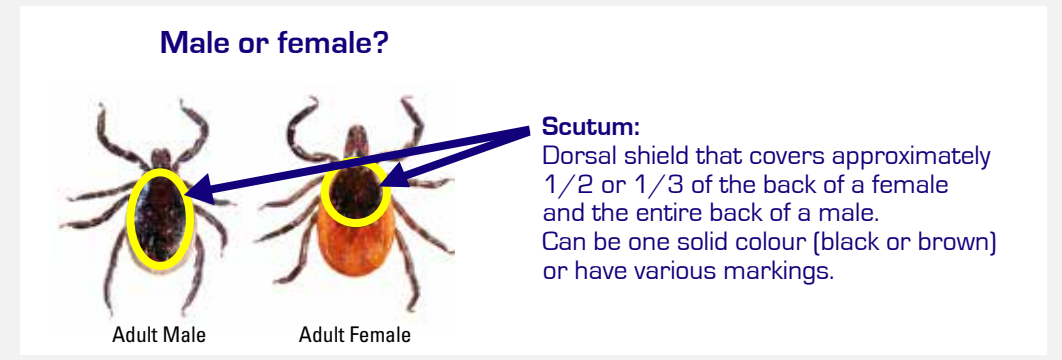


# TICK ID DECISION TREE

There are over 40 species of ticks in Canada. This Decision Tree will assist you in identifying four species of ticks which can infest dogs and cats.



The American dog tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*) will quest from March to September, with peak questing in the spring. The American dog tick generally prefers areas with long grass. Immature and adult stages quest at similar times of the year.



*Dermacentor variabilis*

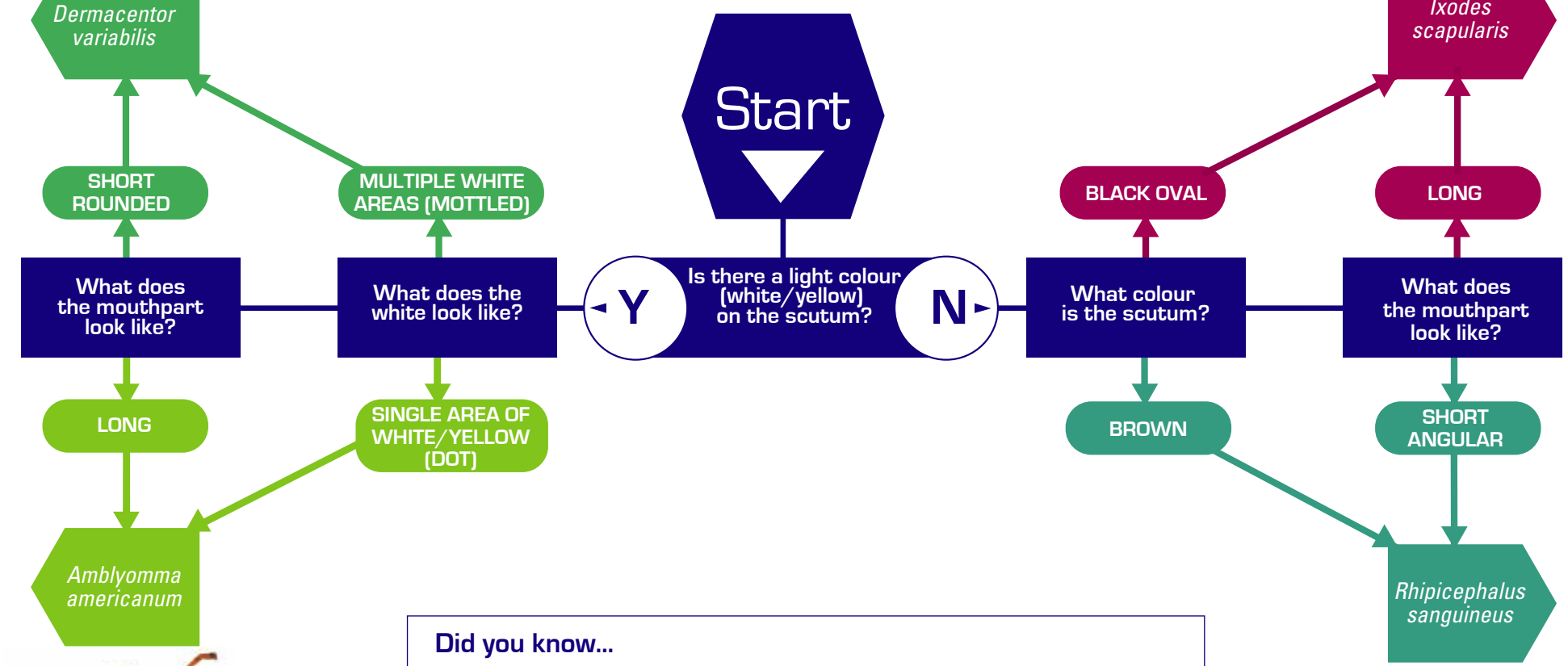


The Lone Star tick (*Amblyomma americanum*) quests from March to July. The Lone Star tick is typically found in second growth woodland habitats. ADVENTITIOUS TICK



