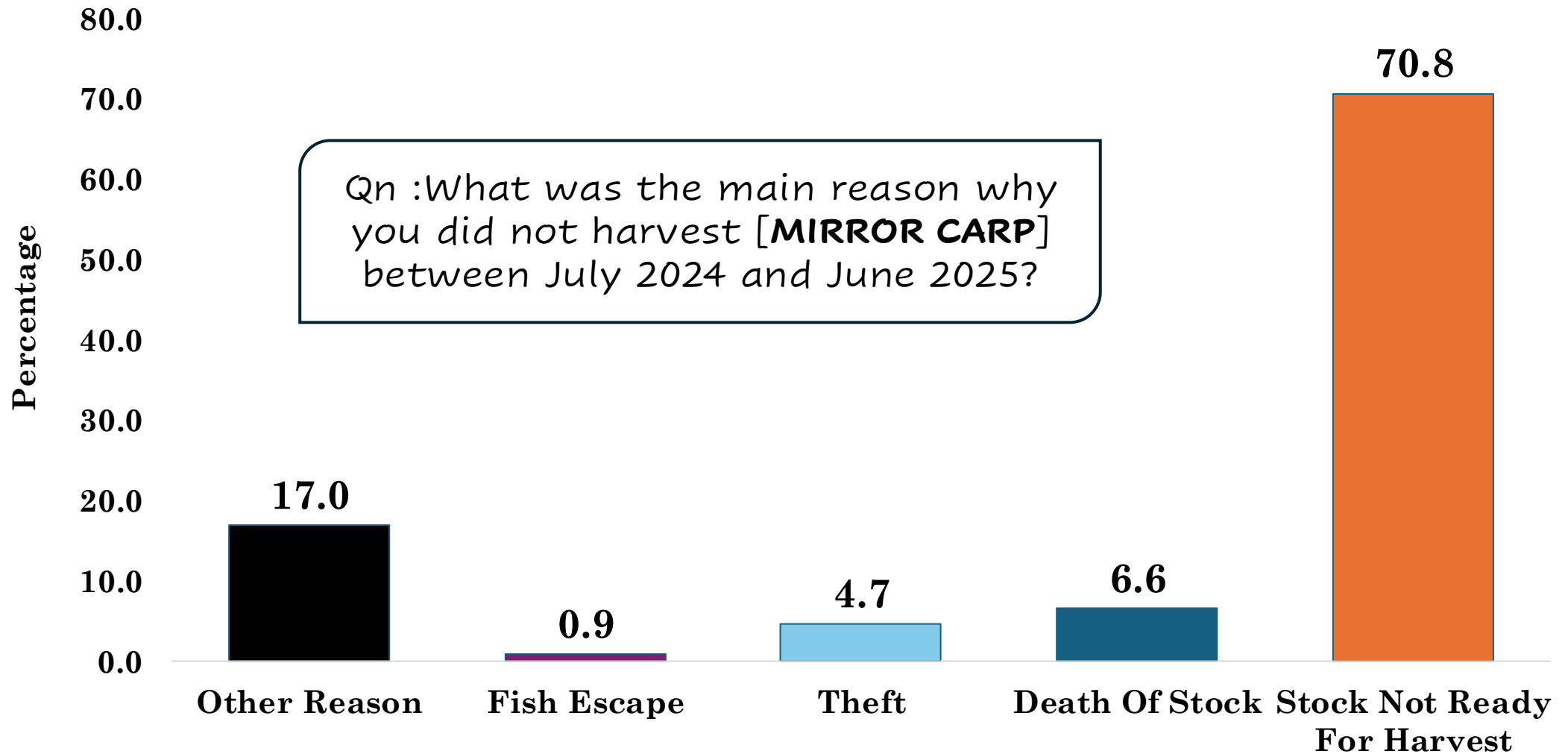
Reasons for Not Harvesting Tilapia

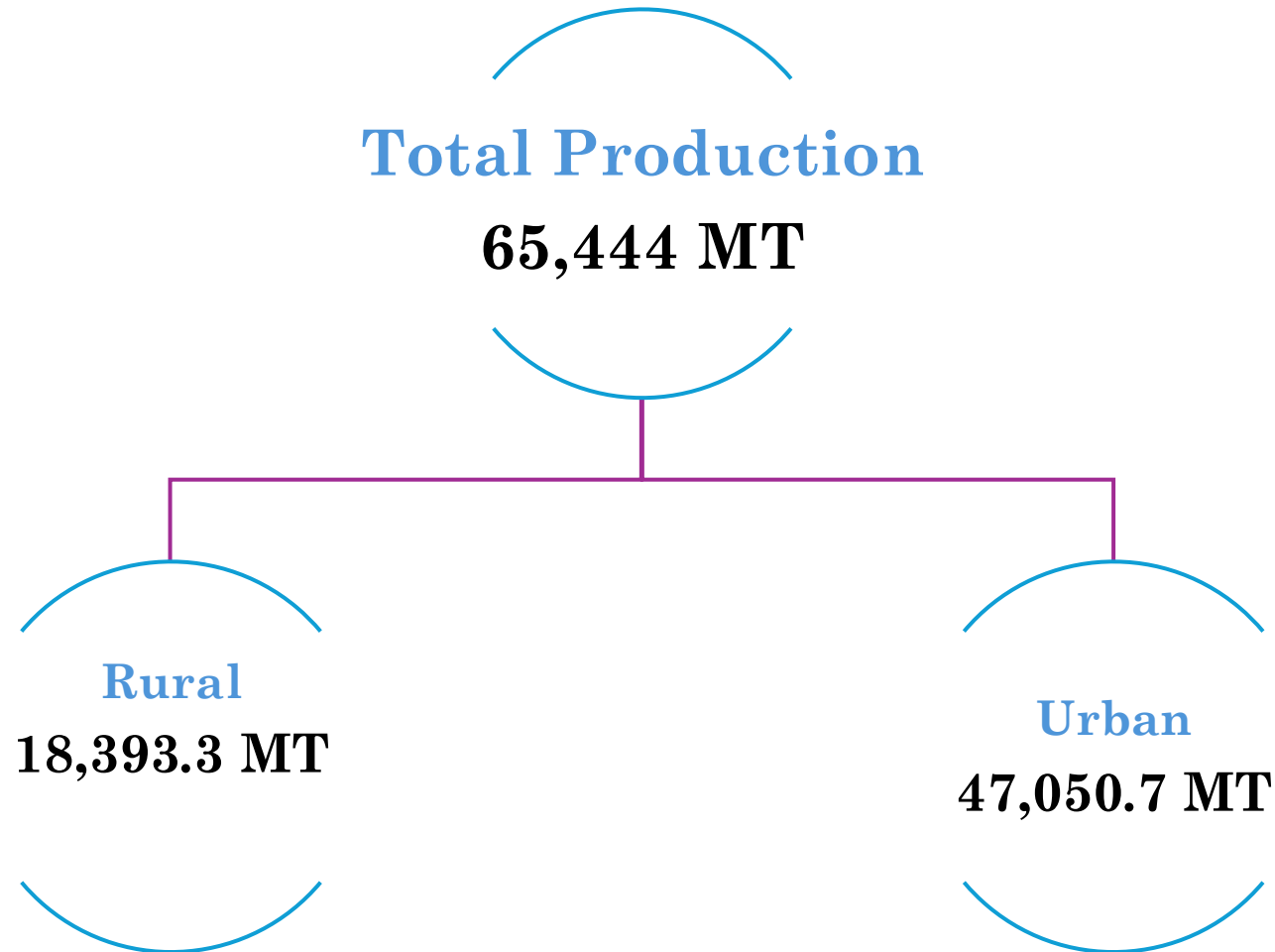


Reasons for Not Harvesting Catfish



