

Avian Ring Worm (Favus)

Dr./ Wafaa Abd El-ghany
Assistant Professor of poultry dis.,
Fac. Vet. Med., Cairo Univ.

Epidemiology

- Chronic dermatomycosis characterized by thick grayish white crusts on the comb and wattles.
- The cause is *Microsporum gallinae* (*M. gallinae*), *M. gypseum* and *Trichophyton simi*.
- All birds especially heavy breeds are susceptible.
- It is zoonotic disease (affect man).
- The disease is transmit through direct and indirect contact. With contaminated pens, litter or equipments or by scales or crusts of the affected birds.

Diagnosis

- **Clinical signs and lesions:**

1. Thick, grayish white crusts (Chalky like powder) on the un-feathered parts (comb and wattles, face).
2. Crusts aggregate together to form dirty grayish white wrinkled crusts.
3. Advanced cases show extension of the lesions to the neck and body causing patches devoid of feathers.

- **Laboratory diagnosis:**

Skin scrapping for detection of the fungi microscopically).



Macroconidia of *M. gallinae* .

Prevention and control

- Severely affected birds should be culled (destroyed).
- Mildly or early infected birds should be segregated and kept in isolation and treated as the following:
 1. Dipping the bird in 0.5% of Pentachlorophenol or 5-Bromo-salicylic acid 4-chloride.
 2. Remove the crusts with warm water and apply one of the following preparations:
 - Sulphur ointment 10%.
 - Salicylic acid ointment 10-15%.
 - Tincture iodine and glycerin
 - Silver nitrate ointment 1-5%.
 - Mercurial ointment 1-15%.

Prevention and control

- Favus is zoonotic disease, so take care during handling of affected birds to avoid disease transmission to human.
- Thorough cleaning and disinfection of houses, all equipments, feeders and drinkers with copper sulphate soln.
- Spray the ground around containers with sodium hydroxide or copper sulphate soln.
- Antibiotic rotation or cycling to overcome the problem of acquired resistance, so accurate dose, appropriate dose intervals and proper course are very important.

THANK YOU