

# **brown dog tick**

## *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*

### **FEATURES**

The unfed brown dog tick adult is about 1/8-inch long. Ticks have four pairs of legs (total of eight legs) in their adult form. The larval form of a tick has six legs.

### **BEHAVIORS**

The brown dog tick is a tropical species that cannot survive outdoors in Illinois' winters. Also known as the kennel tick because it is mainly found in kennels or in homes with a dog, it feeds on dogs and can carry out its life cycle indoors. It hides in cracks, under rugs, in furniture and in other places. It is usually found around a dog's ears or toes, does not often bite humans and is not an important carrier of diseases. Local health departments and the Illinois Department of Public Health (217-782-2016 or <http://dph.illinois.gov/>) can provide more information about ticks and the diseases that they can carry.

### **TAXONOMY**

Kingdom: Animalia  
Phylum: Arthropoda  
Class: Arachnida  
Order: Ixodida  
Family: Ixodidae

### **ILLINOIS STATUS**

common, nonnative

### **ILLINOIS RANGE**



© James Gathany



female

## **Aquatic Habitats**

none

## **Woodland Habitats**

none

## **Prairie and Edge Habitats**

edge