

## PREVALENCE OF TICKS INFESTING CATTLE IN IJEBU DIVISION OF OGUN STATE

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### ABSTRACT

A survey of ticks infesting cattle was carried out in Ijebu-Ode and Ijebu-Igbo abattoirs in Ijebu division of Ogun State on a weekly basis from August 2002 to July 2003. Animals infested with ticks were noted and the various tick species on each of the animals were collected into universal bottles containing 70% ethanol. A total of 7392 ticks were collected during the one year study. Three tick species, *Rhipicephalus appendiculatus* (37.7%), *Boophilus annulatus* (32.9%) and *Amblyomma variegatum* (29.5%) were identified throughout the study. The monthly distribution of tick species collected showed two seasonal peaks of tick population in the months of April and October. Strategic use of acaricides during the period of high tick burden based on the life-cycle and epidemiology of the ticks is recommended.

### KEYWORDS:

Rhipicephalus, Boophilus, Amblyomma, Ticks, Cattle