HUTCHEON

The second CVS, Duncan Hutcheon was appointed in 1880 and described his observations regarding ‘Cneuta’. Farmers were almost unanimous that the disease was caused by some bush eaten by goats but more than ten bushes were shown to Hutcheon.

Hutcheon proceeded to test some of the bushes, including L. annularis on healthy goats, without effect. But he could induce the condition by feeding livers of diseased goats to dogs which developed the condition in two days. A dog fed on stomach and bowels did not succumb.

Subsequently he reproduced the condition in healthy goats, which fed on the stomach of diseased goats, developed the symptoms after two days.

Hutcheon was satisfied that nenta was caused by plants but not sure whether plants per se were the intrinsic cause and could not decide on why the disease occurred.