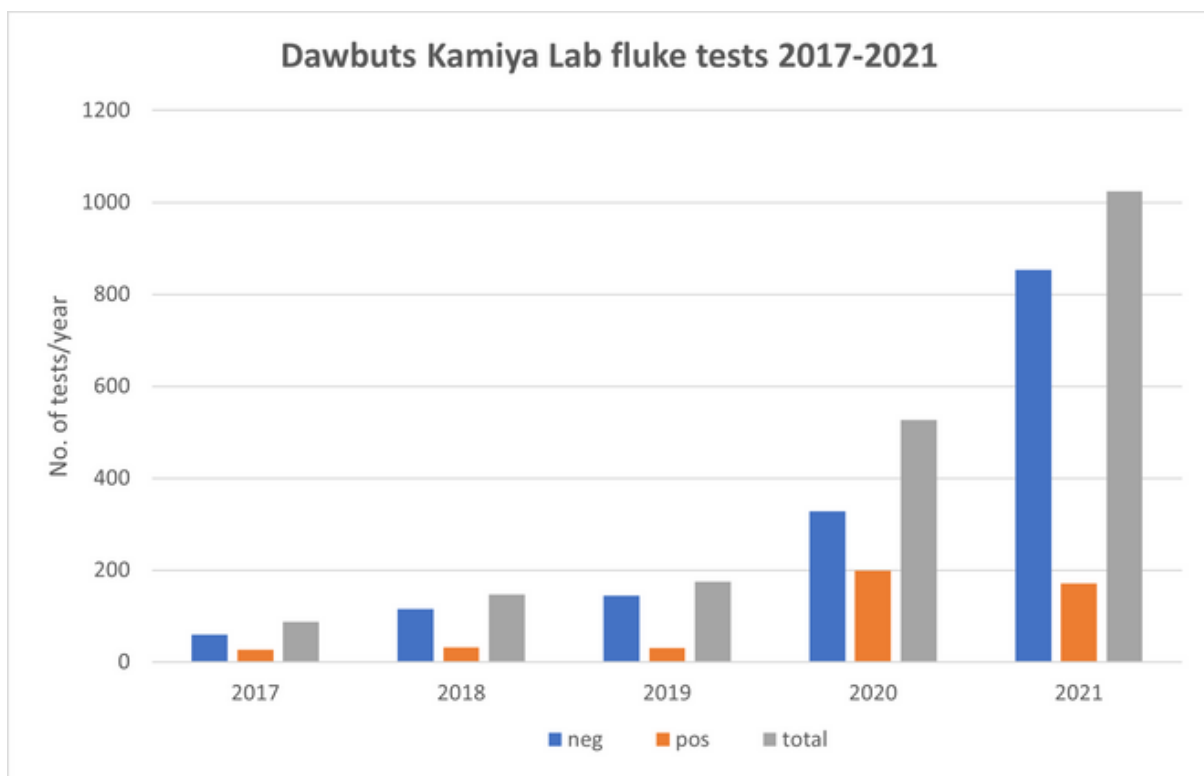


Liver fluke in livestock

- trends in submissions to the Kamiya Laboratory 2017-2021



Producers and vets in eastern Australia have been contacting us more about **liver fluke** in the past year.

Part of the reason lies in **increased survival of liver flukes** and their **host snails** due to seasonal conditions. High levels of **stock trading** and buying in liver fluke infection adds to the problem. The other key factor is **resistance** to flukicides.

Richie and Andrew have dived into the **records** at the Kamiya Laboratory to see what the trends have been over the past 5 years.

1. **Number of tests:** the total number of fluke tests conducted over a 12-month period in the Kamiya Laboratory surpassed 1,000 tests for the first time ever (see Figure 1 above).
2. **Number of positive cases:** the proportion of tests that test positive varies across years, possibly due to drought and other influences. The 2021 result may simply reflect the fact that more producers are concerned and have started testing.
3. **Geographical distribution:** positive liver fluke cases have been confirmed from a wide area extending across to South Australia, with a particularly high rate in southern NSW (see Figure 2 below). Note that northern NSW and Victoria are not highly represented, due to the local labs in those regions receiving most of the submissions. However, reports from abattoirs and producers would indicate that there are plenty of positive cases in those districts as well.
4. **Positive cases after treatment:** this is a bit more difficult to calculate from monitoring data, but initial indications are that in 2021 there were more positive cases following treatment with a flukicide. On some properties, we have confirmed resistance using a **fluke drench resistance test**.

In summary, **test mobs** of livestock:
a) **annually** to see if they need treatment

b) then again **30 days after treatment**, to check that the flukicide has worked.

To find out more about liver fluke in livestock, see paraboss.com.au

For testing and prices refer to dawbuts.com

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