

<u>PARASITE</u>	<u>SIGNS</u>	<u>LIFE CYCLE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>BEST DETECTION TIME</u>	<u>TREATMENT</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
LICE	Poor weight gain, poor egg production, scratching and pecking at skin, discoloration of the vent, tail and breast	4 to 6 weeks from hatch to maturity; Eggs laid on base of feather shaft; Lice may live several months	Full grown lice can measure up to 1/8 of an inch; Wingless, flat-bodied, six-legged with double claws and round head; Body color can vary between yellow, gray and black	Daytime	Carbaryl (Sevin®) – spray or dust Malathion – spray Permethrin – spray or dust	Very common parasite, entire life cycle spent on the bird
MITES						
Northern Fowl Mites	<i>Very important to differentiate between the Northern Fowl Mite and Chicken Mites when diagnosing problem;</i> Anemia, weight loss, pink combs; Feathers stained with mite excrement; Red or black specks, or debris around vent, decrease in egg production or weight gain, Mites often seen on eggs	4 days from egg to maturity; Eggs laid along feather shaft	Adults measure 1/26 th of an inch in length	Daytime or Nighttime	Carbaryl (Sevin®) – spray or dust* Permethrin – spray or dust Rabon** – spray or dust Ravap – EC spray *Northern Fowl Mites tolerant to Carbaryl in some areas **Northern Fowl Mites tolerant to Rabon in some areas	Can transmit fowl pox, Newcastle disease, ornithosis, and other diseases; Can survive 3 to 4 weeks away from avian host; Capable of harboring avian viruses after feeding on infected birds
Chicken Mites <i>(Other names include Red Mite, Gray Mite and Roost Mite)</i>	<i>Very important to differentiate between Chicken Mites and the Northern Fowl Mite when diagnosing problem;</i> Anemia, high mortality in young birds and setting hens; Pale comb and wattles	10 days from egg to maturity; Eggs laid in secluded hiding areas of poultry house	Adults measure 1/35 th of an inch; Two major body parts – cephalothorax and the abdomen with four pairs of legs attached to the abdomen	Nighttime	Carbaryl (Sevin®) – spray or dust Permethrin – spray or dust Rabon – spray or dust Ravap – EC spray	Mites feed at night and may not be seen or found during the day; Can transmit fowl cholera
Scaly Leg Mites	Thickened skin on shank and feet; Scales on legs become elevated and are easily detached; Scabs form and a fine white dust sifts from beneath them; Lymph and blood exude and red blotches form on the legs	2 weeks from egg to maturity; Female scaly leg mites begin depositing eggs after burrowing under scales of host	8-legged adults are 1/150 th to 1/100 of an inch; Pale gray with circular outline	Daytime	Ivermectin®; Coat entire leg with petroleum jelly or other medicated salve such as Sulfur Ointment Traditional treatments include dipping the feet and shanks (up to the hock) in motor oil, diesel oil or kerosene.	Slow spread through entire flock with direct contact

When treating mite and/or lice infestations, read and follow all directions for proper mixing instructions, application rates, and precautions. It is illegal to use any pesticide/insecticide in any way that is inconsistent with the label. No product endorsement is intended, nor criticism of unnamed products implied.