

Beyond The Bite: Understanding Ticks And Alpha-Gal

Fort Scott, KS
March 23, 2026

How To Avoid Tick Bites

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Overview Of Presentation: What To Expect

- Introduction
- Tick Types
- Tick Biology And Ecology
- Tick Management
- Questions And Discussion

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Biting vs. Feeding

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Biting Bugs Of Concern To People (Human Health Issue)

- * Ticks
- * Chiggers
- * Mosquitoes
- * Spiders
- * Oak Leaf Itch Mite

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What Are Ticks?

* Ticks Are Blood Sucking Ectoparasites That Feed On Mammals, Birds, And Reptiles

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5 False Facts About Ticks

Myths vs. facts: The truth about ticks

- 1.) BAD TICKS ARE ONLY ACTIVE IN SPRING & SUMMER - FALSE**
Ticks are active year-round, though some species are more active in certain seasons.
- 2.) THROW AWAY THE TICK AFTER IT BITES YOU - FALSE**
Do not crush or burn a tick. Instead, use tweezers to remove it.
- 3.) YOU WILL HAVE A BULLS-EYE RASH BEFORE YOU DEVELOP LYME DISEASE - FALSE**
A rash is not always present and may appear weeks after the bite.
- 4.) DEER TICKS ARE THE ONLY ONES YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT - FALSE**
Many other tick species can transmit Lyme disease and other pathogens.
- 5.) TICKS WILL FALL FROM TREES OR JUMP ON YOU - FALSE**
Ticks do not jump or fall from trees. They crawl onto you from the ground.

Myth #1: The best way to remove a tick is with a lit match, lit cigarette, or petroleum jelly.
Fact: None of these methods cause the tick to "back out," and all of them may actually result in the tick injecting more disease-causing saliva into the wound, increasing the risk of infection.

Myth #2: Lyme disease is the only illness that ticks can transmit to dogs and humans.
Fact: Lyme is the most widely known and common tick-borne illness, but there are many others that ticks carry and can transmit to dogs and people. These include Rocky Mountain spotted fever, ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, and anaplasmosis.

Myth #3: If a tick is still an nymph or immature stage, it's not a concern.
Fact: According to the CDC, laboratory results for tick-borne diseases in people are often negative on the first sample and require a second test two to three weeks later to confirm infection. Children are more susceptible to infection due to their immature immune systems.

Myth #4: Ticks are a problem in the state of Kansas.
Fact: Ticks are actually a species of parasite called arachnids that belong to the same family as spiders.

Myth #5: Ticks live in trees, so as long as I don't live near or visit a wooded area, I don't have to worry about ticks.
Fact: Ticks live on the ground so neither the woods, nor trees, nor grass are a tick's habitat. They typically crawl up from grass blades onto a host and migrate upward, which is why they are often found on the scalp.

Myth #6: Ticks are insects.
Fact: Ticks are actually a species of parasite called arachnids that belong to the same family as spiders.

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Families Of Ticks

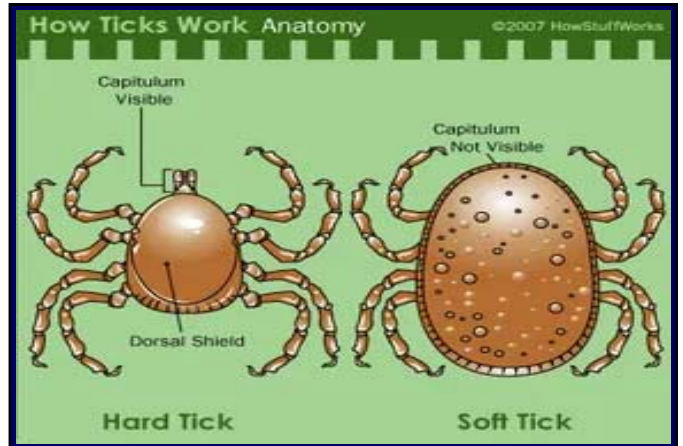
* **Ixodidae: Hard Ticks**



* **Argasidae: Soft Ticks**



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Ticks Of Kansas

* **American Dog Tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*): Vector Of Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever**



