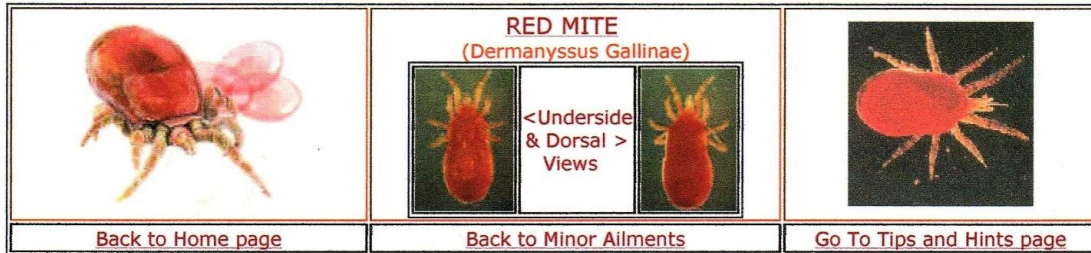


RED MITE

Things you maybe didn't but should know about them!!



- **Red Mite** is an obligatory blood-feeding ecto-parasite
 - ("ecto" means it attacks or feeds on the outside of the bird
 - as opposed to worms (endo-parasite) that feed on the inside.
- It attacks resting birds, mainly during the night for a short (1 - 2 hours) blood meal.
- After feeding, the mites hide in cracks and crevices away from daylight.
 - Here they mate and lay their eggs.
- **Red mites** are very small
- just visible without magnification
 - and may appear like moving specs of dirt
 - The eggs are microscopically small (400 x 270u) oval and pearly white.
- **Red mites** are not species specific and will "attack" any species or breed of bird.
- They do not fly nor are they *usually* transmitted via clothing
 - although if there is a bad infestation, mites have been known to "jump" onto a person's clothing and therefore could be transported this way to another location/Aviary etc.
 - Remember they are only usually out of their hidey-holes towards dusk/dark and would be unusual for them to be active during daylight hours.
- they are extremely mobile considering their microscopic size
- and can travel great distances relative to their size!
- They can be transferred from bird to bird
- or from wild birds landing on your Aviaries,
 - esp if there is an open area of roof.
- **Adults** - are red when engorged with blood
 - otherwise black, grey or white
 - females about 1 mm long
 - mouthparts : slender and whip like.
- **Life cycle (stages)**
 - Female mites deposit eggs (after a blood meal) in crevices,



- under boards, at the ends of perches where they butt up to the back of the cage
- or in debris near roosts
- Under warm conditions the eggs can transform into :
 - Six-legged larvae within 2 -3 days
 - These 6-legged larvae do not feed
 - Within 24 hours the larvae moult into 8-legged protonymphs - which do feed
 - Protonymphs start to feed on roosting birds
 - They then moult into deutonymphs
 - which continue feeding
 - before becoming an Adult Male or Female Red-Mite
- Deutonymphs
 - take a blood meal then moult into adults
 - Under favourable conditions the life cycle (egg-to-egg)
 - can be completed in 7 days (frightening!!)
- Adults have lived up to 5+ months without a Blood Meal
 - So, they can live off their host (the bird)
 - without a Blood Feed - for up to 5+ months and still survive!
 - They are nearly white when unfed
 - but are bright red, when recently fed
 - They are grey to black with a partially digested blood meal inside them.

Site of infestation

- Skin of the host, but most of the life cycle is spent in hiding places
- in the nest, Aviary, cage, perch-end or roost crevices.

Pathogenesis/clinical signs

- If the levels of infestation are high, the mite can cause increased stress to the birds - including :
 - Anaemia, due to blood loss
 - Severe skin irritation
 - Blood loss can cause increased susceptibility to disease
 - Esp. if the bird's living conditions aren't the most sanitary!
 - or may be severe enough to cause death
 - Clinical signs include restlessness,
 - scratching, usually around the head with the foot
 - or rubbing the head and face on perches (more often than usual)
- The mites can occasionally bite mammals, inc. humans,
 - causing painful skin irritation
 - often on the inside of the human forearm

Diagnosis

- A large infestation will cause anemia amongst small birds.
- they can be especially dangerous to small chicks in the nest.
- Mites may be difficult to find on the bird during daylight hours.
- Look for mites in their hiding places during the day with a magnifying glass,
 - mainly confined to dark hiding spaces.
- If you suspect you have Red-mite, hang a piece of white cloth/white sheet over the front of your cage and in the morning you will find blood-red mites (as they will have just fed)
 - they seem attracted to the white cloth.
- Check for tiny black spots - the mite's droppings
 - these are also indicative of infestation.

