

Parasitic Diseases

***The Parasitic diseases divided into:-
(External & Internal Parasites).**

1- The External Parasites are (Ticks, Lice, and Mite).

2-The Internal Parasites are :-

**A) Nematodes (nematodes of the upper digestive tract
& Respiratory tract).**

B) Cestodes (*Davainea proglottina* & *Raillietina spp*).

1 External Parasites.

***Definition:** - External parasites or “ectoparasites” are arthropods that live on or in the **skin** or **feathers**, using the host as both shelter and food source. Ectoparasites can have significant impacts on animal **health** and **productivity**.

1-Ticks:-

- 1- The most important tick is soft tick *Argas persicus*.
- 2- The parasites present in birds in **night** and hide in day, it suck blood.
- 3- The infestation of ticks can cause **anemia**, weight loss, and **lower egg production**.
- 4- Ticks can transmit various **bacterial** and **rickettsial** diseases.

2-Lice:-

- 1-It spends their **entire life cycle** on the **host**.
- 2-Present on body around cloacal region, under wings, between thigh and head.
- 3- Lice infestation increase in Autumn and Winter.
- 4- Lice laying **eggs** on the **base of the feathers**.
- 5- Female lice glue their eggs (nits) to host feathers. These eggs hatch into nymphs in about four to seven days.
- 6-It cause irritation, which leads to appetite loss and increase disease Susceptibility.
- 7-It cause red, scabby, irritated **skin** and reduced **egg** production.
- 8-it feeding on dry skin and feathers.

3-Mite:-

- 1-Mites moving onto the birds at night to feed, and hiding in cracks and cervices during the day.
- 2-It is transmitted to poultry via wild birds or rodents.

3-It divided in 3 types:-

A-Red mites. also known **The chicken mite, *Dermanyssus gallinae***

Causing reduction in weight and egg production.

B-Body mange.it lead to drop of feather particularly head neck, it cause Emaciation and anemia.

C- Scaly leg mites, *Knemidocoptes mutans*.

1-Burrow under the leg scales of chickens, turkeys, pheasants, and other birds.

2- Their presence stimulates host epithelial proliferation, resulting in hypertrophy and cornification.

3- The legs become thickened and distorted; affected birds may be crippled if the infestation is severe.

4- Scaly leg mites are found on wild birds, which can introduce infestations into domestic flocks.

***Treatment of ectoparasite in general:-**

1-Cleaning the affected area with warm water, drying it, then you can use one of the following methods:-

A- Dipping in container containing water and Malathion.

B- Spraying, this can be regulated by passing the birds through tunnels containing sprayer.

C-Greasing, we can use ointments or creams.

D-Dusting, especially Malathion.

2-We can use insecticide for wall, floor, roof, equipments and tools.

3-Supportive treatments contain Multivitamins and Minerals.