

## KNOW THE RISK. TAKE THE PRECAUTION.

Lyme disease is a painful, multi-system disorder caused by the spirochete bacteria *Borrelia burgdorferi* and transmitted by ticks.

### DOGS MAY BE AT RISK OF CONTRACTING LYME DISEASE.

If you answer yes to any of the following questions, your dog is at an *increased* risk:

- Does your dog spend time in wooded or grassy areas?
- Is your dog outdoors during warmer months, i.e., peak tick season?
- Does your dog live in or visit such Lyme-endemic areas as the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic or upper Midwest?

### PROTECT YOUR DOG FROM LYME DISEASE:

- Vaccinate your dog with RECOMBITEK® Lyme vaccine, which helps block the transmission of the spirochete that causes Lyme disease.
- Apply a topical tick control product monthly. FRONTLINE® Plus for dogs and CERTIFECT® for dogs kill ticks that may transmit Lyme disease.
- Brush dogs frequently during tick season and conduct thorough tick checks.
- If you find a tick attached, remove it promptly with tweezers and without crushing the tick. Contact your veterinarian if you are concerned.

### ...AND PROTECT YOURSELF:

- Avoid heavily wooded areas during tick season.
- Wear light-colored clothing to help you see and remove ticks before they attach.
- Wear a long-sleeved shirt tucked into long pants tucked into socks.
- Conduct frequent, full-body tick checks.

For more information, talk to your veterinarian.

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FRONTLINE®

<sup>1</sup> Greene, CE, ed. *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat*. 4th ed. Philadelphia: WB Saunders Co.; 2011.455-461.

<sup>2</sup> Reported Lyme disease cases by state, 2000-2010. Available at: [http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/stats/chartstables/reportedcases\\_statelocality.html](http://www.cdc.gov/lyme/stats/chartstables/reportedcases_statelocality.html). Accessed March 1, 2012.

<sup>3</sup> Stafford KC. Ticks of the northeastern United States. *Tick Management Handbook* 2004:7.

<sup>4</sup> Piesman J. Dynamics of *Borrelia burgdorferi* transmission by nymphal *Ixodes dammini* ticks. *JID* 1993;167:1082-1085.

<sup>5</sup> Parasites Prevalence Maps. U.S. Canine Positive Lyme Results. CAPC Web site. <http://www.capcvet.org/parasite-prevalence-maps/>. Accessed February 27, 2012.

<sup>6</sup> IDEXX Laboratories, Inc.

