

FELINE MILIARY DERMATITIS

WHAT IS MILIARY DERMATITIS?

Miliary dermatitis is the term used to describe certain characteristic lesions that a cat manifests in the course of various skin diseases.

WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE

The appearance of small, diffuse crusts on the cat's skin is characteristic. It is frequently associated with itching and self-induced lesions (alopecia, excoriations and ulcers).

THE CAUSES

There can be many causes, and their identification depends on a thorough diagnosis.

The following is a list of the most common causes of miliary dermatitis:

- Ectoparasitic infestations (cheyletiellosis, otodectic mange etc.)
- Hypersensitivity to flea bite or to other parasitic and non-parasitic arthropods
- Dermatophytosis
- Feline atopic syndrome
- Food allergy

DIAGNOSIS

To determine which of the above diseases is the cause of your cat's miliary dermatitis the following diagnostic tests will need to be performed:

- Direct diagnostic tests for identification of parasites and dermatophytes
- A trial of antiparasitic treatment
- Dietary testing to identify any adverse reactions to food