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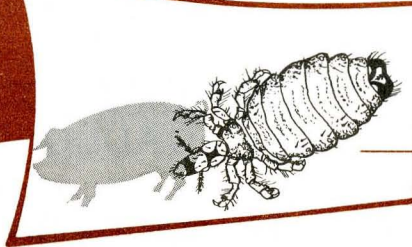
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entomology



Control of Hog Lice and Mange

by ROBERT ROSELLE,
Extension Entomologist

DAMAGE CAUSED BY HOG LICE

The hog louse (*Haematopinus suis*) is the largest species of louse found on domestic animals. It may attain a length of one-quarter of an inch. The body is oval, and the legs terminate in large, dark claws well adapted to cling to hairs. Hog lice are bluish-gray in color. They are found only on hogs except in very unusual cases. The eggs or "nits" are glued to the hairs and hatch in 12 to 20 days. Young lice mature in 10 to 12 days. The average life cycle is about 35 days.

Lice suck blood from the host, and may occur on any part of the body. They prefer the lower half of the sides, the neck, shoulders, and flanks. Young lice may congregate in the ears during cold weather.

Dipping or spraying in the fall are the recommended control measures. Several insecticides can be used, the following are suggested:

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INSECTICIDE	AMOUNT PER 100 GALLONS WATER	APPLICATION	RESTRICTIONS
Lindane, 20% EC* Lindane, 25% WP**	1 quart 2 pounds	Dip or spray. Repeat after 3 weeks if necessary.	Do not treat within 30 days of slaughter.
Malathion 57% EC* Malathion 25% WP**	1 gallon 16 pounds	Spray only. Repeat after 3 weeks if necessary.	
Methoxychlor 25% EC* Methoxychlor 50% WP*	2 gallons 8 pounds	Spray or dip. Repeat after 3 weeks if necessary.	
DDT, 25% EC* DDT, 50% WP**	2 gallons 8 pounds	Dip or spray. One treatment only.	Do not treat within 30 days of slaughter.
Co-ral, 25% WP**	16 pounds	Spray only.	Do not treat within 60 days of slaughter.
DDT 10% dust Lindane, 1% dust		Cover animals thoroughly. One application only.	Do not treat within 30 days of slaughter.

*EC. emulsifiable concentrate. If the emulsifiable concentrate is used, be certain it is prepared especially for livestock spraying.

**WP. wettable powder.

HOG MANGE

Two kinds of mange mites infest hogs. They are the sarcoptic or common mange (*Sarcoptes scabiei*), and the demodectic mange mite (*Demodex phylloides*).

Sarcoptic or common mange is the most frequent. Common mange mites burrow beneath the surface of the skin. Early signs of common mange are tiny, pimply granules around the eyes, ears, nose and the under parts of the body. In advanced cases dry, scurvy, scabby areas are formed all over the body. Rubbing by animals cause much hair to be lost, and the infested areas may be entirely bald.

For control of sarcoptic mange, lindane sprays or dips are recommended. Use 1 quart of 20% lindane emulsifiable concentrate or 2 pounds of 25% wetttable powder to 100 gallons of water. Do not treat within 30 days of slaughter. Do not treat suckling pigs or pregnant sows.

Demodectic mange is caused by microscopic worm-like mites that infest the hair follicles and oil glands of skin. Severe infestations cause deep, well marked lesions or sores. Light infestations apparently cause no serious discomfort to animals.

There is no specific cure for demodectic mange. Lindane sprays as recommended for sarcoptic mange, or frequent dippings in crude oil will check its progress and heal many old lesions. Animals having advanced cases which do not respond to treatment should be slaughtered.

Large populations of hog lice and mange mites develop on poorly fed animals that are kept in unsanitary pens and houses. To help prevent hog lice and mange, animals should be fed balanced rations, and kept in sanitary pens and houses.