

Ornithodoros turicata



Bionomics: Parasitizes rodents that live in burrows, crevices, or caves; owls; snakes; tortoises; and also domestic pigs and other livestock in southern USA and Mexico. Contrary to most *Ornithodoros* feeding patterns, immatures engorge in <30 min, but adults may attach for as long as 2 days.

Medical Importance: It is the vector of *Borrelia turicatae*, which causes relapsing fever. It has been associated with diseases of pigs, and serious toxic reactions and secondary infections can result when people are bitten.

Ornithodoros turicata

