

The Complete Solution for Pesky Pests

Keep your chickens happy and productive with Nettex

There are a number of Pesky Pests that can live on your chickens or in their housing, they can be a real problem for your flock - it is essential to identify, tackle if necessary and help deter future infestations.

Which Pesky Pests could affect my birds?

- Red mites
- Lice
- Northern Fowl mites
- Scaly Leg mites

Red mites

These parasites live in the housing. They emerge after dark to feed off the chickens.

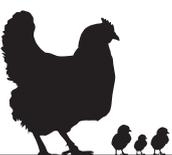


How will I know if I have a red mite infestation?

A heavy infestation will severely affect the health of your flock; it can stop them laying, cause anaemia and even kill birds.

Before this however, there are more subtle signs that you might have an infestation:

- Birds may avoid going into the coop at night
- There could be tiny blood spots on the eggs
- Your birds may be more irritated with each other than normal, and look pale or anaemic
- You spot either mites, or their faeces – the latter looks like grey ash-type deposits – along crevices inside the coop



How should I treat red mite infestations?

The red mite lives in the housing so a regular weekly inspection and prevention routine is essential to get rid of them and keep them at bay.

To remove the constant threat of red mites, a weekly 3 step programme is advised:

1. Thoroughly clean out the coop, remove all faeces, dry matter and bedding.
2. Spray the entire coop with **Nettex Total Mite Kill Ready to Use Spray** (or diluted concentrate) - this will disinfect as well as eradicate mites. Both products contain a coating agent which will continue to act on the mites even after it has dried – therefore always shake the product before diluting the concentrate and before each use. Never use **Nettex Total Mite Kill Ready to Use Spray** (or diluted concentrate) directly on the birds – they are for application to housing only. Always ventilate treated areas and allow them to dry fully (they dry very quickly) before returning any birds to the treated area.
3. Finally, apply **Nettex Total Hygiene Powder** liberally over the surface of bedding, perches and nest boxes and refill with fresh bedding. It's also important to include the **Total Hygiene Powder** in dust baths.

Additionally, use **Nettex Total Mite Kill Aerosol** monthly to treat hard to reach areas. A regular routine like this will help keep the mites at bay and ensure that your flock is parasite-free and healthy.

Should you have an infestation use **Nettex Total Mite Kill Ready to Use Spray** (or diluted concentrate) and **Nettex Total Mite Kill Aerosol** initially as per the directions above. Repeat three days later and then move to the preventative regime above. Use **Nettex Total Hygiene Powder** everytime you clean and replace the bedding.

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Poultry Lice and Northern Fowl Mites

Unlike red mites, these parasites live on your birds and are transmitted from wild birds in your garden.

How will I know if my chickens have lice or Northern Fowl Mite infestation?

Because these parasites live on the birds if there is an infestation you will be able to see them or their eggs if you regularly examine your birds. Lice are small brown critters, Northern Fowl Mites are smaller and black. Both lice and Northern Fowl Mites feed off your birds' blood, which makes them irritable and grumpy; they may peck each other or pull out their own feathers. Infested birds may also look pale may stop laying for no reason.



Images of Poultry louse eggs, Poultry lice and Fowl Mites

How should I treat them?

It is relatively easy to treat these pesky pests; and it is essential to treat the housing as well as the birds to prevent any re-infestation:

1. Thoroughly clean out the coop, remove all faeces, dry matter and bedding.
2. Spray the coop with **Nettex Total Mite Kill Ready to Use Spray** (or diluted concentrate) this will disinfect and kill any mites and lice in the housing. Both products contain a coating agent which will continue to act on the mites even after it has dried – therefore always shake the product before diluting the concentrate and before each use. Once this has dried powder thoroughly inside the coop with **Nettex Buz Busters Louse Powder** before replacing the bedding and roosting bars.

Scaly Leg Mites

Scaly leg mites are particularly nasty; they spend their entire life cycle on the bird they are spread by direct contact with other birds.

How will I know if my chickens have Scaly Leg Mites?

Scaly leg mites burrow under the scales of a bird's legs causing great irritation, which the hen tries to relieve by pecking. This creates painful sores on the legs. The scales will look raised, with a crusty exudate under them; this is the mites' excrement.

How should I tackle them?

Scaly legs can be easily managed with the following 2 step programme:

1. Spray the legs of affected birds with **Nettex Scaly Leg Remover**, this product suffocates the mites, eases the discomfort and provides a barrier to deter and protect the legs from further infection. Apply to the legs with a soft toothbrush, in an upward motion, gently working it under the scales.
2. Repeat every 5-6 days (to break the egg cycle) until the infestation has gone and the scabs have gone from under the scales. Note that the scales will remain raised when the mites are gone.

Top Tips to tackle Pesky Pests

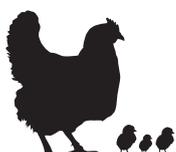
- Regular weekly inspection of your birds and a prevention routine is essential to ensure Pesky Pests are kept at bay.
- If your birds are looking a bit pale from a Pesky Pest infestation, then add **Nettex Vitamin Boost+** to their water or if you prefer a dry supplement **Nettex Mineral Powder** to their food until they have regained full health.
- When buying in birds always check them carefully and treat them before introducing them to the rest of the flock.



Identify the threat - Tackle infestations - Deter Pesky Pests

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For further information and advice concerning Pesky Pests visit www.nettexpoultry.com or Facebook



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