* **Lone Star Tick (*Amblyomma americanum*)**

* **Brown Dog Tick (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*)**

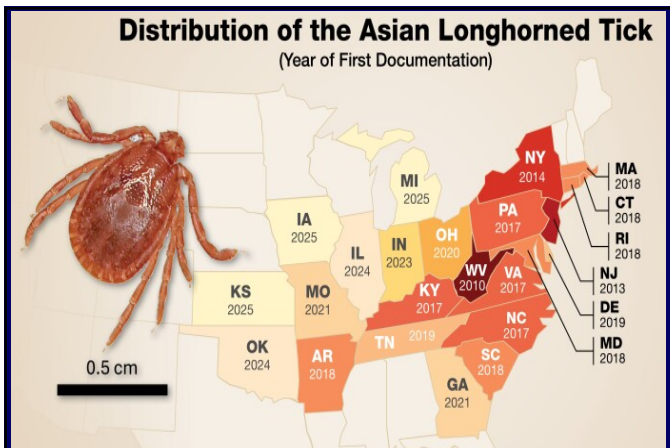
* **Black Legged Tick (*Ixodes scapularis*):**

Vector Of Lyme Disease (*Borrelia burgdorferi*)

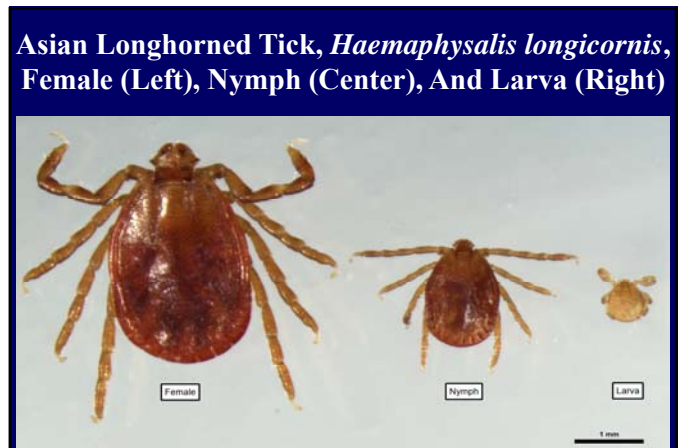


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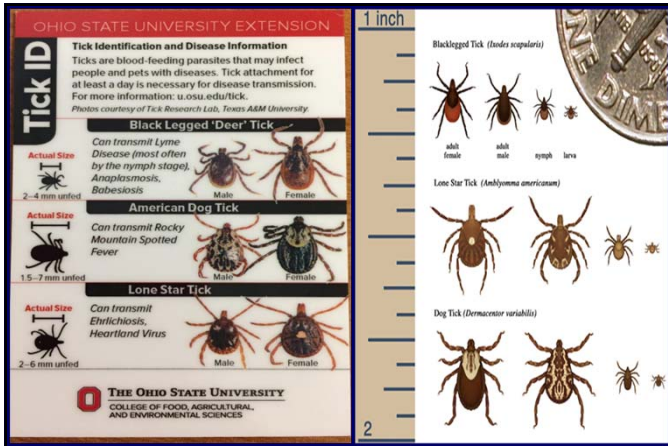
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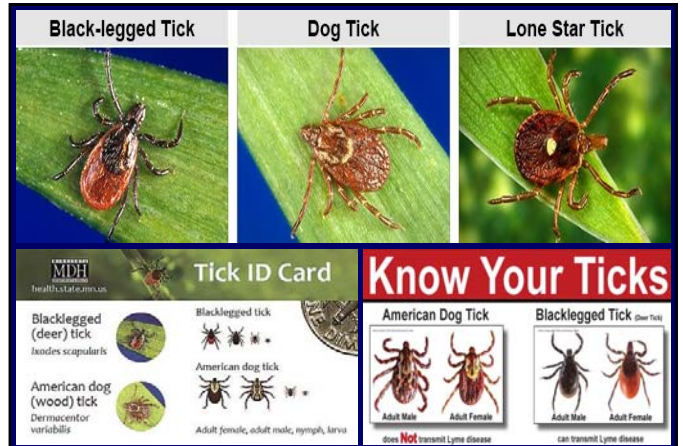
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Ticks: Biology And Ecology

- * Feed on the blood of humans and animals.
- * Females, depending on species, can lay between 3,000 and 8,000 eggs during their lifespan.
- * Found in areas with vegetation around the edge of forests, along forest trails, and grassy fields.
- * Ticks move onto grasses, weeds, and brush and wait for a host (human) to contact vegetation.

