

Ixodes affinis

Bionomics: Originally a Central-South American species. First found in Florida in 1953, spread to Georgia and South Carolina, and finally identified in NC in 2009. Easily misidentified as *Ixodes scapularis*, because they are both collected in the same habitats in spring and fall. Adults active March –November, and easily collected during the summer months. No published documentation that they bite humans, but they feed on many other mammals and birds. Common in coastal plain counties of the southeastern United States.

Medical Importance: Implicated as an enzootic (or maintenance) vector of *Borrelia burgdorferi* in small rodent hosts in the southeastern United States..

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