

External Parasites

Ticks

While fleas can give rise to a bunch of skin problems in cats and dogs and can act as the intermediate host for a tapeworm, ticks are vectors for some nasty diseases like canine ehrlichiosis, Lyme's disease and canine and feline babesiosis. Apart from these diseases, a tick bite can cause skin irritations in some sensitive animals and can exacerbate an existing skin sensitivity problem or on heavy infestation cause severe anaemia.

If you would like to read more about ticks, please [click here](#).

Mites

Mites can be divided into the following categories:

- Demodex
- Sarcoptes Scabies
- Orange Harvest Mites
- Cheyletiellosis

If you would like to read more about mites, please [click here](#).

Fleas (not a big problem in UAE)

In cats and dogs, fleas are perhaps the most known external parasite problem by pet owners. Fleas have been around for a very long time and know a thing or two about species survival, so getting rid of a flea problem is never easy.

Keep the following in mind when tackling fleas on your cat or dog.

They are an environmental problem, not a pet problem. Yes, you will see the fleas on your pet, but those you see are a very small proportion of the total flea population in your pet's environment (approx 1% visible to you vs 99% hidden in the environment!). The implication of this is that you cannot hope to beat a flea problem by only treating the pet - you have to include the environment in your plans. If you would like to read more about fleas, please [click here](#)

Lice

Not too often seen in the UAE but especially found on newly bought puppies brought in from abroad. There are two types of lice, biting and suckling lice and they can be controlled by regular anti-parasiticide treatment (monthly spot-on)



Lice

We have now covered the most common ecto-parasites and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask us via AsktheVet@abvc.ae or AsktheNurse@abvc.ae



Louse

Final warning

Please remember, that whichever external parasites you are treating, it is vital that you understand that most of the preparations you use are poisonous (otherwise they wouldn't kill the parasite!) and can harm your pet but also you and your family, if not used correctly