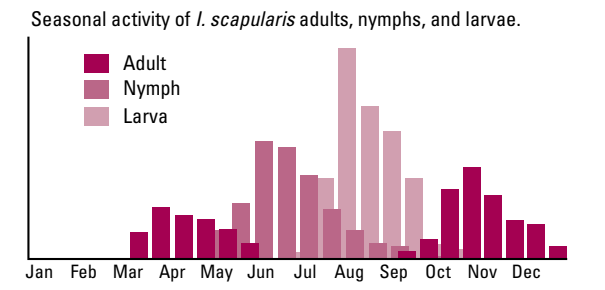
*Amblyomma americanum*

## Identifying Adult Female Ticks



**Did you know...**  
*Rhipicephalus sanguineus* is not the only tick that appears to have an angular mouthpart? There are other species of ticks which have an angular mouthpart, such as *Haemaphysalis* spp. Some of these species are established in Canada and occasionally encountered by dogs and cats, such as *Haemaphysalis leporispalustris* (the rabbit tick). Others are potentially invasive species, such as *Haemaphysalis longicornis* (Asian Longhorn tick), which has been recently found in several areas of the USA.  
 Not sure which tick it is? Check out this resource for helpful information and tips: [www.petsandticks.com](http://www.petsandticks.com)

The blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) will quest anytime the temperature is above 4°C, with peak activity for adults in the spring and fall. Immature and adult stages are active at different times of the year. Blacklegged ticks generally prefer wooded areas with leaf litter.



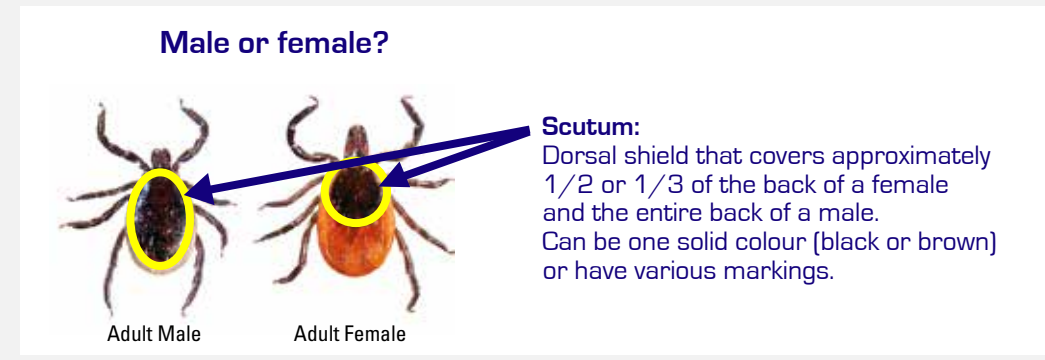
The Brown dog tick (*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*) is found world-wide, more commonly in warmer climates, and is found on dogs, in kennels and houses, and occasionally on wildlife.



