LONGEVITY OF RHIPICEPHALUS SANGUINEUS LARVAE

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Rhipicephalus sanguineus is a dog tick that can cause various health problems, including *Babesia* and *Ehrlichia*. The aim was to analyze the longevity of R. *sanguineus* larvae kept in vitro. Teleogens were collected from two two-year-old Blue Heeler dogs that had never been treated with a tick spray, raised in Santa Inês, Bahia, a municipality located in the Jiquiriçá Valley, in the southwest of Bahia. These teleogines were taken to the Parasitology Laboratory at Instituto Federal Baiano - *Campus* Santa Inês. After separating the largest and most active teleogynes, they were washed in running water and placed in Petri dishes to be laid. After laying, the eggs were separated into test tubes sealed with absorbent cotton to allow gas exchange, in order to monitor longevity. Eight days after the teleogynes were placed in the Petri dish to monitor the reproductive cycle, the first eggs were observed, a process that lasted thirty-four days, with daily observations. After this period, the eggs were transferred to a test tube and the larval stage began nine days later. From then on, observations were made every two days, until the larvae reached total mortality, 99 days between the start of hatching and death. The ticks were kept at room temperature throughout the observation period. The longevity of tick larvae is related to the risk of infestation in dogsThe longevity of ticks is directly associated with the risk of infestation, even when the larvae are transferred from the initial site.

Keywords: *Babesia; Ehrlichia*; Teleogynes.