Ticks are found a few inches or feet aboveground on vegetation.

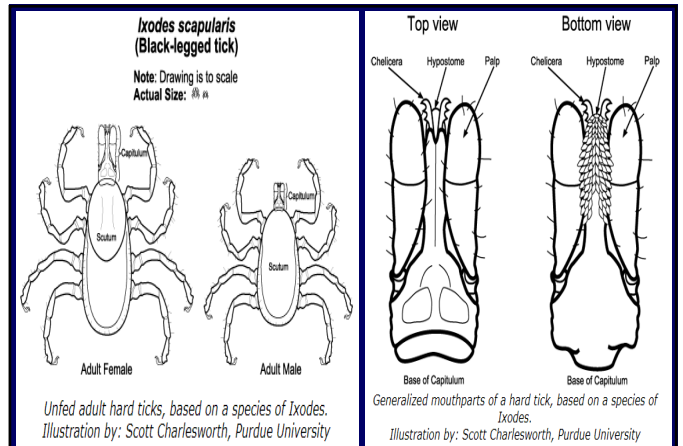
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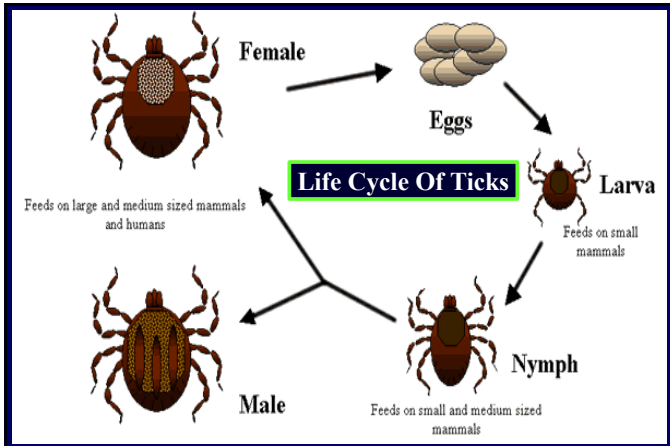
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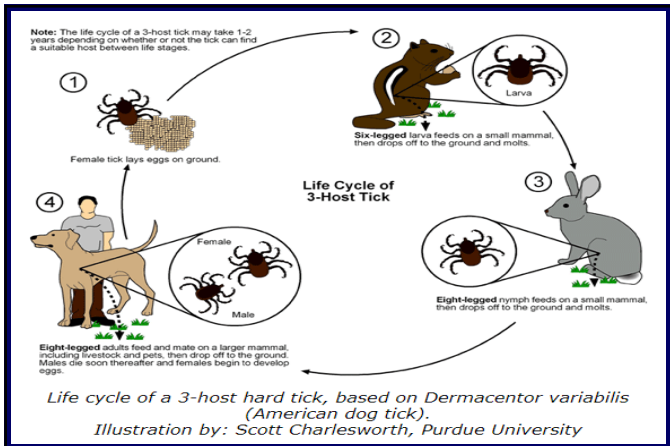
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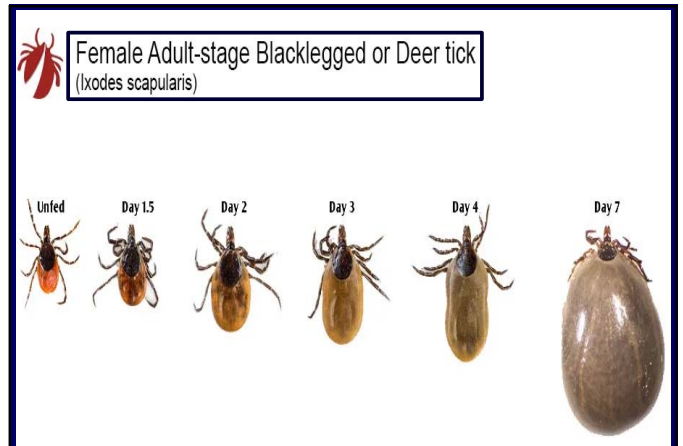
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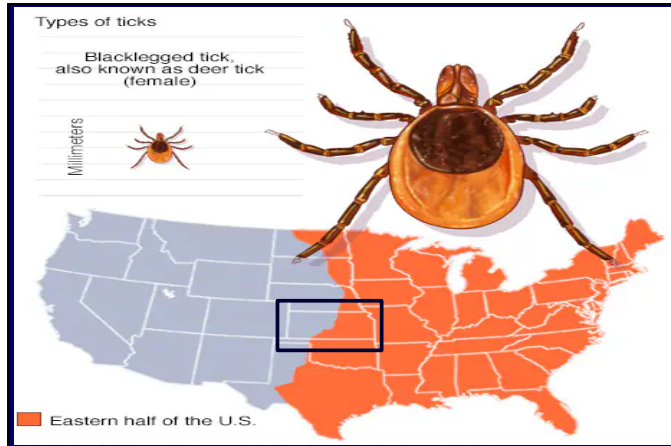
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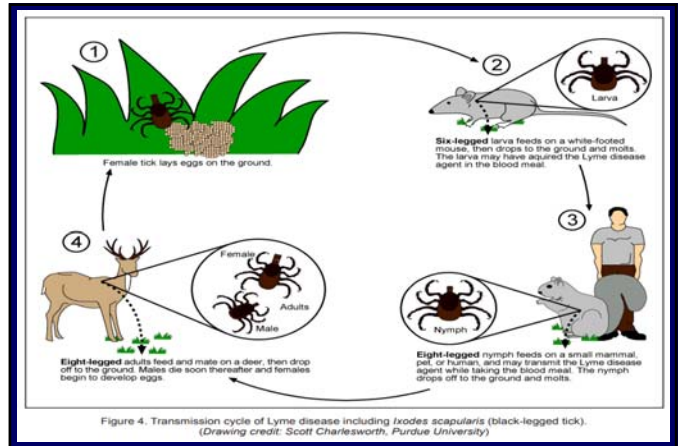
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Protect Yourself FROM TICKS

