

Spatial and Temporal Differences in Giant Kidney Worm, *Dictophyma renale*, Prevalence in Minnesota Mink, *Mustela vison*

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Examination of 110 Mink (*Mustela vison*) carcasses from 1998 through 2007 indicated that the giant kidney worm, *Dictophyma renale*, occurred in Pine and Kanabec Counties of eastern Minnesota with annual prevalences of 0-92%. Worm prevalence increased from 20% in 1999 to 92% in 2001 and decreased to 6% in 2005. During 2000 to 2007, no worms were found in Mink from Anoka and Chisago Counties (n = 54), and in 2000, none in 107 Mink from LeSeur, Freeborn, Redwood, Brown and Watonwan Counties. Changes in kidney worm prevalence were positively related to trapping success, considered an index of Mink density.

Key Words: Mink, *Mustela vison*, giant kidney worm, *Dictophyma renale*, *Lumbriculus variegatus*, Minnesota.