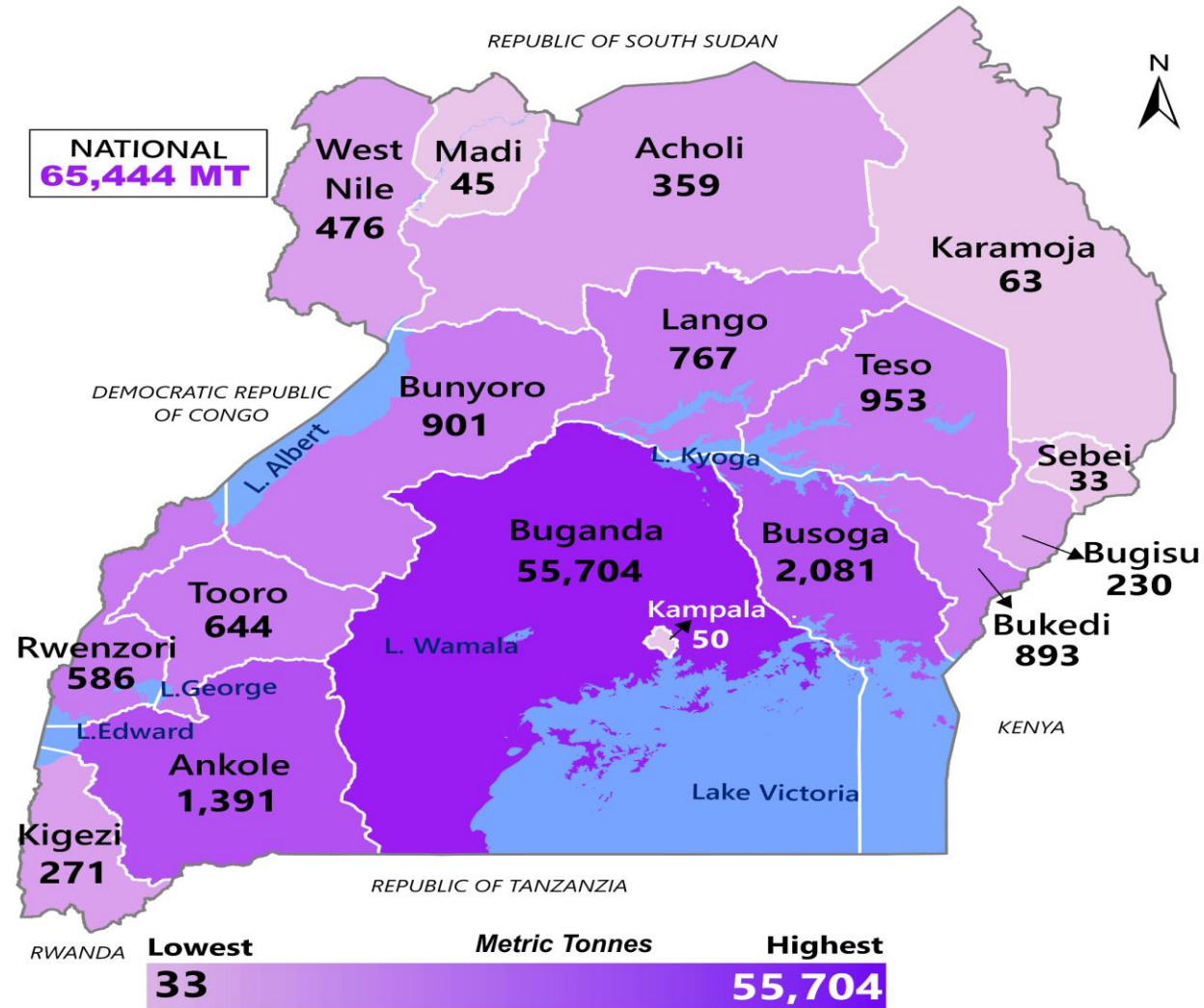
Reasons for Not Harvesting Mirror carp





- 72.1% was from Urban farms
- 27.9% was from Rural farms

Total Production by Sub-region



Production by Species

Tilapia
53,924.1 (MT)

Tilapia
82.4%

Catfish 11,347.4 (MT)

Catfish
17.3%

Mirror carp
111.4 (MT)

Mirror Carp
0.2%

Other species
61.1 (MT)

