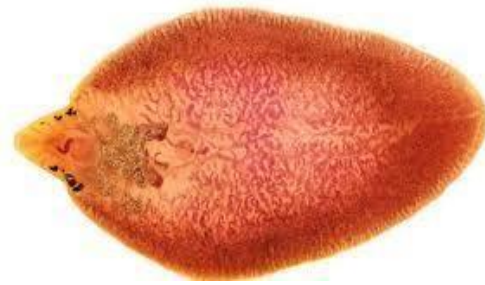


## Fasciola

### Classification

**Kingdom:** Animalia  
**Phylum:** Platyhelminthes  
**Class:** Trematoda  
**Subclass:** Digenea  
**Genus:** *Fasciola*



### Habit and habitat

For Further details [link](#)

**Parasitic Lifestyle:** *Fasciola hepatica* lives as an endoparasite, meaning it resides inside the body of its host, specifically within the bile passages.

**Hermaphroditic:** *Fasciola hepatica* is hermaphroditic, possessing both male and female reproductive organs.

### characteristics

- *Fasciola hepatica* is found in the bile duct of sheep's liver as an endoparasite.
- The body is dorso-ventrally flattened, leaf-like and measures about 25-30 mm in length and 4-5 mm in breadth.
- The **anterior end** is produced into a conical projection called the cephalic cone.
- The **mouth** is situated ventrally at the anterior end, and it is surrounded by **oral sucker**

### Life Cycle of *Fasciola hepatica*

- In people, adult flukes release eggs through the bile ducts into the intestine. Fluke eggs are passed in stool (feces).
- 2-3. In water, the eggs release larvae, which penetrate snails.
- Inside the snail, the eggs go through several stages to develop into an immature form of the fluke that has a tail and can swim (cercariae).
- Infected snails release the cercariae, which form cysts on watercress and other water plants.
- People are infected when they eat plants (especially watercress) that contain the cysts.
- In the intestine, the cysts release the larvae.
- The larvae move through the wall of the intestine into the abdominal cavity and liver, then to the bile ducts. There, they develop into adult flukes, which produce eggs.