

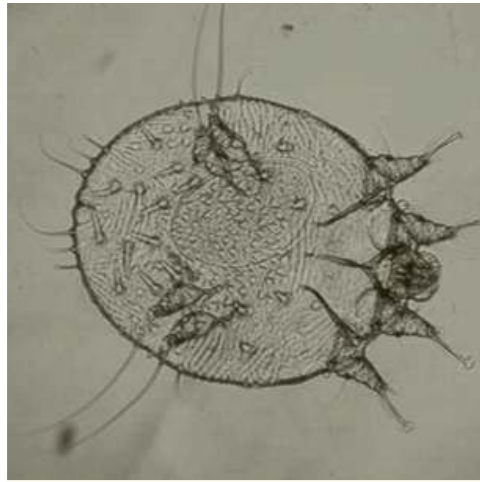
# Dog Mange - Scabies & Demodex mites



## Scabies Mange

## Demodex Mange

What Causes it?



Scabies mites:  
***Sarcoptes scabiei***

Scabies mite seen under a microscope.  
Image courtesy Graeme Brown



Demodex mites:  
***Demodex canis***

Demodex mites seen under a microscope.  
Image courtesy Graeme Brown

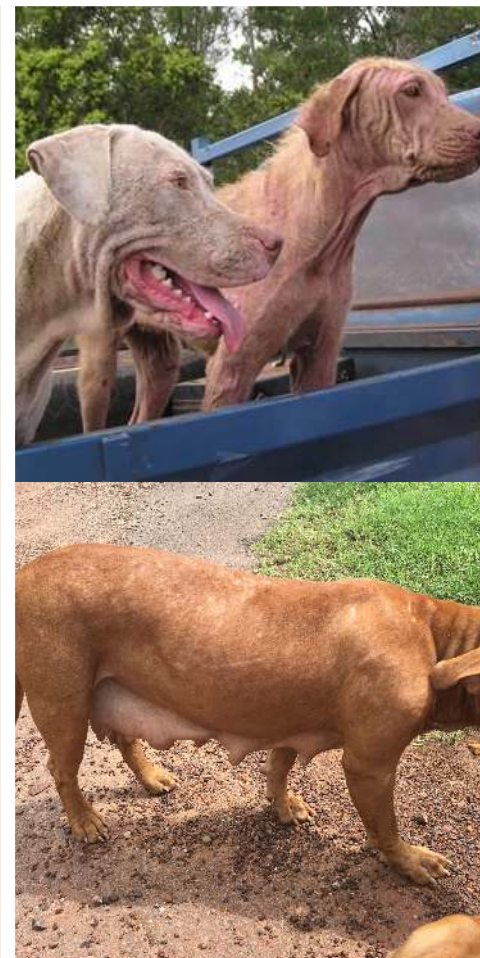
What signs do dogs show?



Dogs with scabies mange:

- lose their hair. This might start in small patches but can quickly progress to hair loss all over the dog's body
- might have sores and scabs, or crusted skin
- are **very** itchy, and spend a lot of time scratching
- are contagious - if there are other dogs in the house, they will normally have scabies mange too

Dogs with scabies mange.  
Images courtesy AMRRIC (top) & Helen Purdam (left)



Dogs with demodex mange:

- lose their hair. This usually starts with hairloss around the face, but can progress to larger areas
- are **not** usually very itchy
- are **not** contagious to other dogs

Dogs with demodex mange. Images courtesy Stephen Cutter (top) & AMRRIC (left)

Where do dogs catch the mites?

Dogs catch scabies mites from:

- other dogs with scabies
- places where dogs with scabies have been, like from bedding or mattresses where mangy dogs have been sleeping

Scabies mites can live for about 3 days in the environment.

Healthy adult dogs do not catch demodex from other dogs.

Dogs get demodex mites from their mum when they are very young. If their immune system is weak, the demodex mites can breed up and cause problems.

Some breeds - like pig dogs, pitbulls, SharPeis, and Staffordshire Bull Terriers - are also more likely to have problems with demodex mites.

Demodex mites cannot live in bedding or in the environment - they can only live on a dog.

Is it normal for healthy dogs to have some mites?

No. Healthy dogs do not have any scabies mites.

Even only 1 or 2 scabies mites can cause problems for dogs.

Yes. Healthy dogs can have small numbers of demodex mites without any problems.

Demodex mites only become a problem when they breed up in big numbers on a dog.

Can people catch it?

**Yes.** People can catch scabies mites from dogs.

People also have their own type of scabies mites; these mites are the main type of scabies mites found on people.

But, dog scabies mites can jump onto people, and human scabies mites can jump onto dogs.

If people have scabies and own dogs, their dogs should be treated for mites, even if the dogs aren't showing signs of mange. Dogs can be a hiding place for human scabies mites.

When mites burrow into the skin, they can cause skin sores and secondary bacterial infections. In people, this can increase the risk of serious health problems like Rheumatic Heart Disease and kidney disease (Acute Post-Streptococcal Glomerulonephritis - APSGN). Treating dogs for scabies is important for both the dog's health, and peoples' health.

**No.**

People cannot catch demodex from dogs.