Control measures

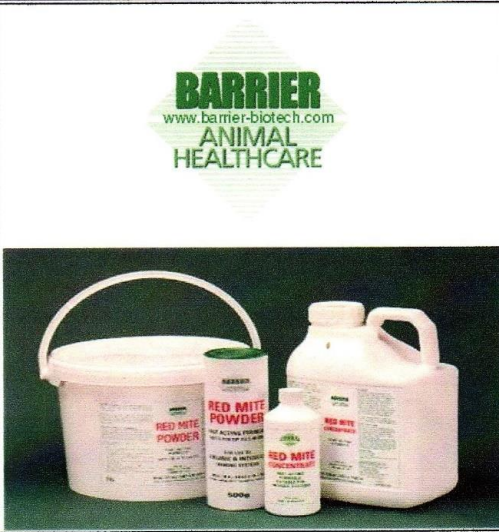
- An ideal alternative to wood, is to construct Aviaries/cages for birds
 - out of Plastic &/or metal
 - Plastic "Quicko" cages and metal (aluminum-panelled) Aviaries
 - thus eliminating crevices (hiding places) as much as possible.
- Seal as many joints & crevices of your Cages, Aviaries, Nestboxes & Feeders as possible
- Use "Painters' Mate" mastic (that sets hard) or similar (you can get it in brown)
- Red mites are able to survive rigorous cleaning and disinfections programmes
- Heat guns have been used to some effect on the joints and crevices of wood-work.
- Steam cleaners (no birds in the Aviary at the time!)
- Synthetic Pyrethroid (Cypermethrin)
- Pyrethroid (alphacypermethrin)
- Permethrin and Piperonyl Butoxide
 - Permethrin is also used in healthcare, to eradicate parasites such as head lice and scabies, and in industrial and domestic settings to control pests such as ants and termites.
- Silica-based products
- Citrus extracts
- FLYCAM W (Recommended by DEFRA for Poultry Farmers to eradicate Red Mite from their Flocks - apparently very effective - comes in powder form and can be diluted to spray).
- IVERMECTIN "spot-on" is one of the most effective preventative and eradicating measures you can take.
 - It works in a similar way to "Frontline" which you can buy to put on your dogs and cats to worm them and kill off fleas etc.
 - Ivermectin works systemically i.e. it is absorbed thru the skin or feather shaft into the birds body.
 - So, it follows that it also will be absorbed into your body thru your skin if you get it on you.

- You MUST WEAR rubber GLOVES before you catch up your bird to administer it
- It can make you feel ill and you know you have absorbed it because you get a strange bitter taste in your mouth!
- Catch up your bird and blow the feathers apart at the back of its neck where it can't get its beak to preen.
- Put one or 2 drops (check directions first so you do not overdose) on the back of the bird's neck, as near to the skin as possible.
- Give it a few seconds to start to absorb before letting the bird go.
- IVERMECTIN controls and helps to kill both internal (worms) and external (mites and lice etc.) parasites.
- You can get "Panomec" from your Vets
- Some Pharmaceutical firms are now supplying a 1% solution which can be sold over the counter.
 - You can buy it over the internet or from certain Pet shops and at Bird Sales.
- Duramitex - is a solution you can use
 - - You dilute with water and sprayed into all the crevices and hiding places.
 - You can use 1 litre plant spray
 - or empty and rinse thoroughly a kitchen cleaning spray bottle and fill with the mix.
 - Remember it's better to try and spray towards dusk/dark
 - to try and get the Red Mite as they emerge from their hiding places
 - Remove your birds FIRST BEFORE SPRAYING!
 - You can buy this product from Pet stores or Bird Shows.
 - Wear a protective mask over your nose and mouth when spraying.
 - It can't be healthy breathing it in!
 - Also, rubber gloves
 - It's very strong smelling, so don't take any risks
- Feeding your bird Garlic (helps deter mites)
 - It works by exuding a strong garlic smell through the bird's skin,
 - which the mites and other biting insects don't seem to like
 - (you can buy pure Garlic powder or granules from Agricultural merchants or Saddlers)
 - Add it to a soft food such as Egg Food &/or sweetcorn
- Eucalyptus leaves/branches in the Aviary is supposed to help to deter Red-Mites
- It has been rumoured that having Zebra Finches in the Aviary seems to help get rid of them
 - One theory is that they eat them
 - The other theory is that when the Red-mite sucks the Zebra's blood it is toxic to them and kills them
 - Not sure which, if any is true - but worth trying
 - - if you have a small-bird Aviary where the Zebra Finch would fit in with the other birds.

