

RED MITE -TREATMENT OPTIONS



Red mite –as well all other parasites- are present in all farms through the years and farmers were combating with them in different ways. As research and development of new molecules advances, new products come to the market to confront and solve such problem. Each product claims, to be unique and solve the problem with mites once and for all.

The variety of products goes from:

1. Pharmaceutical medicines which in most cases do give excellent results for quite some time, until develops resistance to active ingredient, or the residues issues that complicates the problem.
2. Natural extracts –herbal ingredients- are another form of products to cover the bio aspect of mites and at the same time to have zero withdrawal time.

Truth to be said is that all products developed come to the market after extensive field trials and promising uniqueness as well as effectiveness that should reach 90%. In some cases, the problem of not being effective as it is stated to be comes from the fact, that the product was not used according to manufacturer instructions. Wrong time of usage, wrong dosage wrong applications are some of factors that a product doesn't perform as expected.

Selection of best promising product should be done on a value for money basis. Criteria should be:

-How many applications are required to get maximum effectiveness? It should be more than 85%.

-Is there resistance on the product used? It means that even though the product it is applied the problem persists.

-Is there withdrawal period? It means that for the period product is used, products cannot be sold.

-Are there any other benefits –besides mites- when used the product? Better feed conversion rate, better health of treated birds, less bacterial burden.

If product chosen doesn't protect your flock from mite infestation with marginal benefits, it is time to reconsider the product. As cheap as a product can be, if it has to be used time after time (i.e. every month) it is wasting time and money. Plus disturbing flock for no reason. A product that claims:

- no residues,
- no resistance,
- effectiveness higher than 85% (if used as suggested),
- better overall health of animals,
- better feed conversion rate,
- less bacterial burden,
- better egg quality,
- increase egg production (due to calm flock).

Then, it is time to consider that product that could offer you all the above.