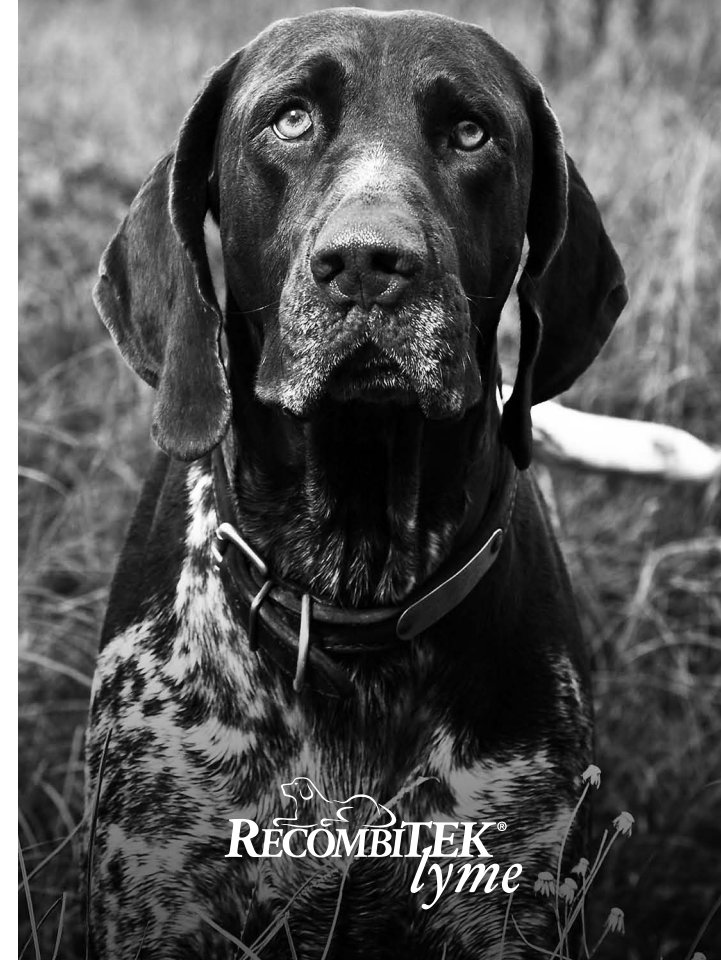


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## LYME DISEASE

## IT'S EASILY SPREAD.

## IS YOUR DOG PROTECTED?



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## LYME DISEASE

Lyme disease affects dogs differently, and some may not display any clinical signs at all. In other dogs, many cases start with limping, swelling in the lymph nodes and fever and can progress to include loss of appetite and lethargy. It can also attack a dog's joints and be very painful. These signs may not begin to show up until two to six months after the dog has contracted the disease. Antibiotics can help treat the disease, but does not eliminate the organism. Lyme disease is a recurring condition that can strike again and again once a dog contracts it.<sup>1</sup>

There is no evidence that dogs can spread Lyme disease directly to their owners; however, dogs can bring infected ticks into the home or yard where the ticks may spread Lyme disease to people. **According to the CDC, about 20,000 new human cases of Lyme disease are reported in the U.S. annually.**<sup>2</sup>

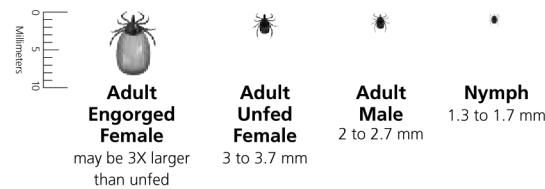
## TICKS

In North America, the bacteria that causes Lyme disease is carried and spread by the Black-legged or Deer tick (*Ixodes scapularis*) and the Western Blacklegged tick (*I. pacificus*). Both of these ticks are smaller than other species of ticks, which can make them even more difficult to detect.

## A NATIONAL THREAT

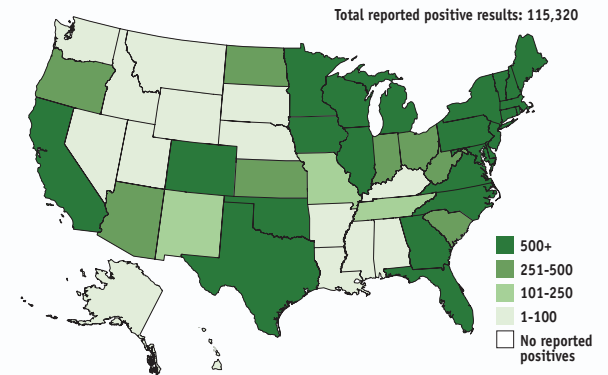
The ticks that carry Lyme disease are widespread. In fact, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Lyme disease is the most commonly reported tick-borne disease in the U.S. human population.<sup>2</sup> Lyme-positive dogs have been found in all 50 states.<sup>5</sup>

### Lyme Disease Transmitting Ticks<sup>3</sup>



A tick carrying the bacteria that causes Lyme disease can retain the infection throughout its life cycle and spread it to subsequent hosts, such as you or your dog. Usually, an infective tick must be attached 48 hours before transmission occurs.<sup>4</sup>

### United States Canine Positive Lyme Results<sup>6</sup>



**“Logically, the risk of infection in dogs is greater than in humans because exposure is greater.”**

Richard Ford, DVM, MS, DACVIM, DACVPM (Hon) Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University

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