

Hedgehog Bottom

Treatment for Ringworm and Mange

This regimen is by no means the only way to treat a hedgehog with ringworm and/or mange. We offer the information purely because we have had considerable success with it.

Do not expect it to be a quick fix.
These conditions can persist for many weeks.

It's unusual to get a hog that's completely bald, they tend to arrive with some spines and fur, plus scabs. The scabs are usually orange.

Before you can start to kill off the ringworm, you need to get rid of the scabs. Tea Tree, Neem or small dabs of almond oil to soften them until they fall off. Then use a toothbrush to get the creams onto the skin through the spines.

Always sterilise the toothbrush after use and clean any towels or protective clothing.

Ivermectin 0.1% - Pharmaq

We use the drops for caged birds once a week for 3 weeks, but you can get your vet to inject. We don't use it on hogs under 250g unless absolutely necessary.

Imaverol

Bath once a week for 4 weeks. On the days you're not bathing use in daily rotation:

Neem Oil

Tea Tree Cream – (Thursday Plantation - is nice and runny)

Canesten Thrush Cream

Scholl Athlete's Foot Cream

Daktarin Cream

or similar anti-fungals. The hog will be less feisty if you warm the creams first.

Hedgehogs sweat through glands on their tummy. Do not use creams or oils there as the hog will overheat. If it's a tiny area you're trying to treat for scabs then apply direct to the scab with a fine brush otherwise use something that soaks straight in such as Neem oil, but use it sparingly.

Keep this regime up until the fur and spines are growing back. In the case of a hog that still has some spines, keep going until spine loss is minimal at which point treat every other day, then every 3 days until clear.

Keep the hog in an environment which can be kept scrupulously clean, large plastic crate for example. Newspaper for flooring needs to be changed every day. Bed needs to be washable so a small plastic box or crate is useful. Bedding should be changed every day, soaked in Milton fluid then very hot wash or boil wash.

Vitally important, keep hoggy well away from all other hogs and pets. If you have other animals in residence, sort their needs out first, never handle a mangy hog before a healthy one.

Make sure you wear gloves when handling the hog or bedding, either throw gloves away or sterilise them after each use. When you've removed your gloves, rub Tea Tree into your hands or use one of the specialist hand gels similar to those in hospitals. Spines can and do poke through gloves, this simple routine should ensure you don't catch the ringworm as well.

NB. Do not be tempted to give the hog baths. Frequent bathing dries the skin out and will cause irritation and scratching.