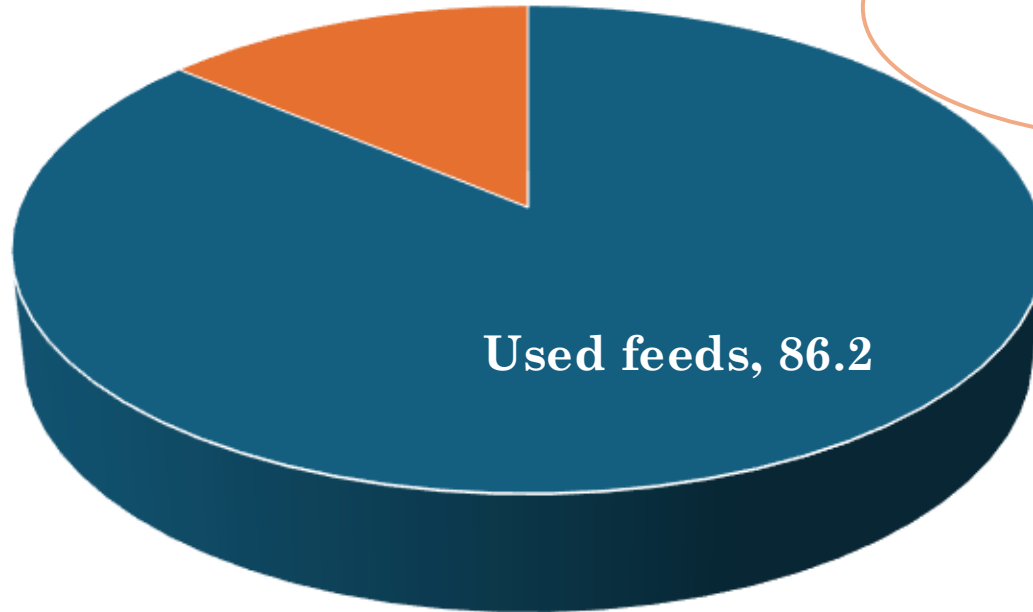
Other Species
0.1%

**Total Fish
production**
65,444 (MT)

AQUACULTURE INPUTS

Grow-out Farms that Used Feed, Percent

Did not use feeds, 13.8



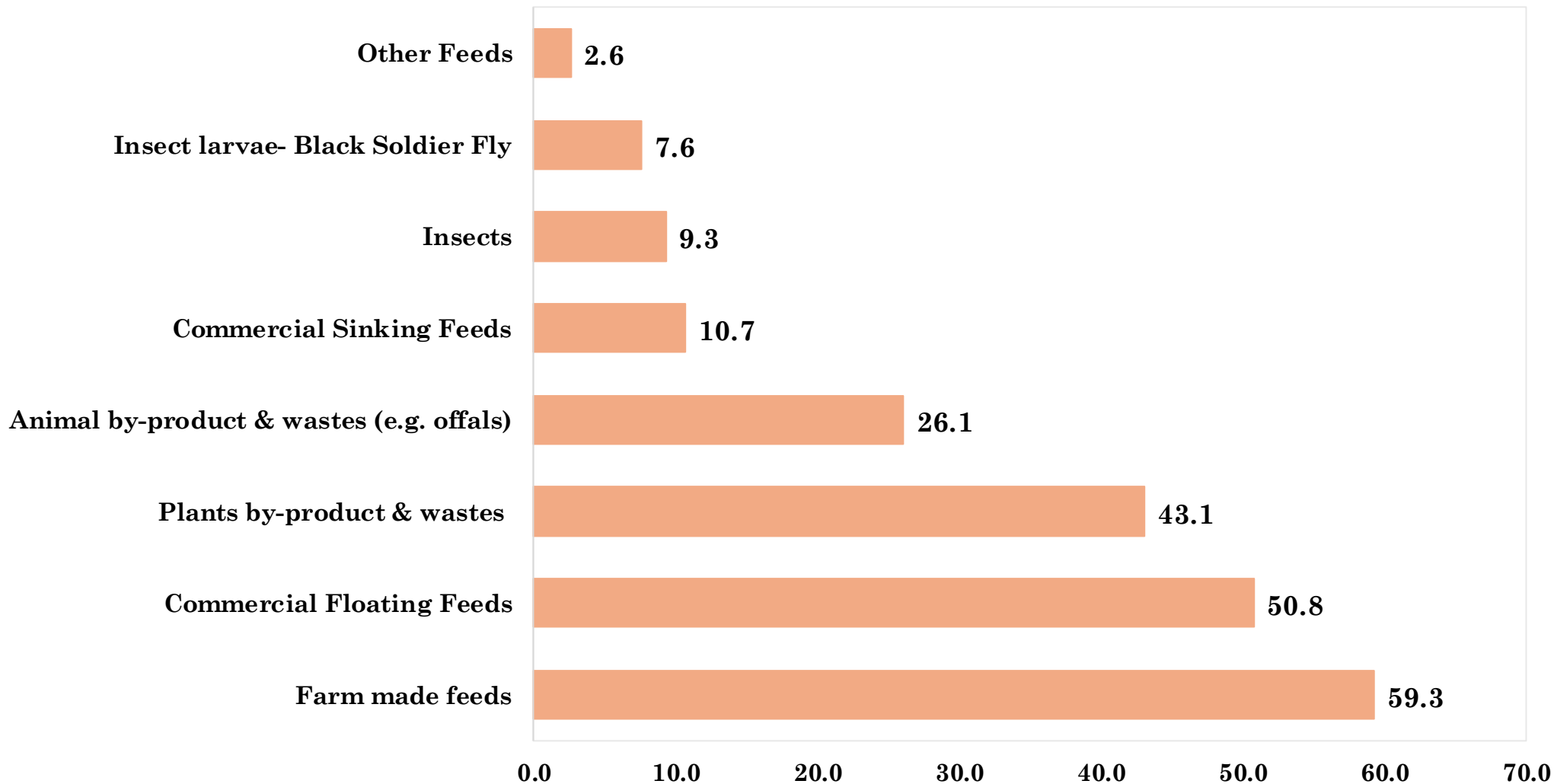
■ Used feeds ■ Did not use feeds

9,390
Grow-out
Farms

Qn :Did you use any of the feed types between July 2024 and June 2025?

1. Commercial floating feeds
2. Commercial Sinking feeds
3. Farm made feeds
4. Natural feeds/ Self feeding
5. Plants by-products and wastes
6. Animal by-products and wastes
7. Insect larvae
8. Insects
9. Others specify

