

This method that we are using must test to see if rabbit population consistently goes down over a long period of time while testing that the gastrointestinal parasite positive rate is the same in order to prove our hypothesis is correct. There are a few points to pay special attention to however. One being the ethics of this operation. The rabbits being tested must be caught and blood tested for the parasite humanly, and the land they live on must not be disturbed in a way that deters the rabbit groups from their habitat. Researchers also risk the dangers that these rabbits pose, such as biting. The risk of these rabbits is extinction if this parasite is proven to be killing them faster than they can reproduce. Luckily, rabbits will not have to experience more pain than a needle to draw blood, but they will have to experience the discomfort and stress of being captured. The town or state that this research is to be conducted in also might need to give permission to conduct this research, however most states within New England do not. Researchers must acknowledge the risks of rabbits biting to conduct this research.