

## Ticks in small mammals of Ilha Grande State Park, State of Rio de Janeiro

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Ticks (Ixodida) are arthropods obligatory, hematophagous that parasitize amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. Several species of ticks parasitize mammals varying on degree of specificity with each host. Ilha Grande is an island located in Angra dos Reis municipality, Rio de Janeiro State, with 80% of its land protected by two conservation units. Up to now, three species of ticks was recorded to Ilha Grande: *Amblyomma longirostres* Kock, 1844 parasitizing the bird *Turdus albicollis* Vieillot, 1818 *Ixodes amaralli* Fonseca, 1935 parasitizing *T. iheringi* and *Ixodes loricatus* Neumann, 1899 parasitizing *Euryoryzomys russatus* (Wagner, 1848) and *Didelphis aurita* (Wied-Neuwied, 1826). The objective of this study was to report tick species and their associations with small mammals in Ilha Grande State Park. Small mammals were captured using Sherman and Tomahawk traps, in 10 plots of 250 m of extension following the curve line, according to RAPELD method. In each plot, we opened 25 traps for five consecutive days, in four campaigns between March 2014 to June 2015, totalizing 20 nights. Collections were also performed in 18 different plots located close to Dois Rios Village between April 2013 to December 2015, on 60 nights, in 19 campaigns. Ticks were collected manually or by brushing the hair. The identification is given with the use of dichotomous keys and descriptions available in the literature. We captured the following species of mammals: *Trinomys iheringi* (Thomas, 1911), *D. aurita*, *E. russatus*, *Marmosops incanus* (Lund, 1841), *Oligoryzomys nigripes* (Olfers, 1818), *Phyllomys pattoni* Emmons, Leite, Kock & Costa, 2002, *Oxymycterus dasytrichus* (Schinz, 1821), *Guerlinguetus aestuans* Linnaeus, 1766 and *Dasybus novemcintus* (Lineu, 1758). We found immature and adult stages of the Ixodidae. We identified only nymphs and adults at the species level. *Amblyomma dubitatum* Neumann, 1899 and *I. loricatus* were found on *D. aurita* and *T. iheringi*. Of the species of Ixodidae found, *I. loricatus* had already been registered to the Island on *D. aurita* and *E. russatus*. This species is common on didelphids, both immature and adult stages. However, wild rodents are hosts to larvae and nymphs. *Amblyomma dubitatum* presents a parasitic relation with capybara (*Hydrochoerus hydrochaeris* Linnaeus, 1766), with all the parasitic stages (larvae, nymph and adult) found on this host. However, immature stages include less parasitic specificity, including parasite in humans and small rodents. We added one more species to the list of ticks of Ilha Grande: *A. dubitatum* parasitizing *T. iheringi* and *D. aurita*.