Feed Type used by Grow-out farms, Percent

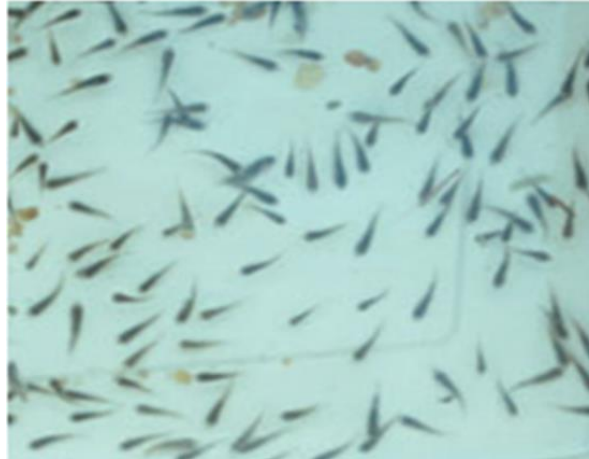


FISH SEED USED

Tilapia Fingerlings



Fry



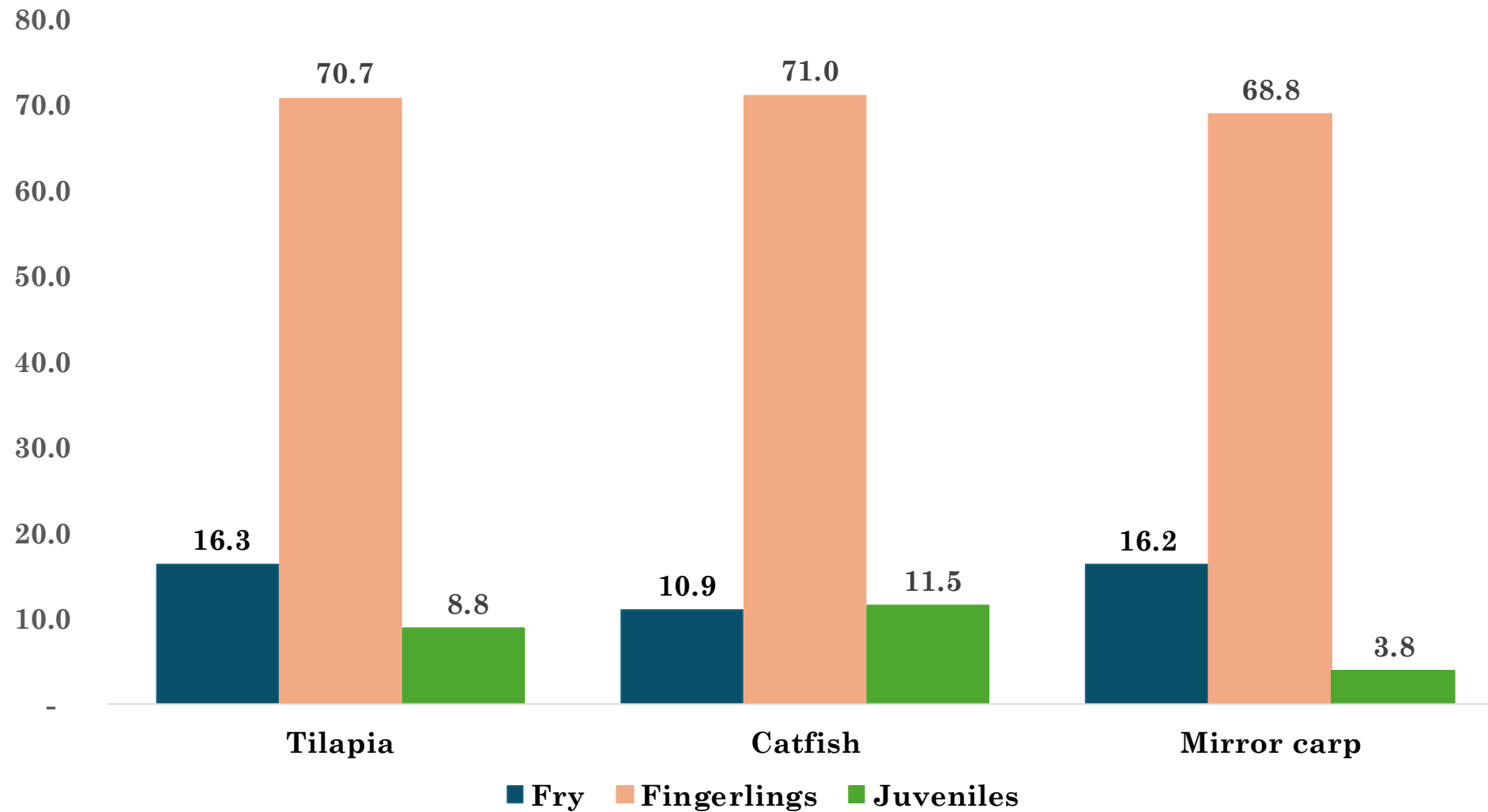
Catfish Fingerlings



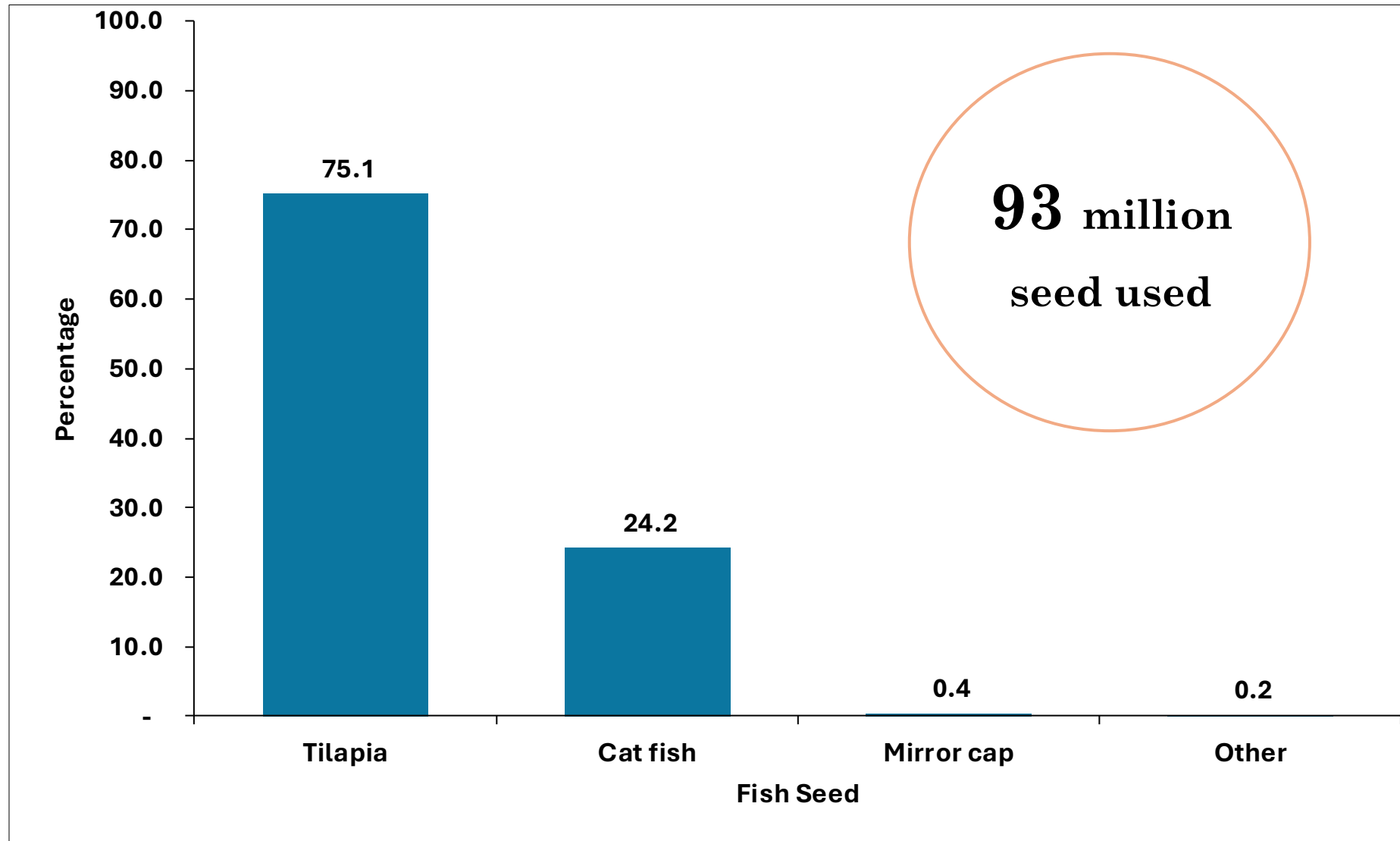
Juveniles



Seed Type used by Fish Species

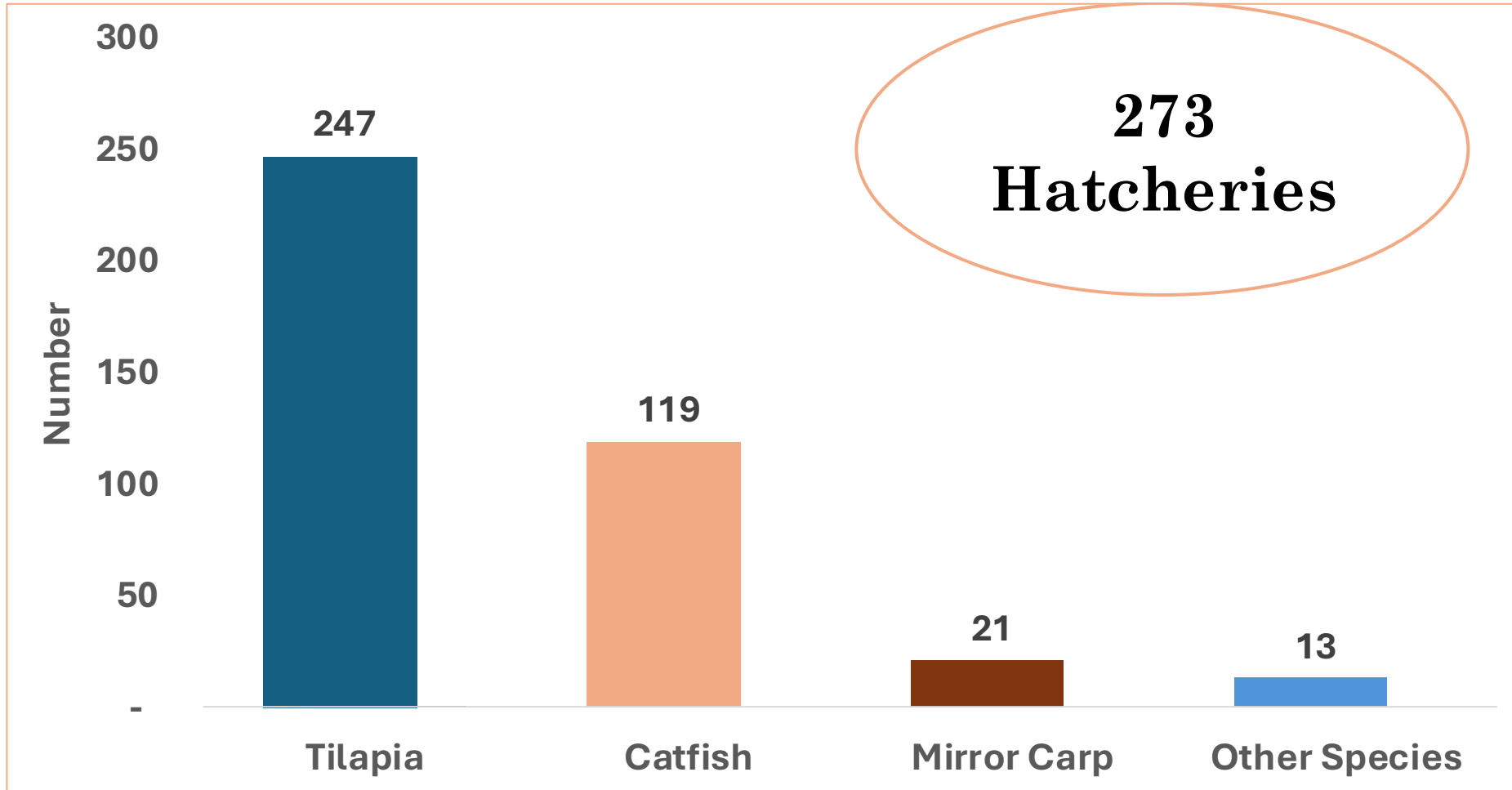


