

A Helpful Guide To Scaly Face Mite

It is common for people to think that anything wrong with a budgies cere is the dreaded Scaly Face Mite - This is not always the case! Here's some information that will help you first identify and secondly prevent/treat Scaly Face Mite.

Hyperkeratosis: Is a hard brown tissue that forms over the cere and grows out, like a horn. Hyperkeratosis sounds impressive, but is not scaly face mite and is harmless. It is most commonly seen in hen birds, but that doesn't mean cock birds are impervious to it. No action is required if you experience Hyperkeratosis in your budgie, but you can seek vet help to have it removed.



Hyperkeratosis



Scaly Face Mite: Is a burrowing mite (Knemidokoptes) that are quite common in Budgerigars, but many other bird species are also susceptible to this displeasing bug. The mite burrows into the tissue around the cere and eventually makes its way down the beak. Mostly the head is affected (the beak, cere and the eyelids), but the legs and feet of the bird can also be problem areas and in really severe cases the area around the bird's vent will show signs of infestation. Unlike Hyperkeratosis, damage to the tissue caused by the mites can be extremely painful, if left untreated the burrowing mites cause severe deformities of the beak, to the point that eating and drinking become very difficult and birds can actually starve to death.

Treatment of Scaly Face Mite

You should always read the directions before administrating anything to your birds, but here is a quick rundown on how to use Avimec: Simply apply 2 drops (1 drop for smaller birds) on the bird parting the feathers so you can apply directly to the skin. This should be done once weekly for three weeks, with full recovery taking up to 6 weeks. Just keep on track with treatments and you will have subdued the scaly face mite with little hassle. - It's that simple!

Affected Budgerigar Treated Weekly with Avimec



Week 1



Week 2



Week 3

Note the steady resolution of the disease. Full recovery may take 6-8 weeks.

Avimec can be applied anywhere on the birds skin. We recommend application to the thigh area, giving you an easier place to access and a larger surface area when dealing with smaller birds. Applying to the back of the neck is viable, but can be difficult to access and increases the chance of stress due to mishandling of the bird.

As the burrowing mites only live on the body, it is not necessary to treat the cage itself with a mite-spray. Many of these agents are highly toxic and can harm your birds! Burrowing mites are harmless to humans, so there is no risk of an infection, the mite however is infectious to birds and must be contained, and you can only do this by treating all the birds in your aviary. If you need to spray your aviaries with an insecticide, use a product formulated to be safe such as Avian Insect Liquidator.

For more info contact the Vetafarm Team or check out our helpful video with a step by step guide to identifying and applying Avimec, featuring Avian Vet Dr Tony Gestier. Just jump onto www.youtube.com/Vetafarm

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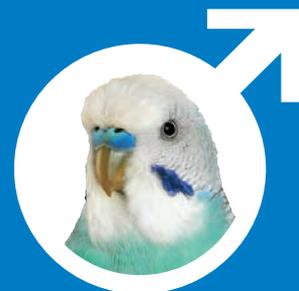
Watch The Video



Cure Scaly Face Mite:
How to use Avimec

A Healthy Cere

The Cere: Is the tissue above the beak of the budgerigar. A healthy cere is smooth and hard, the nostrils are open and there are no signs of any abnormalities. The cere of male Budgerigars is blue while female budgies have brown/tan ceres.



Treating Scaly Face Mite may require patience, depending on the condition of the bird and severity of the infestation. Vetafarm's Avimec is a highly effective treatment against Scaly Face Mite and is simple to administer.

Avimec



Effective "Spot on" treatment for Scaly Face Mite.

