



A survey of 453 sheep and/or cattle farmers in the UK shows confusion over the diagnosis and control of rumen fluke (*Calicophoron daubneyi*)

Rebecca C Hoyle¹, Professor Diana J L Williams¹, Dr Jennifer S Duncan¹, Professor Jane E Hodgkinson¹
 Institute of Infection, Veterinary and Ecological Sciences, University of Liverpool, UK

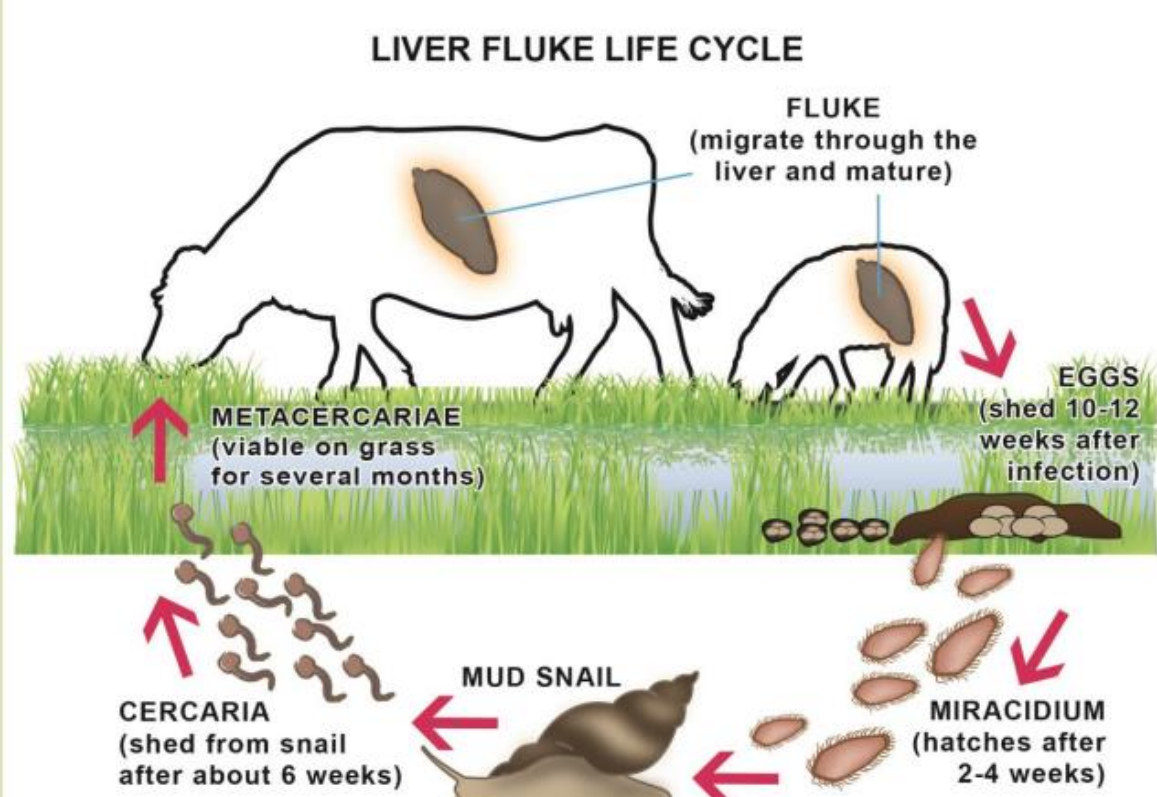
Background

Liver fluke (*Fasciola hepatica*) infection causes significant mortality and morbidity in sheep and cattle.¹

Rumen fluke (*Calicophoron daubneyi*) is considered to be an emerging parasite across Europe, with increasing prevalence in the UK.² Ongoing debates about its clinical importance in sheep and cattle in the UK.

Little is known about awareness of rumen fluke and if farmers are actively treating sheep and cattle in the UK.

Lifecycle



Liver and rumen fluke have similar lifecycles. Main difference being adult parasites locality.

In the UK both parasites have been shown to utilise the same intermediate host snail, *Galba truncatula*^{3,4}.

Source (Control of worms sustainably, 2013)⁵

Aim

Capture **awareness** of liver fluke and rumen fluke infection and evaluate current practise in the **control** of these parasites in cattle and sheep in the UK.

