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Maine's Aquaculture Sector & its R&D&E Priorities

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Maine's Aquaculture Sector & Its R&D&E Priorities

Anne Langston Noll

Chris Davis

Maine Aquaculture Innovation Center



Importance of Aligning Research Needs & Capabilities

- To enable sector development:
 - vibrant and enabling R&D & Education environment
 - with integrated components
 - **that are easy to access**
- Many of Maine's AQ businesses have common characteristics such as:
 - small size; small workforce and therefore a reduced diversity of in-company skills to draw on; limited access to capital; and
 - reduced capacity for research and innovation.
- These characteristics can hinder growth both as a business and a sector

Methods

- Survey Summer 2019
- Response rate = 208
- Average completion rate of 76%
- A range of question styles were used:
 - Multiple choice
 - Likert scale
 - Took issues identified in previous surveys
 - Likert Scale 1-5, and option of not relevant
 - Open-ended
 - Qualitative, thematic analysis

BARRIERS 2019

6. What is the single greatest barrier to your business's success?

	2016	2019
1	Regulatory	Workload/Time
2	Management/Capital	Access to capital
3	Culture Tech	Regulations/Lease Process
4	Marketing	Crop loss/mortality
5	Disease	Price/Market Competition
6	Workforce	Workforce

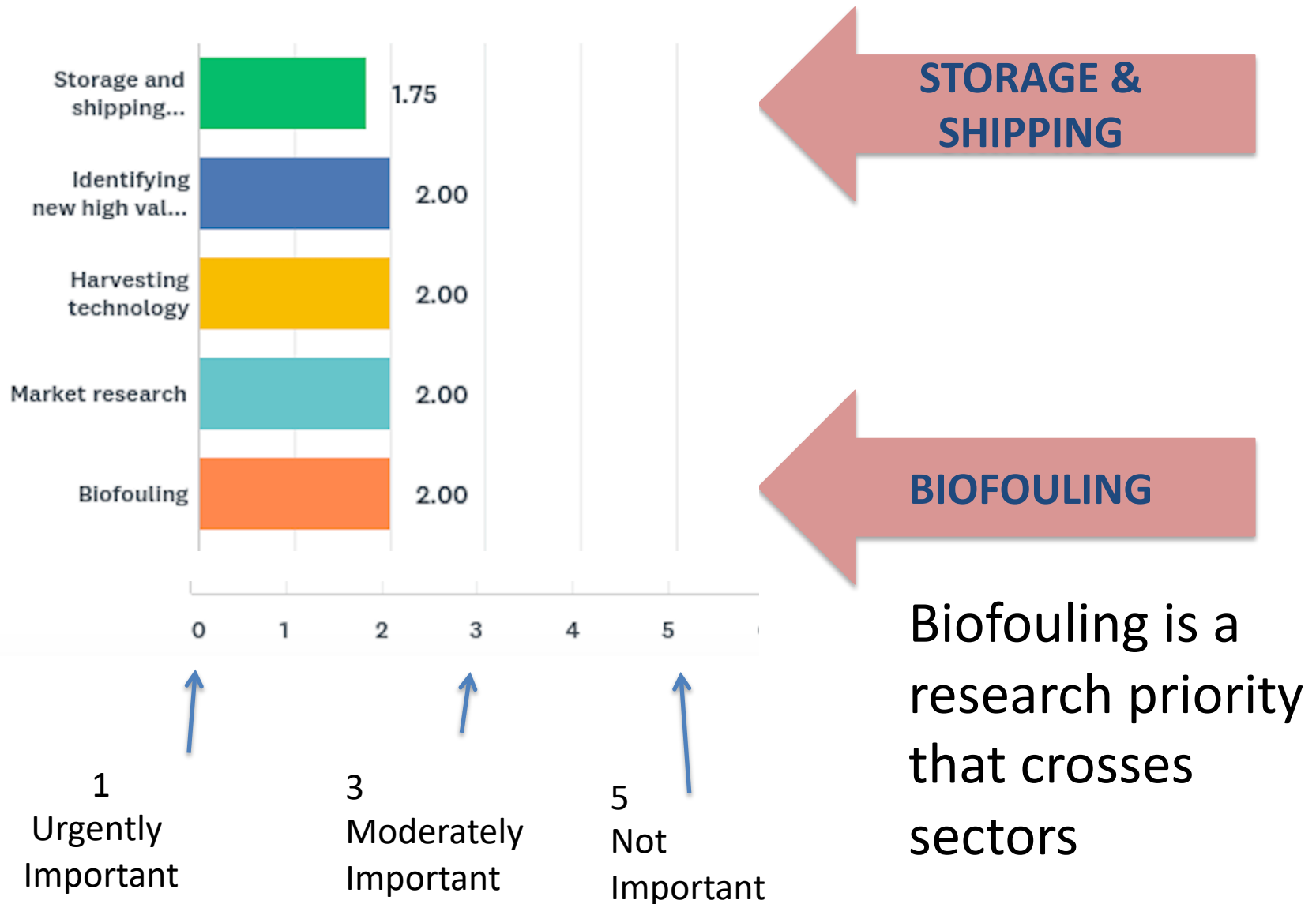
Fin Fish Priorities



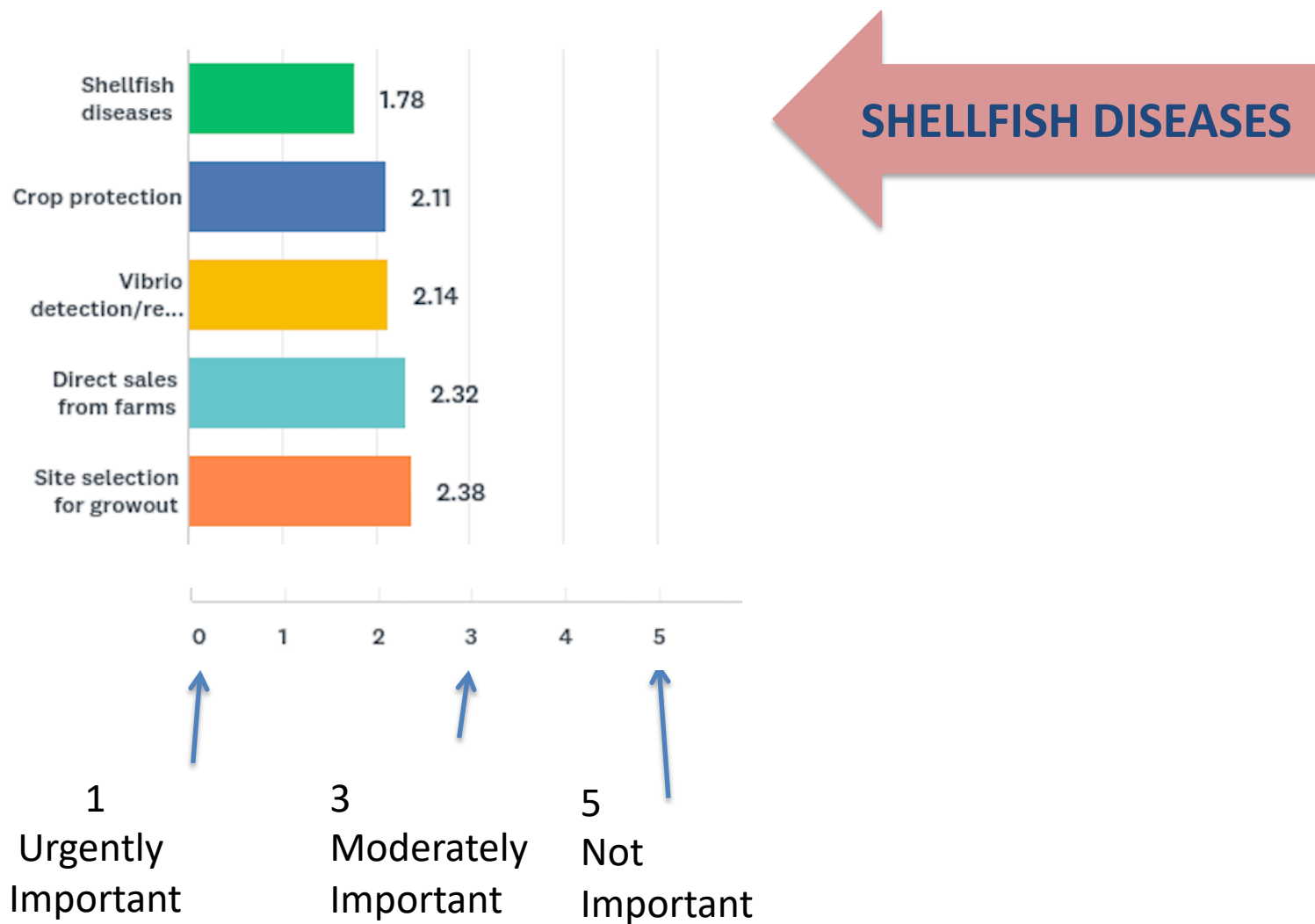
Sea Lice top priority in 2016, but effluent treatment much lower priority