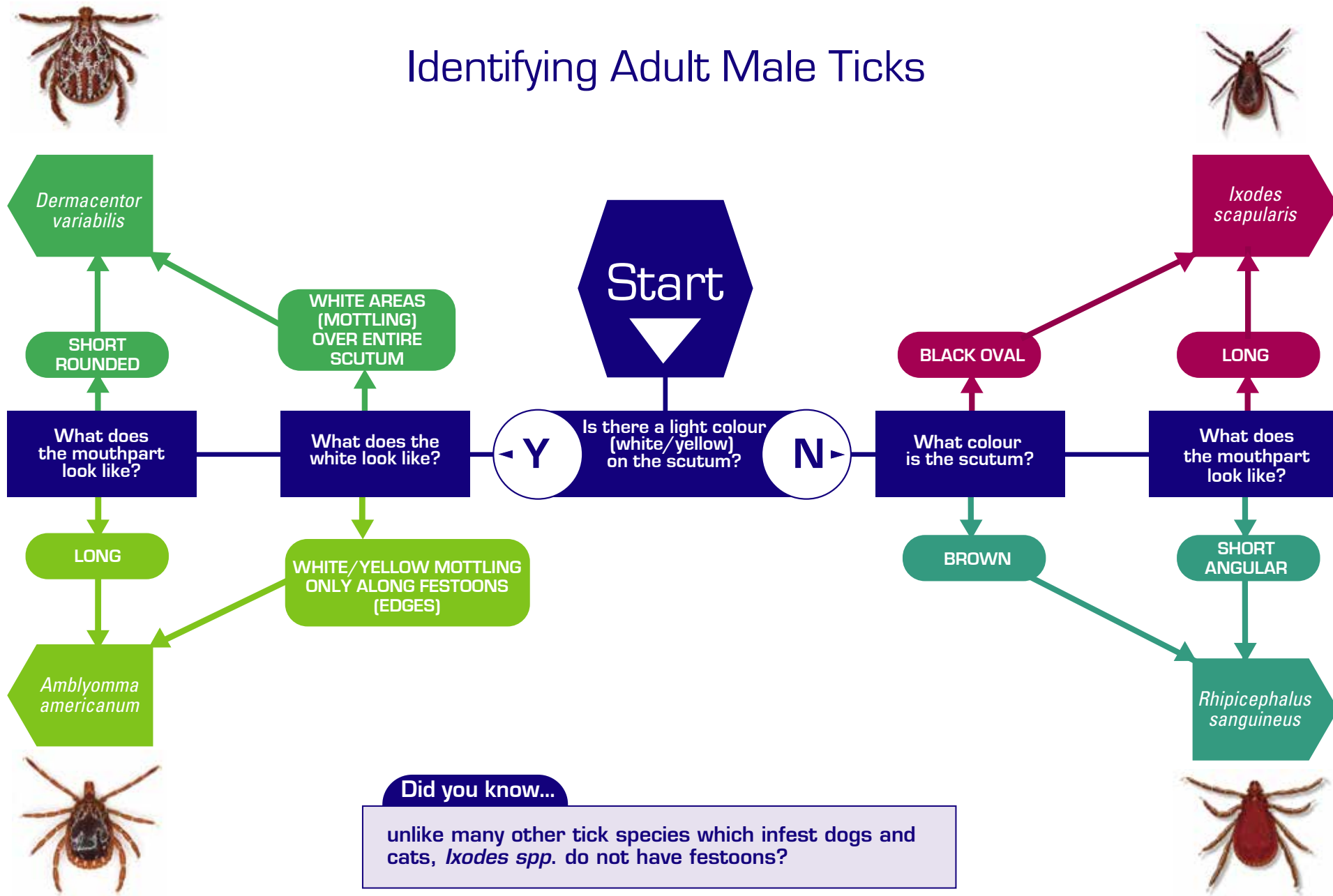
*Rhipicephalus sanguineus*

# TICK ID DECISION TREE

There are over 40 species of ticks in Canada. This Decision Tree will assist you in identifying four species of ticks which can infest dogs and cats.



## Identifying Adult Male Ticks



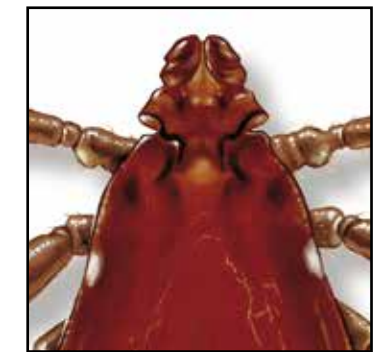
Short rounded mouthpart on male *Dermacentor variabilis* (American dog tick)



FESTOONS highlighted on a male *Amblyomma americanum* (Lone Star tick).



Long mouthpart on male *Ixodes scapularis* (Blacklegged or Deer tick)



Short angular mouthpart on male *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* (Brown dog tick)

### Did you know...

unlike many other tick species which infest dogs and cats, *Ixodes spp.* do not have festoons?

Ref:  
 • Lindquist, Evert, E., Galloway, Terry, D., Artsob, H., Lindsay, L. R., Drebot, M., Wood, H., Robbins, Richard, G., *A Handbook to the Ticks of Canada, (Ixodida: Ixodidae, Argasidae)*, Biological Survey of Canada, 2016  
 • [http://www.ct.gov/caes.lib.caes/documents/special\\_features/tickhandbook.pdf](http://www.ct.gov/caes.lib.caes/documents/special_features/tickhandbook.pdf)  
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