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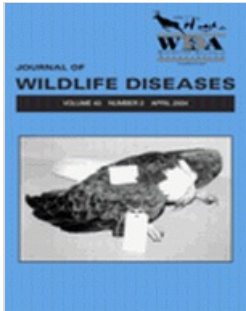
Sarcoptic Mange in Raccoons in Michigan

Scott D. Fitzgerald; Thomas M. Cooley; Alice Murphy; Betty A. Melinda K. Cosgrove; King

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Sarcoptic mange is a cause of pruritic skin disease in domestic dogs and a wide range of wildlife species. We describe sarcoptic mange in free-ranging raccoons (*Procyon lotor*). Three adult raccoons from upper Wayne County, Michigan (USA), were captured, killed, and submitted for diagnostic evaluation. The animals were intensely pruritic, and two had advanced alopecic and crusting lesions over their dorsum and hind limbs. Skin scrapings and skin biopsies revealed crusting and hyperkeratotic dermatitis with high numbers of *Sarcoptes scabiei* adults, larvae, nymphs, and eggs. These raccoons were not otherwise debilitated, with minimal internal parasites, good body condition, and no evidence of infectious bacterial or viral diseases. Because sarcoptic mange is highly contagious and affects many species, including humans, transiently, it is important that wildlife biologists and rehabilitators include sarcoptic mange in their differential list for raccoons exhibiting pruritus and alopecia.

Keywords: Parasites, pathology, *Procyon lotor*, raccoon, *Sarcoptes scabiei*, sarcoptic mange

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Sarcoptic mange has led to the decline in fox and wolf populations in some areas of the United States and Europe. Notoedric mange does not infect humans but is an important disease of domestic and wild cats as well as squirrels. Demodex mites are mostly species specific but a few species of Demodex can affect closely related mammals. Sarcoptic mange (ie, sarcoptic acariasis) is a transmissible dermatosis caused by the burrowing acarid mite *Sarcoptes scabiei*. Infestation, referred to as scabies, often results in acute and intense pruritus. Common in domestic dogs and rare in cats, sarcoptic mange can affect other mammalian species (eg, foxes, rabbits, guinea pigs, ferrets, sheep, goats, cattle, pigs, Spanish ibex, humans). Scabies occurs worldwide but is more prevalent in some regions because of environmental conditions. Signalment. No age, sex, or breed predilections. 7. Crusted scabies (sarcoptic mange) in four cats due to *Sarcoptes scabiei* infestation. Malik R, McKellar SK, Sousa CA, et al. *J Feline Med Surg* 8:327-339, 2006. Mange /'meɪndʒ/ is a type of skin disease caused by parasitic mites. Because mites also infect plants, birds, and reptiles, the term "mange" or colloquially "the mange", suggesting poor condition of the hairy coat due to the infection, is sometimes reserved only for pathological mite-infestation of nonhuman mammals. Thus, mange includes mite-associated skin disease in domestic animals (cats and dogs), in livestock (such as sheep scab), and in wild animals (for example, coyotes, cougars, and bears)