- Just remember tho. if you are breeding in an Aviary, Zebras are noted for building a nest on top (i.e. inside) of any other birds nest,
- on top of eggs too, if there are any in there.

Directions for use - Red Mite Concentrate or any Anti-mite spray preparation :

- Red mite is a nocturnal creature so it's best to spray the birds at night.
- Check the preparation you are using is safe to use on birds or NEAR to birds
 - **BEFORE YOU SPRAY** with your birds in their Aviary.
- Dim the lights as low as practically possible to avoid any undue agitation amongst the birds.
- Don't forget that red mite can live away from the bird for up to 36 weeks.

<p>Red Mite Concentrate and Red Mite Powder are effective repellent combinations to be applied to birds as a pro-active 'on-bird' deterrent to infestation or to rectify an existing problem. This formulation uses only 100% natural ingredients. Its active ingredient is a synergised tropical plant extract mixed with a blend of herbal and essential oils, all of which are proven effective against all types of mite and lice.</p> <p>The product comes in two application methods: A powder - to dust on for a long lasting effect. A liquid concentrate - for knapsack application at 1:50 dilution.</p> <p>Contents: Our formulation uses 100% natural ingredients known for their excellent properties to thoroughly rid poultry and other birds of all types of mite and lice. Its active ingredient is a synergised tropical plant extract mixed with a blend of herbal and essential oils, all of which are proven very effective for this purpose. www.barrier-biotech.com</p>	 <p>The image shows the Barrier Animal Healthcare logo at the top, which includes the website address www.barrier-biotech.com. Below the logo, there are four product containers: a large white bucket of Red Mite Powder, a smaller white bucket of Red Mite Concentrate, a white spray bottle of Red Mite Concentrate, and a white jug of Red Mite Concentrate. The products are arranged on a dark surface against a light background.</p>
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"GRANDDAD'S" Tried & Tested Red-Mite deterrents

- Paint Paraffin into the cracks and crevices with a small paintbrush
- Mix Paraffin with Vaseline and smear in Cracks and crevices + Nest pan bases
 - Vaseline smothers the mites - as in scaly-face and scaly-leg
- Use Carbolic Soap in the same way you would use the Paraffin & Vaseline
- Double-sided sticky tape over cracks and crevices
- Coca Cola - the coke sticks to them and the Acid in the coke breaks down the Red Mite's outer shell, killing them.
 - A very sticky, but apparently effective treatment!

Ever wondered what's in an insect spray?

- and what drives those annoying bugs away?
- Well, read on . . .
- One of the most common substances used in insect spray is called Permethrin is often used on clothing, tents etc.
- There are also several natural insecticides
 - like citronella, oils of cedarwood, lemongrass, peppermint, eucalyptus, soya bean oil, garlic and many more.
- Blood sucking insects are attracted to many chemical and physical factors, including carbon dioxide,

body heat, chemicals in sweat, and on the surface of skin

- Insect bites can be annoying for the itching they cause but they can also be harmful by transmitting certain diseases to humans and birds.

- Permethrin is a powerful, rapidly acting insecticide

- similar in structure to natural Pyrethrum insecticide, which is the natural active ingredient in many flea repellants for dogs, cats as well as birds.
- The natural Pyrethrum is safe to use on and around your birds.
- It is derived from the crushed and dried flowers of the Daisy Chrysanthemum (cinerariifolium).
- Permethrin is a human-made synthetic pyrethroid.
- It works as a "contact insecticide"
- causing nervous system toxicity to the insect after it inhales it
- this leads to the death or "knockdown" (out of the air) of the insect.
- The chemical is effective against mosquitoes, flies, ticks, and mites.
- Permethrin has low toxicity in mammals, & is poorly absorbed by the skin

- Permethrin should be applied directly to clothing or other fabrics such as tent walls or mosquito nets, not to skin.

