

What you need to know about Asian longhorned ticks—a new tick in the United States

What do Asian longhorned ticks look like?



Nymph and adult female, top view.



Nymph and adult female, underside.

What we know about Asian longhorned ticks

- Not normally found in the Western Hemisphere, these ticks were reported for the first time in the United States in 2017.
- Asian longhorned ticks have been found on pets, livestock, wildlife, and people.
- The female ticks can lay eggs and reproduce without mating.
- Up to thousands of ticks may be found at a time, or on an animal.
- In other countries, bites from these ticks can make people and animals seriously ill. As of Oct. 2, 2018, no harmful germs have been found in the ticks collected in the United States. Research is ongoing.
- Researchers are looking for these ticks to find out where they live.
- As of Oct. 2, 2018, Asian longhorned ticks have been found in Ark., Conn., Md., N.C., N.J., N.Y., Pa., Va., and W.Va.

Protect yourself, your pets, and your livestock

- Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone. Always follow product instructions.
- Wear permethrin-treated clothing.
- Shower as soon as possible after spending time outdoors.
- Check for ticks daily. Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, in the hair, and in the groin.
- Tumble 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.
- Treat pets and livestock for ticks with veterinarian-approved products.

What to do if you think you have found an Asian longhorned tick

- Remove ticks from people and animals as quickly as possible.
- Save the ticks in rubbing alcohol in a jar or a ziplock bag, then:
 - Contact your health department about steps you can take to prevent tick bites and tickborne diseases.
 - Contact a veterinarian for information about how to protect pets from ticks and tick bites.
 - Contact your state agriculture department or local agricultural extension office about ticks on livestock or for tick identification.

For more information, see:

www.cdc.gov/Ticks

www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/animal_health/fs-longhorned-tick.pdf



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