1 Urgently Important 3 Moderately Important 5 Not Important

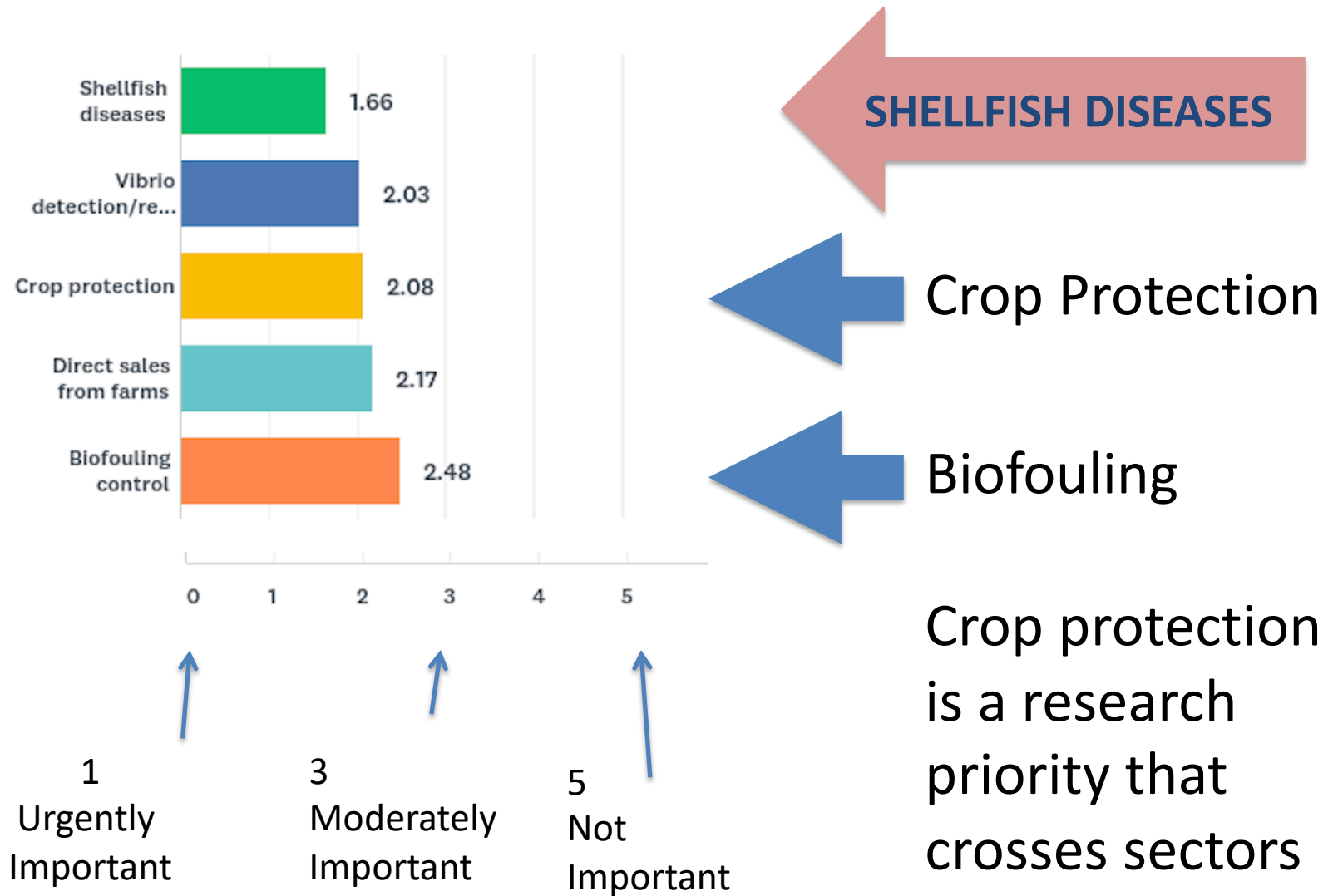
Sea Vegetable Priorities



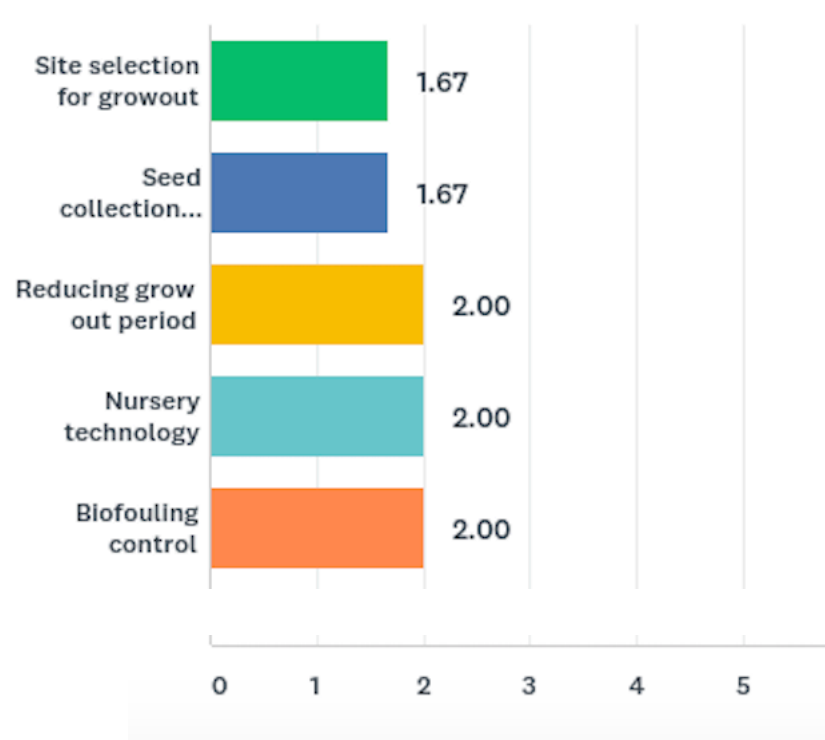
Shellfish Priorities



Oyster Farmer Priorities



Mussel Farmer Priorities

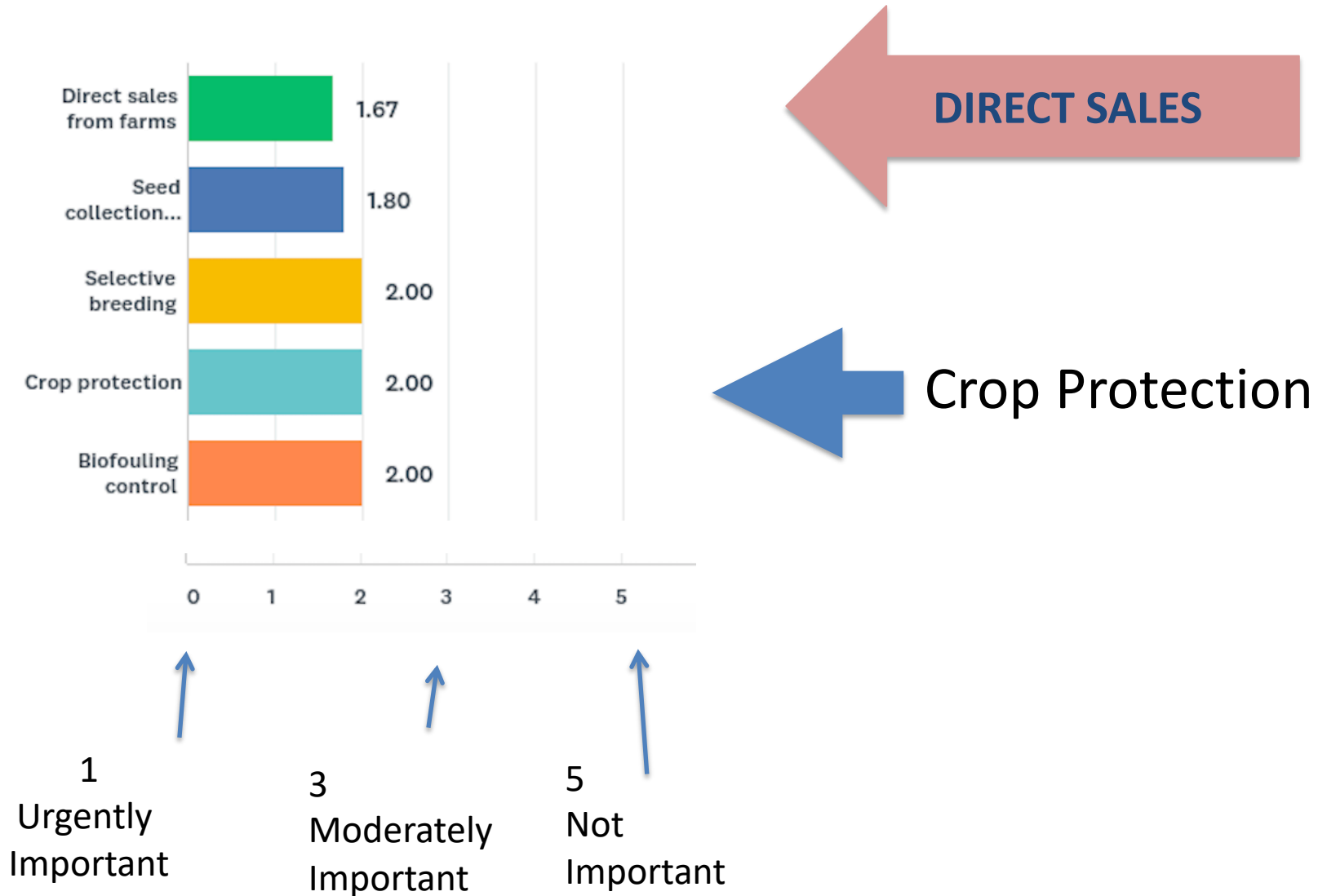


