



TIPS FOR LICE, MITES, FLEAS, TICKS IN LIVESTOCK

Lice, mites, fleas, and ticks are blood-sucking parasites and act as stressors to livestock. They arrive at the farm through birds, pets, rodents, vehicles, equipment, and other livestock. Ticks are especially a concern for pastured livestock.

Check out the following tips and information for controlling these pests on livestock.

- **Lice, mites, and fleas live predominantly on animals**
- **Some mite species crawl onto animals for feeding but live in the barn environment or on equipment**
- **Lice and mites can live away from the host for a short time, allowing them to survive after the animals have been moved or shipped, until the new animals arrive**
- **Parasites spread from animal to animal throughout the barn**
- **Lice are more problematic in the winter months**
- **Lice can be found by parting the hair to look for eggs**
 - » Neck, withers, shoulders, mid-back and tail-head areas are most common locations
- **Look for physical signs of lice infestation such as rubbing against fence posts, feed troughs, etc. caused by irritation**
- **Always seek the advice of a veterinarian and follow their directions for the selection and application of all treatment products**
- **It may be necessary to treat the entire herd when an infestation is identified as spread can happen quickly**
 - » Use registered products and follow all label recommendations
 - » Re-treatment of animals or spaces may be needed due to the short reproductive lifecycle of the pests
- **Clean out and wash pens and barns after animals have been moved/shipped using appropriate products to destroy residual parasite populations**
- **Take preventative measures to create an inhospitable environment for ticks**
 - » Keep grassy areas surrounding pastures maintained

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