What you need to know about Asian longhorned ticks—a new tick in the United States

What do Asian longhorned ticks look like?

What we know about Asian longhorned ticks

- Not normally found in the Western Hemisphere, these ticks were reported for the first time in the United States in 2017.
- Asian longhorned ticks have been found on pets, livestock, wildlife, and people.
- The female ticks can lay eggs and reproduce without mating.
- Up to thousands of ticks may be found at a time, or on an animal.
- In other countries, bites from these ticks can make people and animals seriously ill.
- As of Aug. 1, 2019, no harmful germs that can infect people have been found in the ticks collected in the United States. Research is ongoing.
- Researchers are looking for these ticks to find out where they live.
- As of Aug. 1, 2019, these ticks have been found in Ark., Conn., Del., Ky., Md., N.C., N.J., N.Y., Pa., Tenn., Va., and W.Va.

Protect yourself, your pets, and your livestock

- Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellents containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, para-menthane-diol, or 2-undecanone. Always follow product instructions.
- Wear permethrin-treated clothing.
- Shower as soon as possible after spending time outdoors.
- Check for ticks daily. Ticks can hide under the armpits, behind the knees, in the hair, and in the groin.
- Tumble clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing after you come indoors. If the clothes are damp, additional time may be needed.
- Treat pets and livestock for ticks with veterinarian-approved products.

What to do if you think you have found an Asian longhorned tick

- Remove ticks from people and animals as quickly as possible.
- Save the ticks in rubbing alcohol in a jar or a ziplock bag, then:
  o Contact your health department about steps you can take to prevent tick bites and tickborne diseases.
  o Contact a veterinarian for information about how to protect pets from ticks and tick bites.
  o Contact your state agriculture department or local agricultural extension office about ticks on livestock or for tick identification.

For more information, see:

www.cdc.gov/Ticks