



Pet Dermatology Clinic
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Allergen Information Sheet

Storage Mites

Storage mites (*Tyrophagus putrescentiae*, *Acarus Siro*) are common allergens and may develop large numbers in environments where there is increased humidity and a food source. They are often found in dry carbohydrate sources, like dry dog food, flour, grain, straw, cereal, or behind wallpaper.

Storage mites can also live in conjunction with house dust mites and can be found in bedding, mattresses, upholstered furniture and fabrics.

If a pet is allergic to this mite, decreasing exposure can be helpful in managing clinical signs. It is impossible to remove all exposure to this mite, but population numbers can be controlled.

- Make sure food bags do not have holes or tears.
- Completely clean secondary storage bins with soap and hot water prior to adding a new batch of dog food, better yet, keep dog food in its original bag inside a storage container.
- Do not buy more than a 30 day supply of food at a time.
- Store excess dog food in the freezer, this will prevent mite growth.
- Clean food bowls and the ground where pets eat daily to remove crumbs.
- Do not feed outdated foods.