Revised by Elmer Gray, Extension Entomologist

Tick Management Handbook

An integrated guide for homeowners, pest control operators, and public health officials for the prevention of tick-associated disease

Revised Edition

Prepared by: Kirby C. Stallard III, Ph.D., Vice Director, Chief Entomologist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven

Support for printing this revised edition provided by: The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, The Connecticut General Assembly

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Experimental and Applied Acarology (2021) 83:131–146
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10493-020-00565-4>

Validating a common tick survey method: cloth-dragging and line transects

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Received: 4 July 2020 / Accepted: 28 October 2020 / Published online: 26 November 2020
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Abstract

Cloth-dragging is the most widely-used method for collecting and counting ticks, but there are few studies of its reliability. By using cloth-dragging, we applied a replicated line transects survey method, in two areas in Sweden with different *Ixodes ricinus* tick-densities (low at Grimsö and high at Bogesund) to evaluate developmental stage specific repeatability, agreement and precision in estimates of tick abundance. ‘Repeatability’ was expressed as the Intraclass Correlation Coefficient (ICC), ‘agreement’ with the Total Deviation Index (TDI) and ‘precision’ by the coefficient of variation (CV) for a given dragging distance. Repeatability (ICC) and agreement (TDI) were higher for the most abundant instar (nymphs) and in the area of higher abundance. At Bogesund tick counts were higher than at Grimsö and so also repeatability, with fair to substantial ICC estimates between 0.23 and 0.75, and TDI ranged between 1 and 44.5 counts of difference (thus high to moderate agreement). At Grimsö, ICC was poor to moderate and ranged between 0 and 0.59, whereas TDI remained low with estimates lower or equal to 1 count (thus high agreement). Despite a 100-fold lower abundance at Grimsö, the same level of precision for nymphs could be achieved with a 70% increase of dragging effort. We conclude that the cloth-dragging technique is useful for surveying ticks’ and primarily to estimate abundance of the nymphal stage, whereas it rarely will be recommended for larvae and adults.

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How Can You Protect Yourself Against Ticks?

