SCWDS Arthropod Surveillance

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SCWDS Arthropod Surveillance

- USDA–APHIS–Veterinary Services Cooperative Agreement (FY2016)
- Cattle Fever Ticks in South Texas
- Tropical Bont Ticks in the Caribbean
- *Amblyomma auricularium*
- *Culicoides*, BT and EHD in the Southeast
Tick Surveys in South Texas

- Surveys began in February 2012
- Objective:
  - Determine if wildlife are serving as hosts of the two species of fever ticks; *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus) annulatus* and *Rhipicephalus (Boophilus) microplus* in the quarantine zone in South Texas
SCWDS Ectoparasite Surveys, Texas 2012 to 2016
South Texas Tick Survey

- During the initial surveys:
  - At least 20 tick species collected
  - **Soft ticks:** *Argas brevipes, Carios sp. (probably dugesi),* and *Ornithodoros turicata*
  - **Hard ticks:**
    - *Amblyomma* (i.e., *americanum, auricularium, cajennense, imitator, inornatum, maculatum* and *sp.* (an undescribed nymph))
    - *Anocentor nitens*
    - *Dermacentor* (i.e., *albipictus, halli,* and *variabilis*)
    - *Ixodes* (i.e., *affinis* (First report in Texas), *conepati, cookei, scapularis, texanus, tovari,* and *woodi*)

Cattle fever ticks not found
Feral Swine Tick Survey 2015

- Survey conducted at Laguna Atascosa NWR
- Laguna Atascosa: white-tailed deer and nilgai infested by cattle fever ticks
- Survey for ticks on feral swine conducted in August 2015
- Feral swine examined = 81; all infested by ticks; cattle fever ticks = none found
Deer and other Ungulates 2016

- Deer and other ungulates will be examined at processing facilities in South Texas
- November 2016 – January 2017
- In collaboration with USDA–APHIS–VS and the Texas Animal Health Commission
Vieques, Puerto Rico

- Vieques not know to be infested but feral horses present.
Vieques, Puerto Rico

- Surveys conducted throughout the island
- Surveys for ticks on mongooses, cattle egrets, and feral horses
Vieques, Puerto Rico

- Surveys include the east end of Vieques
- East end previously Camp Garcia, U.S. Navy, now Vieques NWR
- East end previously used for bombing practice and not accessible due to unexploded ordinance
- Feral horses and cattle present
- Beginning in 2015 SCWDS working with USFWS to conduct surveys on east end in cleared areas
- Tropical bont ticks not found to date
Amblyomma auricularium

- Geographic range includes South America, Central America, and Mexico
- Sporadic collections in Texas and Florida
- Individuals reported in Florida three times since 2000
- SCWDS 2004-2007 data in press:
  - 11,192 specimens collected
  - 14 contiguous counties in South Florida
  - Numerous mammals hosts
  - Bird hosts reported for the first time