

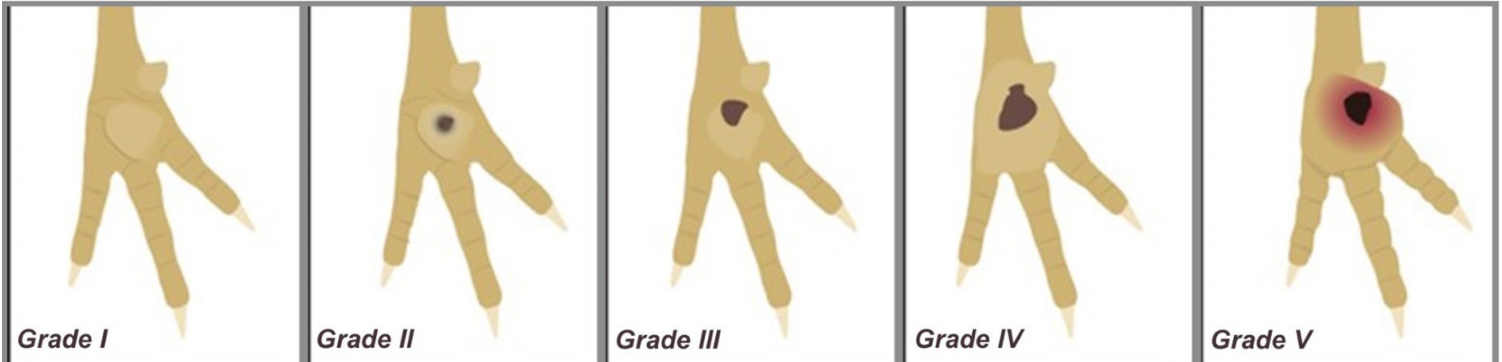


What is Bumblefoot?

Bumblefoot, also called pododermatitis, is a bacterial (typically Staph. aureus) infection of the foot pad. Infection develops after an injury to the footpad allows the bacteria to get inside the wound.

What Does Bumblefoot Look Like On-farm?

- ▶ Irritation of the footpad, ulcers as the disease progresses, and swelling will develop.
- ▶ The infected area may be warm to the touch.
- ▶ Redness around the scabbed area may be present.



Source: PoultryDVM

Grade I: Redness on the surface, shiny appearance, or small lesions. No infection apparent.

Grade II: Lesion with infected tissue, no swelling.

Grade III: Infected lesion with swelling.

Grade IV: Plug of dead tissue, with infection of tissue in the foot, mild lameness.

Grade V: Swelling around the plug of dead tissue, with severe lameness.

How Do You Prevent Bumblefoot in Your Flock?

- ▶ Feeding a well-balanced diet, especially in vitamin A.
- ▶ Provide a clean housing environment. Keep litter dry.
- ▶ Minimize surfaces that may injure birds' feet.

How Do You Treat Bumblefoot?

There are a variety of treatments for bumblefoot, including:

- ▶ Foot soaks with epsom salts or chlorhexidine solutions
- ▶ Bandaging with a dressing to facilitate healing
- ▶ Antibiotics
- ▶ Surgery performed by a veterinarian

Why Does Bumblefoot Matter?

- ▶ Severe cases of Bumblefoot can prevent birds from accessing food and water because they cannot or will not walk.
- ▶ Bumblefoot is painful for the bird.

Although there are treatments for Bumblefoot prevention and early detection are key to keeping birds healthy. Proper diet and clean housing with minimal environmental risk for birds to injure their footpad, reduces incidences of Bumblefoot.