FAVUS
(Avian ringworm, Avian dermatophytosis)

DEFINITION

Favus is a mycotic infection found primary in gallinaceous birds. Favus is rare in commercial poultry today, but is occasionally reported in backyard flocks, especially exotic and game chickens. Characteristic lesions include white crusting on the comb and wattles [Fig. 1; Favus; Cornell U] that can extend to the feathered portion of the skin to form scutula around the bases of feather follicles. *Microsporum gallinae* is the agent most often isolated, although *M. gypseum* and *Trichophyton simii* have also been isolated. Topical treatment with nystatin has been efficacious on individual birds.