



There are two main causes of leg lesions in birds. They can be caused by a virus affecting mainly finches (Papillomavirus) or by mites (Cnemidocoptes spp.), the latter affecting almost all songbird species. There are many colloquial names for these conditions, including “tassel foot” for papillomatosis and “mange” or “scaly foot” for cnemidocoptosis.

Whilst medicines are available for the treatment of cnemidocoptosis in captive birds, effective treatment in the wild is not possible. No drugs are available for the treatment of papillomatosis in wild or captive birds. Please help to avoid disease transmission by following the basic advice below:

- Routine good table hygiene. Clean away uneaten food and droppings before putting out fresh food and disinfect feeders and feeding sites on a regular basis
- Provision of clean and fresh drinking water on a daily basis
- Rotate feeder positions in the garden to avoid build-up of contamination in any one area and pay particular attention to clearing food remains that fall on the ground



How to prevent infections



Wild Bird Aid

Following best practice for feeding garden birds is recommended to help control and prevent transmission of many diseases at feeding stations all year round.

Thank you very much!