Use Repellents Such As—
DEET (N,N-diethyl-met-
 toluamide), **IR3535**,
Picaridin, Or **Permethrin**
 (Do Not Apply To Skin)



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Pesticide Biochemistry and Physiology 96 (2010) 63–79

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Pesticide Biochemistry and Physiology

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/pest

Review

Tick repellents: Past, present, and future

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ARTICLE INFO

Article history:
 Received 24 June 2009
 Accepted 25 September 2009
 Available online 1 October 2009

ABSTRACT

Ticks are important vectors of human and animal diseases. One important protective measure against ticks is the use of personal arthropod repellents. Deet and the synthetic pyrethroid permethrin currently serve as the primary personal protective measures against ticks. Concern over the safety of deet and its low repellency against some tick species has led to a search for new user-approved, efficacious tick repellents. In this article, we review the history and efficacy of tick repellents, discovery of new repellents, and areas in need of attention such as assay methodology, repellent formulation, and the lack of information about the physiology of repellency.

Keywords:
 Repellent
 Natural repellent

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Before You Go Outdoors

- **Know where to expect ticks.** Ticks live in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas, or even on animals. Spending time outside walking your dog, camping, gardening, or hunting could bring you in close contact with ticks. Many people get ticks in their own yard or neighborhood.
- **Treat clothing and gear** with products containing 0.5% permethrin. Permethrin can be used to treat boots, clothing and camping gear and remain protective through several washings. Alternatively, you can buy permethrin-treated clothing and gear.
- **Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents** containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), para-methane-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone. EPA's helpful [search tool](#) can help you find the product that best suits your needs. Always follow product instructions. Do not use products containing OLE or PMD on children under 3 years old.
- **Avoid Contact with Ticks**
 - Avoid wooded and brushy areas with high grass and leaf litter.
 - Walk in the center of trails.

Caution: entering tick habitat!

Deer ticks may be found in habitats with:

- Leafy trees
- Brush and shrubs
- Leaf litter layer

American Dog ticks may be found in habitats with:

- Tall grasses
- Shrubs
- Open areas

For more information visit: www.maine.gov/dhs/vectorborne

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After You Come Indoors

Check your clothing for ticks. Ticks may be carried into the home on clothing. Any ticks that are found should be removed. Tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed. If the clothes require washing first, hot water is recommended. Cold and medium temperature water will not kill ticks.

Examine gear and pets. Ticks can ride into the home on clothing and pets, then attach to a person later, so carefully examine pets, coats, and daypacks.

Shower soon after being outdoors. Showering within two hours of coming indoors has been shown to reduce your risk of getting Lyme disease and may be effective in reducing the risk of other tickborne diseases. Showering may help wash off unattached ticks and it is a good opportunity to do a tick check.

Check your body for ticks after being outdoors. Conduct a full body check upon return from potentially tick-infested areas, including your own backyard. Use a hand-held or full-length mirror to view all parts of your body. Check these parts of your body and your child's body for ticks:

- Under the arms
- In and around the ears
- Inside belly button
- Back of the knees
- In and around the hair
- Between the legs
- Around the waist

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Tick Locations On Body

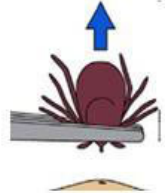
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How to Remove a Tick

Step 1: Use fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible. The goal is to remove the entire tick including its head and mouth.



Step 2: Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Do not twist or jerk the tick!



Step 3: Clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol, an iodine scrub, or soap and water.

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NIH Public Access
Author Manuscript
Curr Opin Allergy Clin Immunol. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2014 November 18.
Published in final edited form as:
Curr Opin Allergy Clin Immunol. 2013 August ; 13(4): 354-359. doi:10.1097/ACI.0b013e3283624560.

Tick bites and red meat allergy

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Abstract

Purpose of review—A novel form of anaphylaxis has been described that is due to IgE antibody (Ab) directed against a mammalian oligosaccharide epitope, galactose-alpha-1, 3-galactose (alpha-gal). Ongoing work regarding the cause and distribution of this IgE response is reviewed.

Recent findings—Our recent work has identified a novel IgE Ab response that has been associated with two distinct forms of anaphylaxis: immediate-onset anaphylaxis during first exposure to intravenous cetuximab and delayed-onset anaphylaxis 3–6 h after ingestion of mammalian food products (e.g. beef and pork). Further studies strongly suggested that tick bites were a cause, if not the only significant cause, of IgE Ab responses to alpha-gal in the United States and internationally.

