



FLEA and TICKS

The best way to control flea problems is to prevent them from happening in the first place. Fortunately, developments in veterinary parasite control in recent years have made the twofold goal of eliminating fleas on pets and preventing further infestations much easier to achieve.

Fleas are small, wingless, blood feeding insects. Once on their hosts, fleas feed daily.

The common household flea does not usually transmit diseases to pets and people. They generally cause a lot of itching and scratching. They may also cause some discomfort due to possible allergic flea bite dermatitis.

Did you know a female flea can produce up to 600 offspring per month! The life span of the average flea is one year. The flea's main method of attack is to jump on their prey – a flea can jump a distance equal to 150 times their size.

Ticks, those other dreaded bloodsuckers, pose a greater risk, annually giving pets and thousands of people illnesses such as Lyme disease. Their average life span is usually two years.

Unlike the flea, the tick is incapable of jumping or flying to its prey. The tick uses its carbon monoxide sensing ability of warm-blooded animals to detect the presence of its prey. Once attached to your Golden, a female tick can feast upon your dog for up to seven days!!

Lyme disease is generally caused by the Deer Tick, while Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever is usually a result of a bite from the American Dog Tick.

Modern science has produced a number of products which can help your pet should it happen to suffer from fleas and ticks. You and your veterinarian should choose which product to use wisely, as products vary in their effectiveness. For example, Advantage does not treat ticks – it is only effective with fleas.

All products have advantages and disadvantages and may or may not be safe to use with other products. The over-the-counter powders, sprays and collars which contain pyrethrin, are moderately effective. However, the best flea products are obtainable only with a prescription. Consider these commonly prescribed treatments:

FRONTLINE

FRONTLINE® Spray

Quick elimination of existing flea and tick infestations
Recommended for:

- Severe existing flea and tick infestations
- Multi-pet households
- Initial treatment of flea allergy dermatitis (FAD)
- Typically used by your veterinarian, in clinic, for quick treatment

FRONTLINE® Plus

All the benefits of FRONTLINE Top Spot with an extra ingredient, (S)-methoprene. Not only kills adult

fleas, but also breaks the flea life cycle by killing their eggs and larvae preventing re-infestation
Recommended for:

- Dog and cat owners who want the most complete flea and tick control available

ADVANTAGE

The Advantage® Practice

Advantage® is committed to making veterinary professionals the number-one resource for pet health.

The fastest monthly flea control, Advantage®: stops fleas from biting in less than five minutes, kills 98-100 percent of adult fleas in 12 hours and continues to work for up to four weeks, is water-resistant and protects against fleas even after a shampooing, swimming or exposure to sunlight, kills flea larvae too, kills fleas rapidly, and may reduce the incidence of flea allergy dermatitis*