Head lice are very tiny, usually black, insects that feed on skin and blood. They particularly like areas that are somewhat warm and protected, such as behind the ears and at the nape of the neck, although they can cling anywhere on the scalp. (Certain types of lice prefer other warm and hairy body parts.) They attach themselves to the scalp and then begin to eat and drink. They lay their sticky little eggs (also called nits) that stick to the hair. The lice themselves cause intense itching, which encourages scratching. The scratching causes a rash, which increases the itching, which makes the problem worse. Skin infections may result.

Head lice travel fast. They move among coats in coat rooms in schools, they hitch rides on combs and scarves, they tag along on dirty linens and can move from body to body if the bodies are close enough. For these reasons, head lice are far more common in children than they are in adults. However, lice will generally not prefer to live on bodies that are really healthy. A diet that is rich in nutritious foods and low in junk foods will discourage lice from moving in.

**About Paw Paw**

If an infestation, Paw Paw Lice Remover Shampoo is a safe, non-toxic, natural way to get rid of lice. This product was developed by Dr. Jerry McLaughlin, Vice President of Quality Assurance, Research and Development, and Chief Scientific Officer at Nature’s Sunshine Products. While working as a professor at Purdue University, his research team identified compounds in the Paw Paw plant that act as natural insecticides. Known as acetogenins, these compounds work by depriving cells of the ability to produce ATP, a substance necessary for cellular growth. When insects ingest these compounds, their energy production shuts down and they die. The Paw Paw plant produces these acetogenin compounds to protect itself against insect damage.

The shampoo also contains tea tree oil and thymol (from thyme), both of which have antifungal and antimicrobial properties. These also contribute to the insecticidal action of the shampoo.

The natural compounds in this new shampoo kill the nits and the adult lice leaving only the nymph unaffected. By using this shampoo, and the special nit-removing (hence the term ‘nit-picking’) fine-toothed comb three times, eight days apart, all of the nits, nymphs, and adults will be removed.

**Safety**

The natural compounds in this shampoo are safe for children and pets. The extract of acetogenins in this product was tested on dogs and found to be completely non-toxic even in very large doses. In excessive doses, the dogs vomited and had mild diarrhea, but were not poisoned by the product. The acetogenin compounds are also used internally in a product called Paw Paw Cell Reg, which is used for abnormal cell growth, viral and fungal infections and eliminating parasites. Clinical trials with this product showed no toxicity in human beings, either.

This is very exciting news. Many of the commercial shampoos have lost their effectiveness, and many others are highly toxic and may even be dangerous to use on young children. The testing that was done on this remarkable shampoo proved 100% effective in ending the lice problem. However, when you use this product be sure to follow the instructions precisely. This is not to be used in the same way normal hair shampoo is used.

You can further control the lice by adding essential oils like tea tree or eucalyptus to the laundry. This helps to kill nits and lice in clothing to keep them from spreading. To fight the skin infections caused by the incessant scratching, aloe vera gel with a little tea tree oil may be applied topically.

**Other Uses**

Paw Paw Lice Remover Shampoo has other exciting uses besides killing head lice. It can also be used as a flea and tick shampoo for pets. Some people have even mixed it with water and used it as a natural, non-toxic insecticide for house plants.

But the uses of this product stop at killing insects. The acetogenins in Paw Paw are also antiviral, antibacterial and antifungal. People are discovering that paw paw shampoo can help with acne, nail fungus, athletes foot and other infections in the skin, hair and nails. Wash with the shampoo, then apply a very thin film over the affected area and cover it. Leave the shampoo on for an hour (or overnight) and then wash it off. People have reported having serious problems like toenail fungus or severe acne show amazing improvement with just one application.

Information for this publication was obtained from personal contact with Dr. Jerry McLaughlin, who discovered the paw paw extract, and personal knowledge of the authors Judith Cobb and Steven Horne.