Summary—Large numbers of patients with IgE Ab to alpha-gal continue to be identified in the USA and globally. Clinicians should be aware of this IgE response as the reactions often appear to be idiopathic because of the significant delay between eating mammalian meat and the appearance of symptoms.

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NEVERTHINKS OF IT! Published June 27

Lone Star tick bites triggering red meat allergies in more people across US, physician says

7/26/13 | Fox News

More from Fox News

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What Is The Association Between These Two Items?

Lone Star Tick Red Meat

The image shows a lone star tick on the left and a plate of sliced red meat with tomatoes and lettuce on the right, illustrating the connection between the two.

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Ticks And Relationship With Meat Allergies

- * Alpha Gal Syndrome: tick bites lead to allergic reactions after eating meat.
- * The gut of a lone star tick, *Amblyomma americanum*, after feeding on a mammal (e.g. raccoon or mouse) becomes filled with a carbohydrate based molecule called alpha galactose.
- * Alpha galactose enters the body when an infected lone star tick feeds on a human, which stimulates the immune system to produce antibodies that will ward off the molecule.
- * However, if the immune system encounters alpha galactose again, then a life threatening allergic reaction may occur.

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So, What Is The Problem?

- * Well, meat products, such as beef, lamb, and pork contain alpha galactose. So, anyone having been bitten by a lone star tick, and then later consuming meat, may develop an allergic reaction.
- * Fish and chicken can be eaten without concern because they do not have the antigens associated with alpha galactose.

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National Pest Alert

Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases

Ticks and tick-borne diseases (TBDs) pose a serious public health concern in the United States. Between the regions of 30°N to 35°N, an estimated 20% of all reported TBD cases occur in the United States, with an estimated 10% of all cases occurring in the Northeast. This is the most often reported of the TBDs that require the use of specific medical treatments.

Tick Life Cycle
Most ticks have a life cycle that begins with an egg, followed by a 2- to 4-stage nymph and adult. Each life stage requires a new and often a different host to complete its development. The life cycle of a tick is often completed in a matter of weeks, but some species, such as the lone star tick, may take several months to complete their life cycle. The life cycle of a tick is often completed in a matter of weeks, but some species, such as the lone star tick, may take several months to complete their life cycle.

Tick Identification
Blacklegged tick (Ixodes scapularis)
This is the most common tick found in the Northeast. It is a small, dark, oval-shaped tick with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Lone Star Tick (Amblyomma americanum)
This is a large, reddish-brown tick with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

White-tailed Tick (Gulo gulo)
This is a small, dark, oval-shaped tick with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Rocky Mountain Wood Tick (Dermacentor variator)
This is a large, dark, oval-shaped tick with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Parasitic Mite (Oropsylla montana)
This is a small, dark, oval-shaped mite with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Scorpion (Chilomeniscus scaber)
This is a small, dark, oval-shaped scorpion with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Spider (Dugesiidae)
This is a small, dark, oval-shaped spider with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Mite (Trombidium)
This is a small, dark, oval-shaped mite with a white, shield-shaped area on its back. It is often found on humans and animals.

Tick Species Locations
The following maps show the distribution of the most common ticks in the Northeast. The maps are color-coded to show the distribution of each tick species.

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Ticks Off!

Controlling Ticks That Transmit Lyme Disease on Your Property

Patrick Guilfoile, Ph. D.

BY THE AUTHOR OF *OUTWITTING POISON IVY*

Outwitting Ticks

THE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT OF LYME DISEASE AND AILMENTS CAUSED BY TICKS, SCORPIONS, SPIDERS, AND MITES

SUSAN CAROL HAUSER

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Prevention Of Bug Bites, Stings, And Disease (2009).

Oxford University Press Inc.; New York, NY. 323 pages.

PREVENTION OF BUG BITES, STINGS, AND DISEASE

DANIEL STRICKMAN
STEPHEN P. FRANCES
MUSTAPHA DEBBOUN

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Thank You For Your Attention!

Training

I Hope You All Learned Something!

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THE END

DONE!

The End

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Any Questions?

What? Which? Where? When? Why? How?

PEST CONTROL

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