



WHAT'S BUGGING WILD CRITTERS ?

An Interesting Resource on Wildlife Disease

1. Alberta Fish and Wildlife has launched a new series of fact sheets that provide information about some of the common parasites and diseases of wildlife and fish in Alberta.
2. This series is designed to answer questions from the public and hunters who may find "something wrong" with the animals that they harvest.
3. Most, if not all, wild animals carry other species that live in various tissues and organs, or live in or on the animals' hair, feathers, or skin. In other words, these animals are "infected" with other species that live in or on them, which is very common. On the other hand, "disease" is a situation where one animal is detrimentally affected by another species that lives in or on it, and this is extremely rare.
4. Anyone who finds a sick or dead animal is asked to call any local office of the Fish and Wildlife Division, Alberta Sustainable Resource Development (in the blue pages of local Telus phone directory, or at the government switchboard at 310-0000). Be aware that death is quite a natural part of the workings of nature and therefore people should report dead things only if they find a significant number of dead fish or wildlife, or if you believe there is an unusual situation associated with the death of wild animals.
5. The wildlife disease web page address is: <http://aep.alberta.ca/fish-wildlife/wildlife-diseases/default.aspx>
6. The following list identifies the current and proposed Fact Sheets that deal with Big Game, Waterfowl, Ungulates, and other animals that are profiled on the Alberta Environment and Parks website.

Wildlife parasite or disease	Primary habitat	Fact Sheet #
<u>Abscesses</u>	Big Game	6
<u>Anthrax</u> *	Big Game	5
<u>Avian Botulism</u>	Waterfowl	4
<u>Bovine Tuberculosis (TB)</u> *	Big Game	2
<u>Brucellosis</u> *	Big Game	1
Canine Distemper	Carnivores	42
<u>Chronic Wasting Disease</u>	Big Game	10
<u>Echinococcus multilocularis</u> *	Carnivores	36
<u>EHD (Epizootic Haemorrhagic Disease)</u>	Big Game	34
<u>Encysted Larvae in Fish</u>	Fish	40
<u>Fly Larvae: Bots and Warbles</u>	Big Game, Rodents	44
<u>Giant Liver Fluke</u>	Big Game	20
<u>Giardiasis</u> *	Furbearers	37
<u>Hantavirus</u> *	Small Mammals	7
<u>Haemal Lymph Nodes</u>	Big Game	32
<u>Hydatid Tapeworm</u> *	Big Game, Carnivores	17

FACT SHEET # 17

Liver Blisters (<i>Taenia hydatigena</i>)	Big Game, Carnivores	14
Lyme Disease *	Small Mammals	12
Moose Flies (<i>Haematobosca alcis</i>)	Big Game	30
Moose Measles (<i>Taenia krabbei</i>)	Big Game, Carnivores	16
New castle Disease Virus *	Waterfowl	25
Perukes	Big Game	45
Rabbit Blisters (<i>Taenia pisiformis</i>)	Hares, Rabbits, Carnivores	15
Rabies *	Carnivores, Other mammals	13
Ribbon Tapeworms	Fish	41
Ringworm *	Big Game	19
Saprolegniosis	Fish	29
Sarcocystis	Waterfowl, Big Game	11
Sarcoptic Mange *	Carnivores	9
Skin Tumors of Fish	Fish	26
Skin Tumors of Mammals	Various Mammals	24
Ticks: Winter , Wood , & Rabbit	Big Game, Small Mammals	21,22,23
Triaenophorous	Fish	27
Trichinellosis *	Carnivores	18

*Zoonosis — Can infect people

- These Fact Sheets are being developed on a regular basis. Please visit the website regularly to look for new postings.

KEY CONTACTS

Alberta Environment and Parks Fish and Wildlife Division	Phone: 310.0000 and ask for the nearest Fish and Wildlife office. Web-site: www.mywildalberta.com
Chronic Wasting Disease	Web-site: www.cwd-info.org
West Nile Virus (WNV)	Web-site: http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-info/WNV-response-plan.htm

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