

Foot pad dermatitis, broiler



- A suitable indicator for broiler flock welfare
- **Evaluation in Finland**
 - Obligatory for every slaughtered broiler batch by official meat inspection veterinarians
 - One foot pad of 100 birds per batch
 - Severity of the lesions based on the depth of the damage (class 0-1-2)
 - Score:
 - < 20 points = excellent foot pad health
 - < 40 points = without remark (good foot pad health)
 - 40-80 points = remark low level
 - measures needed to improve the housing conditions etc.
 - > 80 points = remark high level
 - notification to an official veterinarian

National data concerning the foot pad lesion scores is collected by Animal Health ETT in Finland

Collection system constructed by a project financed by the Finnish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Results Finland 2012-2017

Year	Flocks % score < 20	Flocks % score < 40	Flocks % score 40-80	Flocks % score > 80	% of Finnish broiler production included
2012	79,20	94,46	4,91	0,62	90
2013	80,68	95,09	4,65	0,27	90
2014	91,42	98,09	1,76	0,15	97
2015	91,05	98,13	1,55	0,32	97
2016	92,79	98,46	1,38	0,16	> 99
2017	96,19	99,20	0,75	0,05	> 99

Table 1: Distribution of the slaughtered broiler flocks (n_{tot} about 3 500 flocks / year) in different foot pad scores 2012-2017

Results Finland 2012-2017

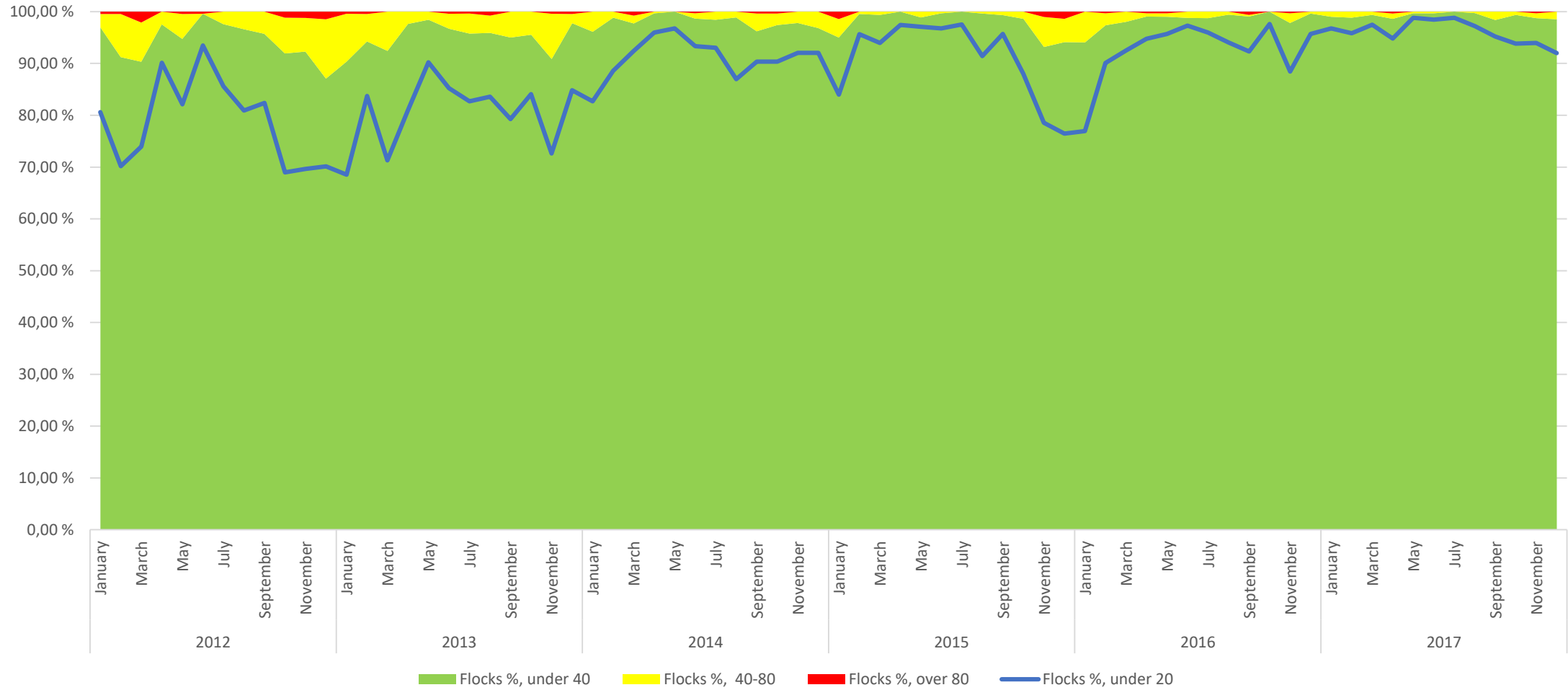


Figure 1: The seasonal variation of the foot pad scores of the Finnish broiler flocks 2012-2017