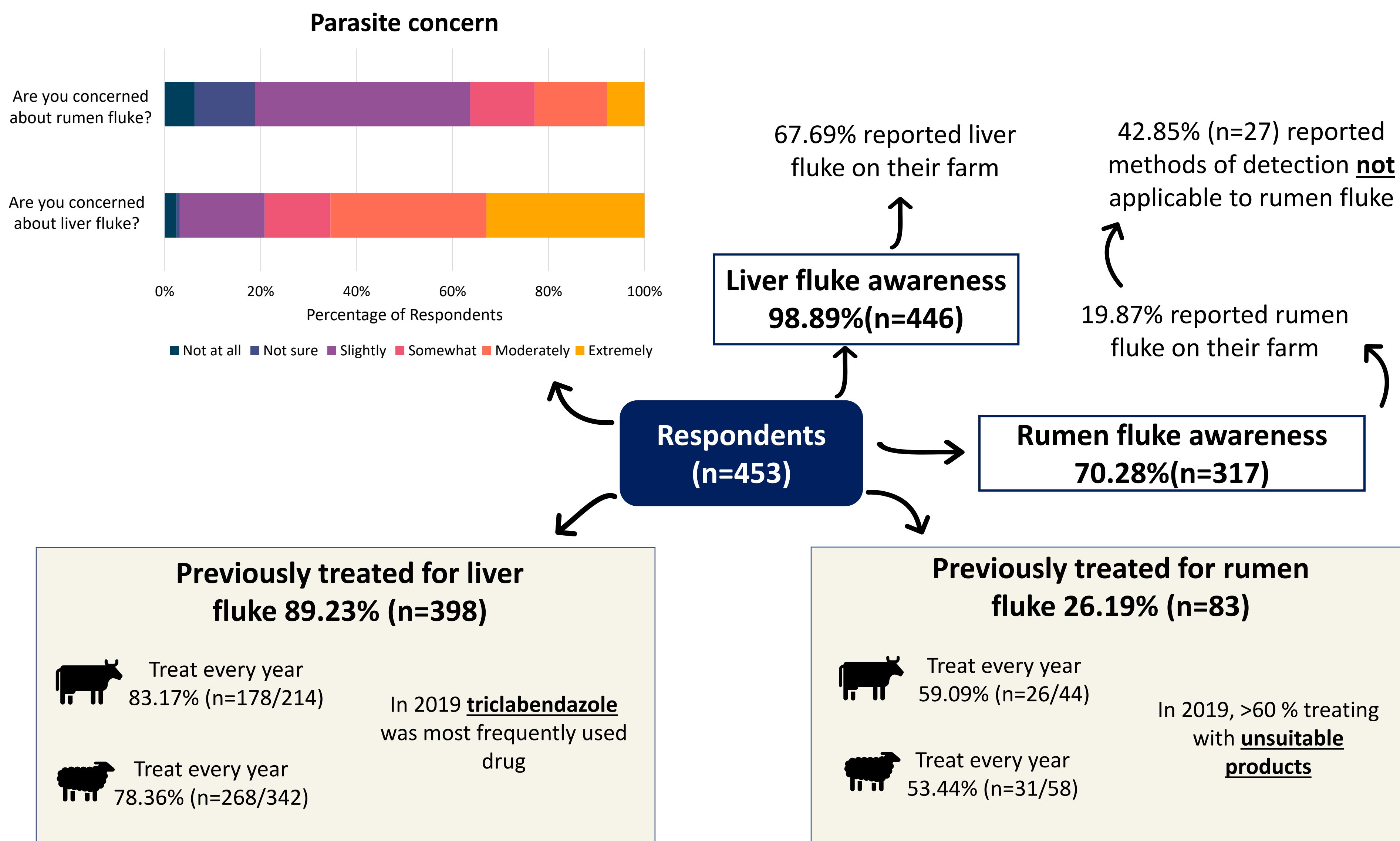
Methods

Online survey designed in English and Welsh:

- Section 1:** Liver and rumen fluke awareness and concern.
- Section 2:** Liver and rumen fluke on your farm.
- Section 3:** Liver and rumen fluke treatments.
- Section 4:** Farm characteristics.

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Results



Conclusions

- Confusion** between rumen and liver fluke
- Lower** awareness of rumen fluke
- Farmers showed **concern** about rumen fluke
- Farmers are treating rumen fluke with **unsuitable** products
- Liver fluke treated more routinely

References: [1] Bennett, R. and Ijpelaar, J., 2005. Updated estimates of the costs associated with thirty four endemic livestock diseases in Great Britain: A note. *Journal of Agricultural Economics* 56 (1), 135-144. [2] Huson, K.M., Oliver, N.A. and Robinson, M.W., 2017. Paramphistomosis of ruminants: an emerging parasitic disease in Europe. *Trends in parasitology*, 33(11), pp.836-844. [3] Jones, R.A., Williams, H.W., Dalesman, S. and Brophy, P.M., 2015. Confirmation of *Galba truncatula* as an intermediate host snail for *Calicophoron daubneyi* in Great Britain, with evidence of alternative snail species hosting *Fasciola hepatica*. *Parasites & vectors*, 8(1), pp.1-4. [4] Thomas, A.P., 1883. Memoirs: the life history of the liver-fluke (*Fasciola hepatica*). *Journal of Cell Science*, 2(89), pp.99-133. [5] Control of worms sustainably, 2013. Control of liver and rumen fluke in cattle, viewed 20/6/21, <http://www.cattleparasites.org.uk/app/uploads/2018/04/Control-liver-and-rumen-fluke-in-cattle.pdf>