Share of Aquaculture Seed Used by Species, Percent

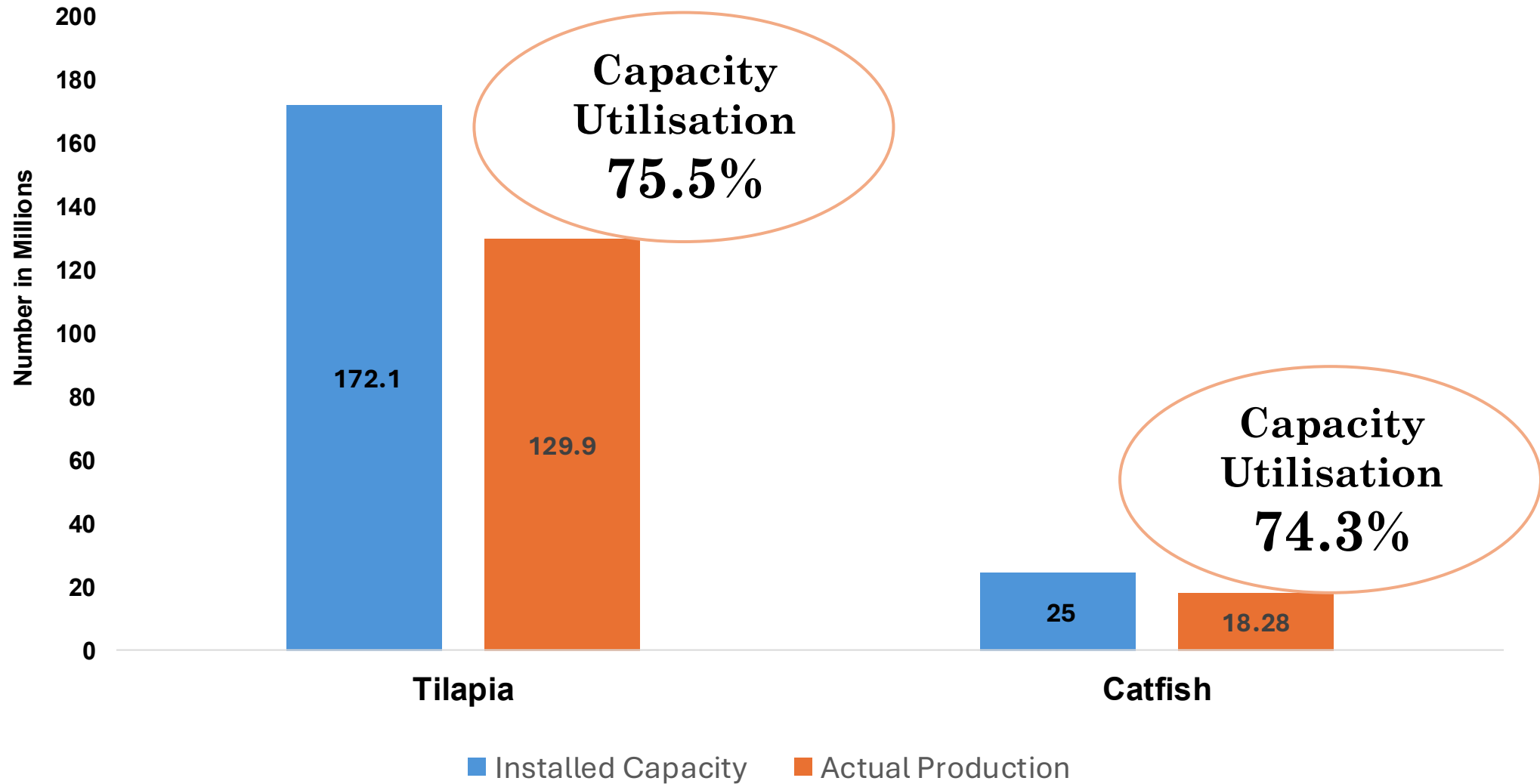


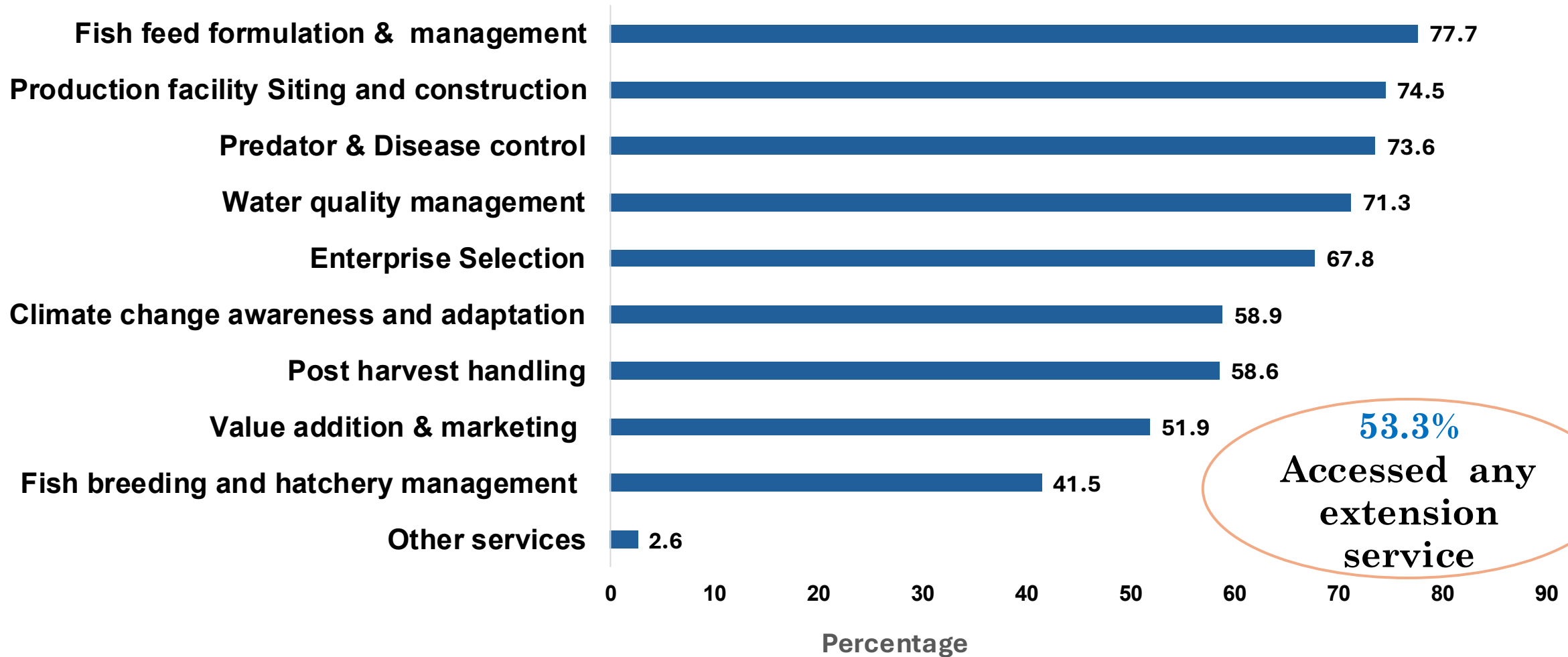
Hatcheries

Hatcheries by Species Bred



HATCHERIES INSTALLED CAPACITY AND PRODUCTION





- ❖ The total number of aquaculture farms in Uganda was 9,463.
- ❖ 6,408 farms were in rural areas.
- ❖ Buganda sub-region had the highest number of aquaculture farms (1,270).
- ❖ 9,190 aquaculture farms practiced grow-out only
- ❖ 7,555 farms cultured Tilapia
- ❖ 8,738 farms had ponds

- ❖ 24,348 ponds were present in the country with 17,108 ponds stocked.
- ❖ The total aquaculture production was 65,444.0 MT between July 2024 and June 2025
- ❖ 273 hatcheries were recorded in the year 2024/2025.
- ❖ total installed seed production capacity for hatcheries was 200.1 million seed between July 2024 and June 2025. For the same period, actual seed production was 149.9 million seed



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