

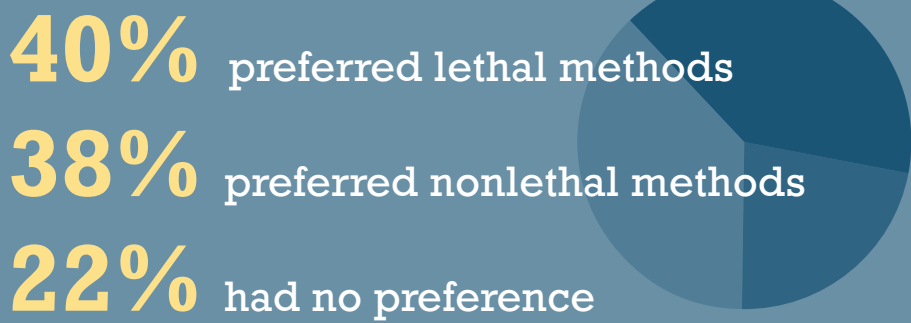


Nonlethal Methods: What Do Livestock Producers Think?

In 2021, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Wildlife Services (WS) program and university collaborators surveyed livestock producers about using nonlethal methods to protect their animals from large predators. The survey was part of a broader USDA initiative to expand the use and evaluation of these methods in 13 States.



Here's what we learned:



Nearly **70%** of those who preferred nonlethal methods were willing to pay more for them—up to **\$5,000** more per year.

Using nonlethal methods increased interest in them.

Before WS Assistance

51%
of producers were somewhat or very interested

After WS Assistance

89%
of producers were the same or more interested

Top 2 Most Effective Methods*



*per producers' ratings of all nonlethal and lethal methods including livestock guarding animals, audio/visual deterrents, fladry, range riders, electric fencing, trap and release, nonelectric permanent fencing, aerial operations, ground shooting, trap and euthanize, and snares.

1. Livestock Guarding Animals
2. Audio/Visual Deterrents such as scare radios

Producers had more negative attitudes toward wolves than other predators. Yet, many were still interested in nonlethal methods.



45% of these producers were somewhat or very interested in nonlethal methods.

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www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlifedamage