

emergence of disease: emergence may be transient, catastrophic, or persistent with recurrent mortality events. Despite a number of populations suffering from infection year-on-year, other populations bounced-back from mass-mortality events. This suggests that some populations of frogs may have some form of immunity to ranaviral infection.

In the 1980s and 1990s, the disease was particularly associated with the southeast of England. In recent years new 'pockets' of diseases have turned up in Lancashire, Yorkshire and along the south coast.

Comparable uninfected populations (n=16) showed no change in population size over the same time period. Regressions showed that larger

frog populations may be more likely to experience larger declines than smaller populations, and linear models show that percentage population size changes were significantly correlated with disease status, but that habitat age had no significant effect on population size change. The results are the first evidence of long-term localized population declines of an amphibian species which appear to be best explained by the presence of *Ranavirus* infection.

Teacher, A.G.F., Cunningham, A.A., Garner, T.W.J. (2010). Assessing the long-term impact of *Ranavirus* infection in wild common frog *Rana temporaria* populations. *Anim. Cons.* **13** (5), 514-522.

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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On behalf of the British Herpetological Society the Editor wishes to thank the following reviewers, authors and observers who have greatly enhanced the content of the 2010 volume;

Tim Aplin	Rahbet Haskane
Colin Bailey	Anne Leonard
John Baker	Owen J.J. Lewis
Bill Belzer	Alex Ramsay
Charles R. Bursey	Chris Reading
Micheal S. Caldwell	Mario Garcia
Stuart Chapman	Trevor Rose
Miles D. Davis	Allen Salzberg
Vladimir Dinets	Sue Seibert
S.R. Ganesh	Mark O'Shea
Chris Gleed-Owen	Emanuel Teixeira da Silva
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Michelle Haines	Mark Wright

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