- It remains active for quite some time as a deterrent, if applied to surfaces.

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Working with Nature

Red Mite Concentrate

Red Mite Concentrate and Red Mite Powder are effective repellent combinations to be applied to poultry as a proactive 'on bird' deterrent to infestation or to rectify an existing problem. Our formulation uses only 100% natural ingredients. Its active ingredient is a synergised tropical plant extract mixed with a blend of herbal and essential oils, all of which are proven effective against all types of mite and lice. The product comes in two application methods:
A powder - to dust on for a long lasting effect.
A liquid concentrate - for knapsack application at 1:50 dilution.



Contents: Our formulation uses 100% natural ingredients known for their excellent properties to thoroughly rid poultry and other birds of all types of mite and lice. Its active ingredient is a synergised tropical plant extract mixed with a blend of herbal and essential oils, all of which are proven very effective for this purpose.

Fully HSE Approved - Licence No. 8719.: Full HSE Approval - Licence No 8719: In accordance with the Biocidal Products Directive, regulations require any product which holds itself out as any form of repellent to secure an approval and licence number from the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). This approval requires the active ingredient (Ai) to be listed on the label together with the amount of Ai being used. In April, 2006 Barrier Animal Healthcare secured the necessary approval and the licence number 8304 for this product.

Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

Suitable for use in Organic Farming Systems: Developed for use in intensive farming systems, but also suitable for use in organic farming systems, as it falls into the exempt category of products which use only plant oils as active ingredients, as listed in Annexe IIB (Pesticides) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 (as amended).

Have I got red mite?: An increase in feed consumption accompanied by a decrease in production/growth is signs that a poultry house should be examined for mites. They are often found by looking under loose clods of litter, under slats, in nests or in any cracks and crevices in the house structure. They are evident as tiny red to blackish dots often in clusters.

Severe Irritation: Birds will suffer severe irritation resulting in depressed production. There is usually an increase in vent pecking, cannibalism and general distress to the birds.

Outside treatment : In warmer conditions, Red Mite can survive outdoors - even in grass and will wait until treated areas are no longer a danger. Entrances must be regularly treated.

What is Red Mite?: These tiny free-living bloodsuckers are a common problem for the poultry industry with many producers seeing their effect on the health and productivity of their stock. Chickens are the main hosts, with mite troubling flocks of broiler breeders, free range and barn egg layers. They may also occur in ducks, geese, turkeys, pigeons and other avian species. Red Mite can survive away from birds for up to 38 weeks. It is important to continue application after they appear to have gone. It is also advisable to treat housing - entrances, slats, roof structures, cracks and crevices with an effective AND suitable pesticide.

Life cycle : Red Mite are able to live away from birds for up to 38 weeks and so it is essential that application continues to prevent re-infestation.

Know your enemy: Red mite are nocturnal ectoparasites, feeding on the birds as they roost at night and disappearing into the cracks and crevices of the building structure during the day.

The adult female measures 0.7 mm x 0.4 mm and is red in colour after feeding or otherwise grey/black in appearance. They thrive in the warm food-rich environment of a poultry house where their life cycle can be as short as 7 days. The larvae hatch and mature into egg laying adults in as little as 3-4 days, which can result in dramatic population growth. They persist in empty poultry houses due to their ability to roll themselves into a tight ball putting their tough sclerotized, chemical resistant shell outwards. In this kind of hibernation state they have been known to survive up to 34 weeks, even without feeding. They may arrive on the farm in equipment such as egg trays, contaminated feed, through intakes of infested birds, or through wild bird transmission.

Infestation Problems: A red mite infestation can mean one or more of the following problems:

Mild to severe irritation of the birds resulting in depressed production.
An increase in floor eggs - since birds will avoid heavily infested nest boxes.
An increase in vent pecking, cannibalism and general distress to the birds.
Clinical anaemia, leading to dull, pale combined birds and possibly death.
Pale yolk colour.

Eggs stained red with crushed mites or mite faeces resulting in downgrading of eggs.
Dermatitis or skin irritation of farm staff collecting eggs and caring for birds.

Eggs: Red Mite infestation may cause eggs to be stained red with crushed mites or mite faeces, a decrease in egg production or pale coloured yoke.

