

The susceptibility of naïve cattle to infection with cysticerci of Taenia crocutae was tested using three six- to nine-month-old Ayrshire bull calves, previously unexposed to infection with taeniid eggs. One calf was given 10,000 T crocutae eggs orally, another 5000 hatched unactivated oncospheres orally and the third 5000 hatched and activated oncospheres by intravenous injection. None of the calves contained viable cysticerci at post mortem examination 15 to 17 weeks later. All three calves contained small numbers of lesions in the liver and lesions were also present in the lungs of the calf which received oncospheres intravenously. All the calves developed an antibody response which was most pronounced in the calf given hatched unactivated oncospheres orally.