

Consensus—or not—on Laboratory Result Messaging Content

Michael Martin

Leah Estberg

Original Plan

- Phase One: Required Elements for Lab Results
 - Delphi consensus process
 - Seed with current and suggested fields
 - Accept additional fields suggested by panel
 - Two or three round Delphi -> Consensus or Nearly
- Phase Two: Coverage by NAHLN Schema
 - Expert opinion
 - Inside designers
 - Volunteer from HL7 Public Health community

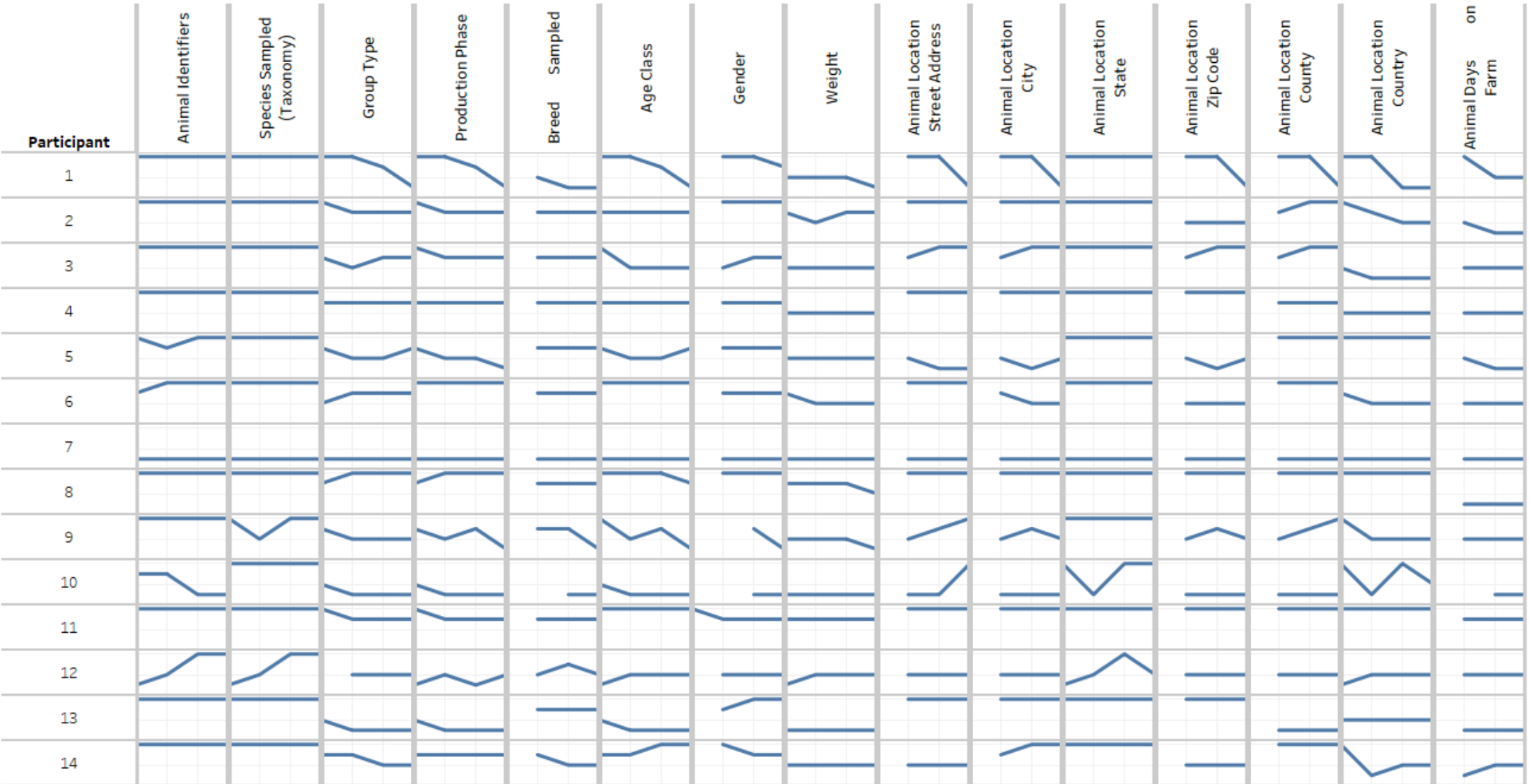
Issues

- Words, words, words
 - Same issue standards try to address
 - Everyone knew what they meant by each field name
- Attempts at definitions
 - Rounds one and two included additional explanation
 - Hard to define without invoking the standards themselves

Lack of Convergence

- Failed to see opinions converge
 - Slight shift toward less-is-better
 - Away from non-laboratory data

Animal Data



Accession Data

Participant	Accession Number	Date Submission (Accession) Received	Is Testing Complete for This Accession at This Lab?	Date Accession Closed/Completed
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				

Conclusions

- Lack of Consensus
- Majority Favor Highly Cohesive Systems
 - Each system should focus on its own job
- Main Reason for *Other* Data
 - No other system can provide the information
- NAHLN Result Message Clearly Covers
 - Cancelled phase II