Hygiene: The risk of the red mite infestation can be reduced by a complete and effective farm hygiene

programme, with regular health checks on bird intakes, careful examination to ensure any new equipment brought onto the farm is properly disinfected and effective measures against wild bird contamination. At depletion all equipment should be removed from the house and completely mucked out. Terminal disinfect using our MAFF approved Barrier V1 disinfectant . This is suitable for organic farming systems and can be used on all equipment, slats and fabric of the building.

Best time to apply: The best time to treat the birds is in the evening, because Red Mite are nocturnal and so feed on the birds as they roost at night. Apply in accordance with the directions for use, directly onto the birds.

Directions for use - Red Mite Concentrate: Red mite is a nocturnal creature so it's best to spray the birds at night.

Dim the lights as low as practically possible to avoid any undue agitation amongst the birds.

Don't forget that red mite can live away from the bird for up to 36 weeks.

Liquid Concentrate: Shake well. To use as a general preventative, dilute the product 1 part concentrate to 50 parts water (500ml bottle will make 25L of ready to use product) To correct an existing problem, bring the dilution down to 1 part concentrate to 20 parts water (500ml bottle will make 12.5L of ready to use product). Normally the product is applied via a knapsack sprayer and applied directly over the poultry. Shake before spraying directly and evenly over the birds. For severe infestation repeat within 7 days.

Also see Red Mite Powder.

Also available as Powder Application: This product is also available as a powder application to dust onto the birds or to include in the dust bath.

Sterilizable maize is used as the carrier and unlike other carriers, it will not metabolise via cuts, abrasions, scabs, grazes or dry flaky skin areas and form granulomas.

Lightly dust Red Mite Powder over the birds. Dependant upon infestation, the powder can be applied again after 5/6 weeks. If you are affected by dust allergies, it's advisable to wear a mask during application.

Safety Data: Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

Available Pack Sizes : 500ml, 5L , 20L - Also available in powder - see Red Mite Powder, available in 500g shaker & 5K bucket.

To search for your local stockist of **Barrier Animal Healthcare** products just enter your county and click search.

<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Search"/>
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Terms and Conditions

Barrier Animal Healthcare, 36 Haverscroft Industrial Estate, New Road, Attleborough, Norfolk, NR17 1YE.
Co.Reg 2493312

Tel + 44 (0)1953 456363 sales@barrier-biotech.com Fax + 44 (0)1953 455594

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Working with Nature

Red Mite Powder

Red Mite Powder and Red Mite Concentrate are effective repellent combinations to be applied to poultry as a proactive 'On bird' deterrent to infestation or to rectify an existing problem. The product comes in two application methods: A powder - to dust on for a long lasting effect. A liquid concentrate - for knapsack application at 1:50 dilution.

Suitable for use in Organic Farming Systems:

Red Mite Powder contains only pure and natural ingredients. Red Mite Powder was developed for use in intensive farming systems, but is also suitable for use in organic farming systems, as it falls into the exempt category of products which use only plant oils as active ingredients, as listed in Annex IIB (Pesticides) of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2092/91 (as amended).

Contents: Our formulation uses only 100% natural ingredients known for their excellent properties to thoroughly rid poultry and other birds of all types of mite and lice. Its active ingredient is a synergised tropical plant extract

mixed with a blend of herbal and essential oils, all of which are proven very effective for this purpose. Sterilizable maize is used as the carrier and unlike other carriers, it will not metabolise via cuts, abrasions, scabs, grazes or dry flaky skin areas and form granulomas.

Never use chemical based products in conjunction with our natural products as this could render ours useless.

Fully HSE Approved - Licence No. 8710: Full HSE Approval - Licence No 8710: In accordance with the Biocidal Products Directive, regulations require any product which holds itself out as any form of repellent to secure an approval and licence number from the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). This approval requires the active ingredient (Ai) to be listed on the label together with the amount of Ai being used. In April, 2006 Barrier Animal Healthcare secured the necessary approval and the licence number 8309 for this product.

Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

Best time to apply : The best time to treat the birds is in the evening, because Red Mite are nocturnal and so feed on the birds as they roost at night. Apply in accordance with the directions for use, directly onto the birds.

Directions for use - Powder application: Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

The powder can be dusted onto the birds or added to the dust bath.

Red mite is a nocturnal creature so it's best to spray the birds before lights out.

Dim the lights as low as practically possible to avoid any undue agitation amongst the birds.

