To our knowledge, human schistosomiasis has never been endemic on the Cape Verde island archipelago -- the compatible intermediate host snails were simply never found on the islands [1, 2]. Thus, it is unclear why Cape Verde appears on some lists of human-schistosomiasis-endemic countries (albeit at low to 0 prevalence [3, 4]). Cape Verde, officially the Republic of Cabo Verde, is a chain of 10 volcanic islands off the western coast of Africa. It was uninhabited until the Portuguese colonized it in the 15th century as a shipping hub for the slave trade, and later for transatlantic shipping of other products [5]. Since independence in 1975, Cape Verde has maintained one of the most stable governments in the region [5].

A recent focus of bovine schistosomiasis was described from Cape Verde, when the parasites were found in the veins of cattle at slaughter on the islands [6]. The bovine parasite strain, which does not infect humans, was shown to be compatible with Bulinus forskalii snails from Cape Verde and the same species of snails from Mali [7].
### References


