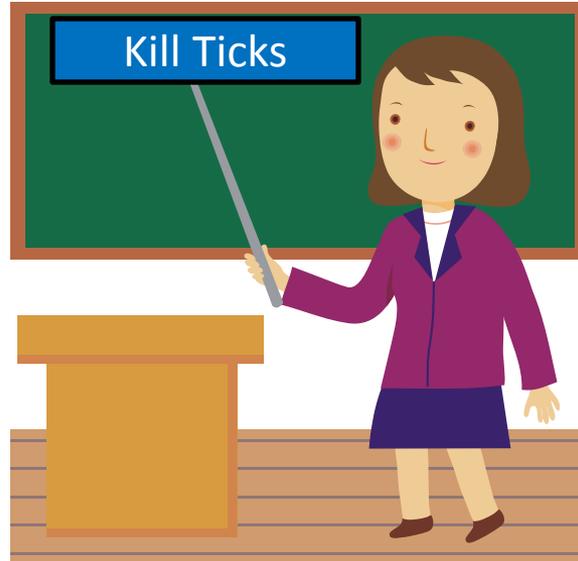


Lessons Learned From the Field: Choosing a Collar and Pesticide



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Tick Collars



Tag/License

Nylon Collar

Tick Collar

Easy to use

Prevents ticks from feeding

Prevents ticks from breeding

Can SEE a dog has been treated

The key to long-term, sustained control

Pesticides



Labor-intensive

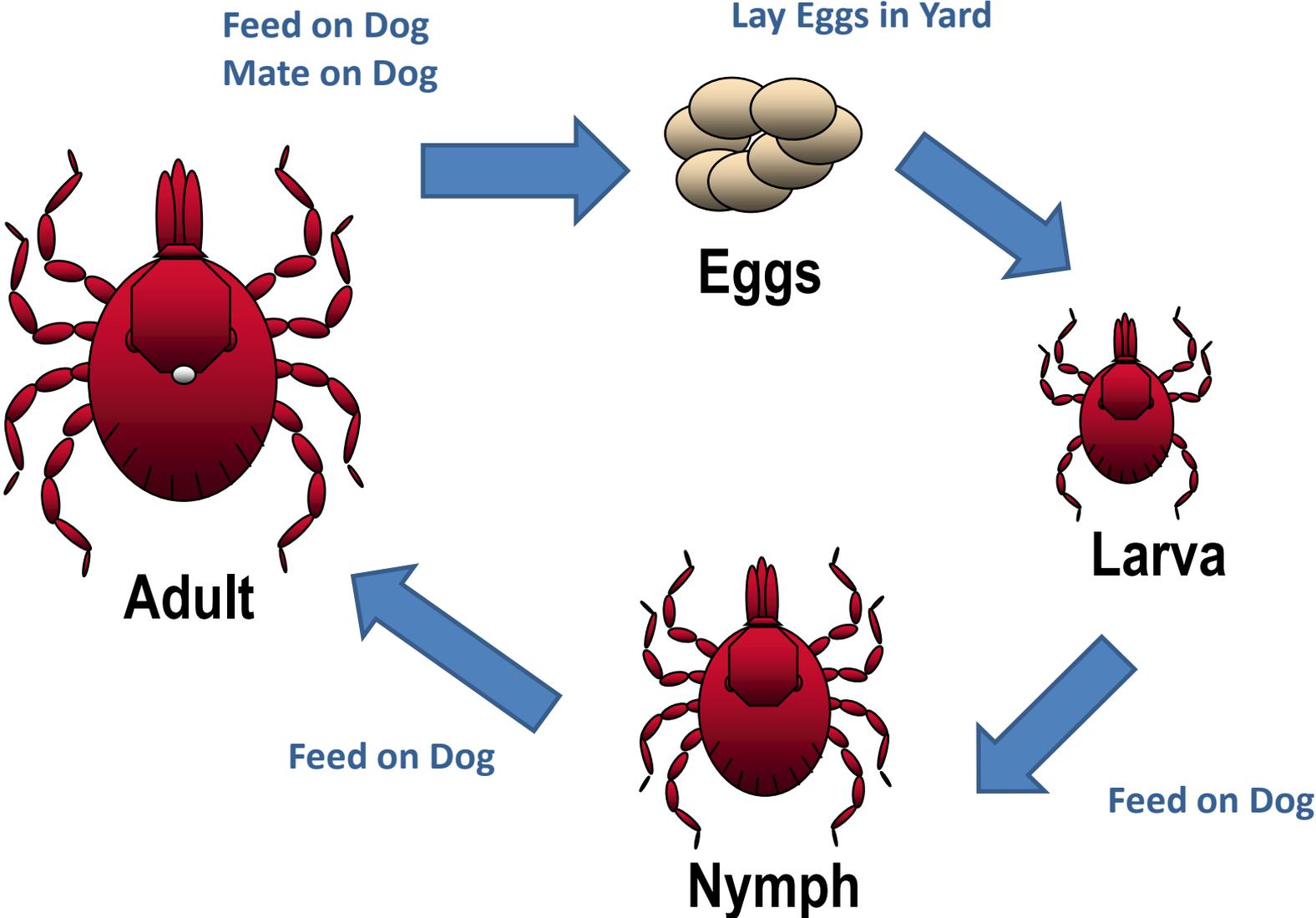
Kills ticks in yards

Will protect people from ticks

Hard to get complete coverage

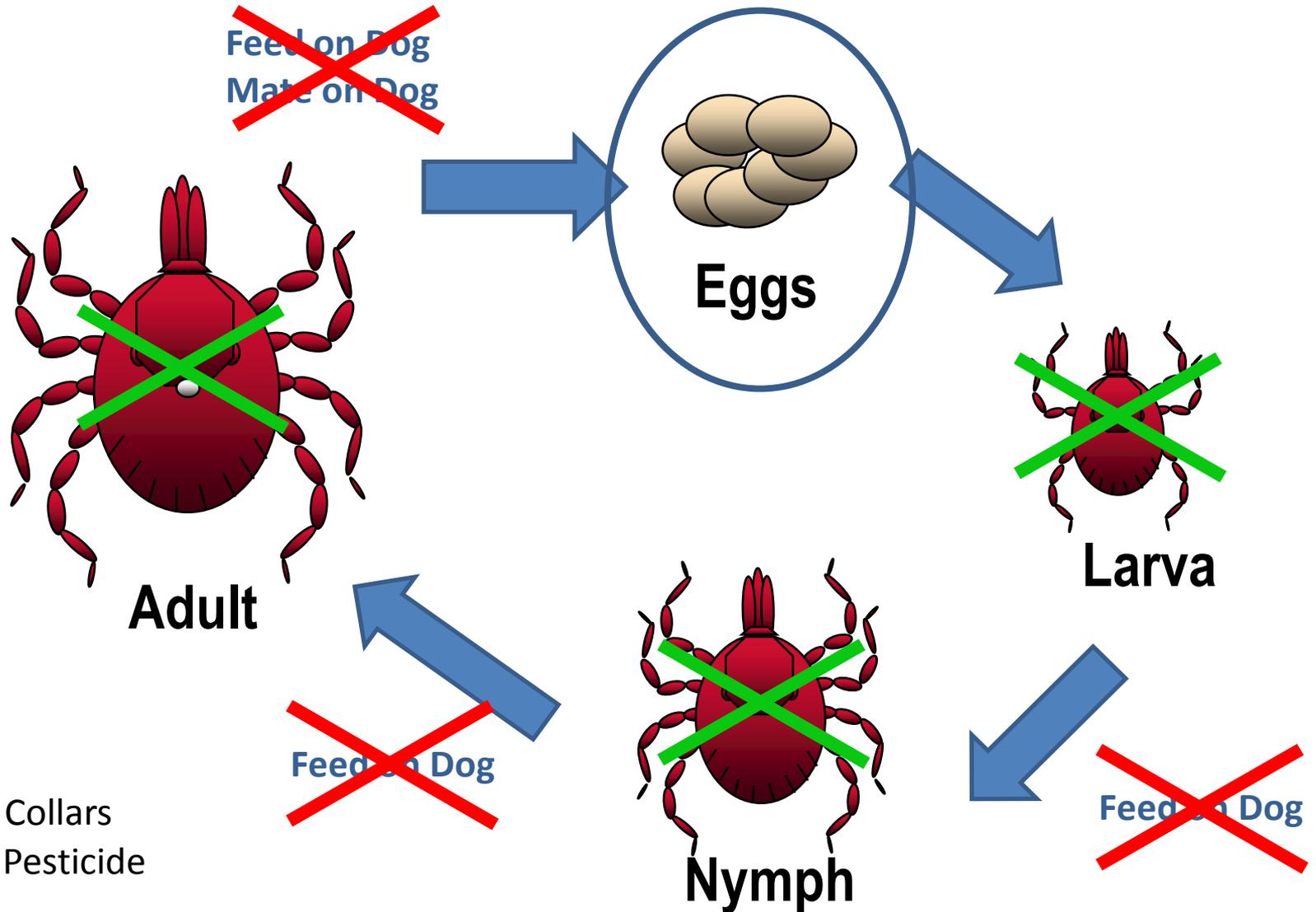
Initial control effort, then mop-up

Tick Life Cycle



A Collar BREAKS the Life Cycle

Pesticide KILLS ticks



Tick Collars for RMSF Prevention

- ❑ **Goal: Need constant protection on dogs to break the tick cycle**
 - Even small lapse in protection can give ticks a foothold
- ❑ **Goal: COLLAR EVERY DOG (puppies 6 wks of age and older)**
- ❑ **REMOVE STRAYS OR PLACE COLLARS ON THEM TOO**
- ❑ **Coverage is needed at *least* March-October (8 months), year-round if possible**
- ❑ **Put collar on as early in the year as possible**
 - Human RMSF cases start occurring in March on some reservations
 - Putting a tick collar on early REDUCES tick populations for the year because adult ticks who have survived the winter can't breed and lay eggs
- ❑ **RECHECK COLLAR OFTEN**
 - Dogs lose collars
 - Check every 1-2 months
 - Plan to replace 25-50% of collars due to loss

All Tick Collars Are Not Created Equal



\$\$\$\$ (\$25)
Lasts 8 months

\$ (\$4)
Lasts < 1 month



\$\$ (\$15)
Lasts ?? (1-3 months)

How to Choose?