Don't forget that red mite can live away from the bird for up to 36 weeks.

Lightly dust Red Mite Powder over the birds. Dependant upon infestation, the powder can be applied again after 5/6 weeks.

Staying power: Red Mite Powder contains minute slow release granules that remain effective for up to six weeks - depending upon infestation and conditions.

Also Available As Liquid Concentrate Application : This product is also available as a Liquid Concentrate:

When diluting the concentrate always dilute the whole bottle in one go and use as directed. Shake diluted mix well before use and spray directly and evenly over the birds.

For ongoing maintenance: Dilute 1 part product to 50 parts water. (500ml bottle will make 25L of ready to use product).

Where infestation exists: Bring the dilution rate down to 1 part product to 20 parts water and repeat within 7 days.

Normally the product is applied via a knapsack sprayer and applied directly over the poultry.

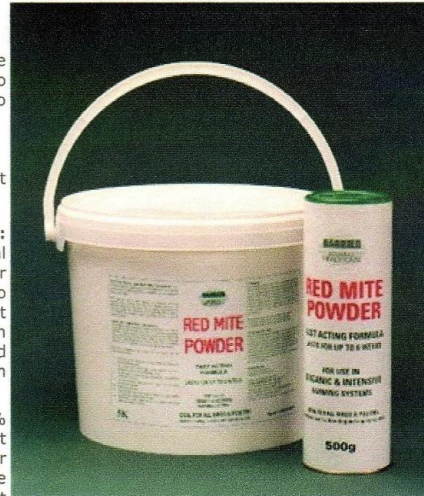
Never use chemical based products in conjunction with natural products as the chemical will render natural products useless.

Have I got red mite? : An increase in feed consumption accompanied by a decrease in production/growth is signs that a poultry house should be examined for mites. They are often found by looking under loose clods of litter, under slats, in nests or in any cracks and crevices in the house structure. They are evident as tiny red to blackish dots often in clusters.

Hygiene: The risk of the red mite infestation can be reduced by a complete and effective farm hygiene programme, with regular health checks on bird intakes, careful examination to ensure any new equipment brought onto the farm is properly disinfected and effective measures against wild bird contamination. At depletion all equipment should be removed from the house and completely mucked out. Disinfection with our Barrier V1 is essential and the house equipment, slats and fabric of the building should be thoroughly cleaned off. An insecticide may then be used before restocking. With a flock in production that is showing signs of infestation, effective but safe control is essential. BHC based products such as carbaryl and lindane have now been withdrawn from the market and the remaining treatments, which are organo-phosphate compounds, should be avoided.

Life cycle: Red Mite are able to live away from birds for up to 38 weeks and so it is essential that application continues to prevent re-infestation.

Eggs: Red Mite infestation may cause eggs to be stained red with crushed mites or mite faeces, a decrease in egg production or pale coloured yoke.



Outside treatment: In warmer conditions, Red Mite can survive outdoors - even in grass. They will wait until treated areas are no longer a danger. Treat entrances regularly.

Precautions: Use biocides safely. Always read the label and product information before use.

Available Pack Sizes : 500g Shaker, 5Kg Bucket - also available in liquid concentrate.

To search for your local stockist of **Barrier Animal Healthcare** products just enter your county and click search.

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Terms and
Conditions

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Tel + 44 (0)1953 456363 sales@barrier-biotech.com Fax + 44 (0)1953 455594

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CHLORCARB Red Mite

Non-toxic red mite product.

[More Details](#)

UNIQUE POINTS:

- Very safe and extremely effective.
- Repels red mite, fleas, lice and other parasites/insects.

BENEFITS:

Can be used either as a spray for loft, aviaries and equipment or as a dip/spray for direct application to birds.

INGREDIENTS:

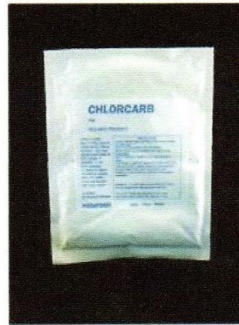
Synergised extracts

ADMINISTRATION:

As a loft or aviary spray - 1 sachet per 5 litres of water. As a dip or direct spray for birds - half a sachet per 5 litres.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Unlike many other products, this actually works!!!



[Click thumbnails to Enlarge](#)



25g sachet - makes 5 litres
£6.95

Quantity:

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