

Fleas & Ticks

Fleas and ticks are both parasitic in nature, living on hosts much larger than themselves. Both fleas and ticks feed on the blood of their chosen hosts and are potential transmitters of various diseases.



Fleas are insects with six legs. They are wingless and incapable of flight. However, the flat bodies and long legs of the flea have developed to enable impressive jumping skills and the ability to move unimpeded through dense fur or hair.

Fleas undergo complete metamorphosis of egg, larva, pupa and adult.

Only adult fleas feed on blood.

The Pupae Stage of the Flea Life cycle is impervious to chemical treatments. Pupae can remain dormant for several months, but will hatch if conditions are right. Vibrations such as footsteps can trigger them to hatch; this is the reason why you can be suddenly covered by fleas, when areas have been left unoccupied for period of time.

Also it's important to note that fleas aren't always associated with a previous owner's pets.

Sometimes wild animals living in crawl spaces or other similar areas bring fleas with them which cause problems for homeowners.

Flea control is more difficult in warm to high temperatures, which are ideal for flea reproduction and development.

In warmer climates like **Townsville**, the entire reproductive cycle may be completed within **two weeks**.

Upon hatching, flea larvae remain hidden within crevices and beneath carpeting. Vacuuming is sometimes successful in ridding the home of a portion of these eggs and larvae.



Ticks like other arachnids, adult ticks possess four pairs of legs. However, as larvae, they bear only six legs and gain their fourth pair after moulting. Ticks dwell within the habitats of their preferred hosts. Thus, ticks may be found in areas as diverse as forests, grasslands and human homes.

After hatching, all stages of a tick's life cycle feed on blood.

Ticks also seek safety in hidden locations within homes. Treatment for ticks is not the same as for fleas.

Spark Pest Solutions

Flea and Tick Treatments include a Follow-up Treatment after 14 Days to break the life cycle.

Treatments include Adulticide and Insect Growth Regulator application to internal & external areas.

It is important to have your pets on a reputable treatment in conjunction with Spark Pest Solutions Treatment and agitate harbourage areas in-between treatments.

Warning: Some non-veterinary brands of flea treatments for dogs are potentially lethal when applied to cats. Always seek veterinary advice about the best flea treatments for your pet.

Ticks found on pets require cautious and thorough removal. Ticks should be grasped behind the head by tweezers and pulled slowly away from the host's skin. Crushing the tick may lead to the release of further dangerous fluids. It is important that the mouthparts be completely removed from the wound, as well. Infected areas should be thoroughly washed and disinfected. If there are medical concerns resulting from a tick or flea bite, seek medical attention immediately.



Home Remedies

Flea larvae live around and feed upon on the organic flecks of skin and other similar materials that collect wherever pets spend time. This includes favourite resting areas and bedding sites. Proper cleaning in these areas can significantly help flea control. Vacuum carpets and furnishings where pets sleep, to remove fleas and eggs, empty the vacuum cleaner bag directly into a sealable plastic bag and immediately discard it outside your home.

Repairing any crevices or gaps and keeping grass cut short outside may discourage infestations. The disposal of all bird and rodent nesting materials is also necessary, as ticks will readily infest these items.

Wash pet bedding regularly.

Important Information!

Thinking of Lime for Flea and Tick Control?

Lime has a limited effect on adult fleas, killing a small percentage and smothering the infestation.

Typically lime causes further issues due to the ability to neutralise applied pesticides.

To gain effective control following lime application can be time consuming and expensive for both Homeowner and Pest Manager.

Over the Counter Treatments

Treatment to only your pet is not the best solution for Flea or Tick Infestations.

Over the counter treatments are designed to kill what is on your pets. Spark Pest Solutions Treatments are focused on breeding and harbourage areas.

Combined they will offer an effective solution.