- Safe
- Effective
- Long-lasting
- Work in AZ
- Cost



Choosing a Collar

- ❑ **Zodiac: 20-40% of dogs had ticks 1 day to 1 month after applying this collar** *(based on data collected on Fort Apache in 2013)*
 - If you use this collar, must replace with new collar every month
 - 8 months x \$4 = \$32
- ❑ **Preventic: Label claims 5 months protection, but probably more like 2-3 months**
 - Replace with new collar every 3 months
 - 3 replacements x \$15 = \$45
- ❑ **Seresto: > 95% dogs will be tick-free in September when collar is applied in March**
 - Apply once; check often to make sure collar stays on
 - Lasts 8 months
 - \$25 when purchased by tribe directly from Bayer

APPLY the Collar Correctly and EDUCATE the Owner

- ❑ **Common Mistake: Collar is put on TOO LOOSE**
 - You should ONLY be able to get 2 fingers between the collar and the dog's neck
 - Collar should not be loose or slack. It should stay in place, not “spin” on the neck
- ❑ **Common Mistake: Trusting the homeowner to put the collar on**
 - They are more likely to make a mistake
 - Have your Team Member place the collar, or WATCH AND DIRECT the homeowner as they put it on
- ❑ **Common Mistake: A nylon collar is not given with the tick collar**
 - The tick collar is designed to “break away” if the dog is caught (prevents choking)
 - Hooking a tick collar up to a chain or leash will cause it to break
 - Giving owners a nylon collar (~\$3-\$5) and educating them to use THAT for restraining a dog will save your expensive tick collar!
 - A nylon collar also gives owners a place to put their identification tag
- ❑ **Common Mistake: The owner doesn't realize how important it is to keep the tick collar on or that they should call you when it is lost**
 - Provide education (verbal, pamphlet).
 - Tell homeowners the collar MUST stay on the dog and they must protect it.
 - Tell homeowners to call immediately if their dog loses a collar, or they see dogs without tick collars in their neighborhood.

Keep 'Em Collared San Carlos!

- Tick collars do more than just protect dogs: they stop ticks from breeding and reduce ticks in your yard.
- Put a tick collar on every dog on the reservation!
- ***MORE COLLARS = LESS TICKS***
- Your tribe is using SERESTO® brand collars. They last up to 8 months and are safe for your dogs and your family.
- Keep the Seresto® collar on dogs year-round, and put a fresh collar on all of your dogs every March. If your dog loses its collar, replace it immediately.
- Put the collar on properly!
 - Collar should be tight (slip only 2 fingers under it.)
 - Loose collars may not keep ticks off your dog, and are more likely to come off.
- Take care of your Seresto® collar.
 - NEVER tie your dog up by the Seresto® collar. It is designed to break-away in an emergency.
 - Use a nylon or leather collar to tie up dogs.
- Having a Seresto Tick collar on your dog keeps your family and your reservation safe from Rocky Mountain spotted fever, a deadly disease spread by ticks.

***If your dog loses its collar, or you see dogs without Seresto® collars in your neighborhood, call Animal Control immediately!
928-475-2798, ext 1102.***



Never tie a dog up by its tick collar! Use a nylon collar instead!



Nylon Collar

Seresto Collar

Example Pesticide Description

Pesticide
Family

Pyrethroid

Active
Ingredient

Bifenthrin

Product
Name

Talstar[®] P

RMSF Rodeo Pesticide Selection Criteria



SAFETY: Personal & Environmental

- Low toxicity
- Minimal applicator exposure
- Low potential for environmental impact



EFFECTIVENESS: Specificity & Efficacy

- Effective against Brown Dog Tick
- Expected to last at least one month
- Received expert advice



RESOURCES: Funds, Staff & Equipment

- Residential type product
- Liquid and RTS simplified application
- Limited equipment needs

RMSF Rodeo Pesticide Lessons Learned

- Expert advice and research was critical for decision making
- Training field staff was essential
- Timing was everything
- ATV's were faster than hoses
- Concentrate can = saved \$ and space



VS



Time Collars and Yard Pesticide Treatments to Work Together

- ❑ **Putting on collars without also treating yards at the same time is *not* a good idea**
 - Ticks avoid collared dogs, which means they stay in the environment
 - Ticks in the yard will be HUNGRY, may be more likely to bite people
 - Apply pesticides at or near the beginning of the collaring effort
- ❑ **Start both as early as possible, when ticks first start to come out for the year**
 - Pick the month where human cases start to increase
 - San Carlos: March/April
 - Fort Apache: May
 - TON: February?
- ❑ **Starting a prevention program early in the year will make your whole job easier!**
 - Don't wait for June or July: Break the cycle before ticks get bad
 - Aggressive early treatment will keep ticks from growing out of control