1 Urgently Important

3 Moderately Important

5 Not Important

Sea Scallop Farmer Priorities



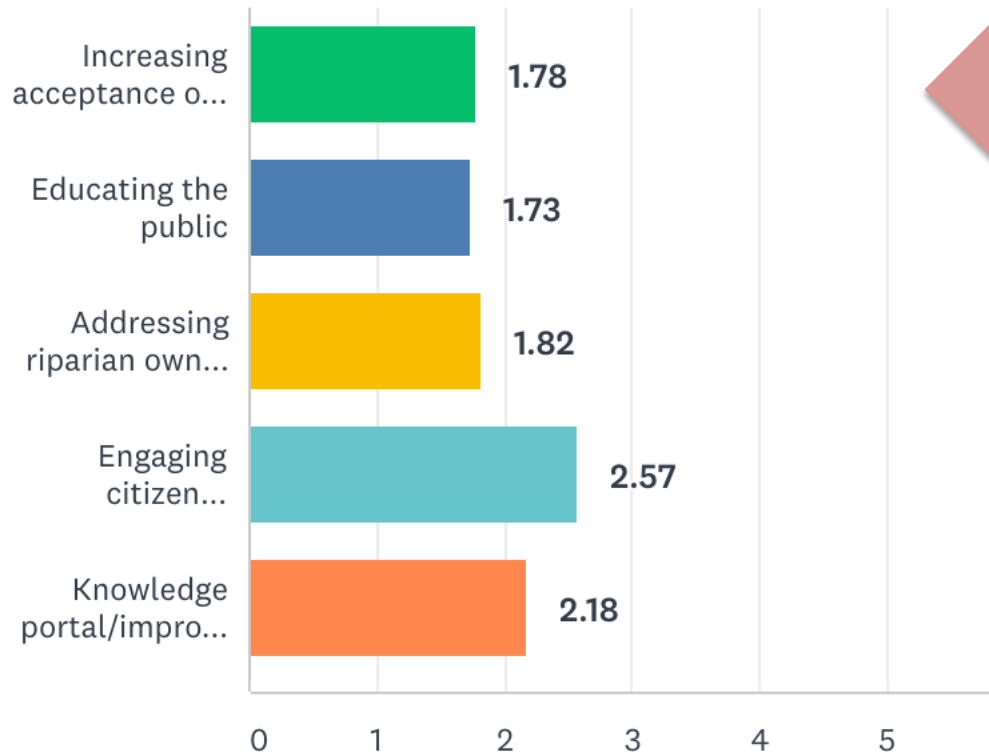
Education & Outreach Priorities

Question 16. How would you prioritize curricula and training needs?



Education & Outreach Priorities

Question 17. Other education and outreach needs.
Do we need programs to address the following?



Increasing acceptance of
aquaculture amongst fisherman
& other water users

PUBLIC
COMMUNITY
ACCEPTANCE

“Building & strengthening a network of growers, researchers, end consumers, policy makers, and educators”

