



Bionomics: Gulf Coast tick adults can aggressively bite humans. They are a major pest of livestock.

Medical Importance: Transmits: *Rickettsia parkeri* to humans, leptospirosis in livestock, *Ehrlichia* (formerly *Cowdria*) *ruminantium*, the Heartwater pathogen and induces Tick paralysis. Canine Hepatozoonosis, a protozoan pathogen, is not transmitted through the bite of an infected tick; rather, transmission occurs when dogs consume infected ticks while grooming.



