



**WHEN THE SEASON CHANGES,
THE THREAT DOESN'T.**

**Parasites are a year-round
problem for your dog or cat**

"Ticks can't survive in the winter, so protecting against them isn't necessary..."



FALSE

Ticks can survive in extremely cold environments: even when the temperature's zero*, they burrow into the undergrowth to keep warm until a host walks past. So protecting your pet is a year-round priority.

...is it?"

"Fleas die off in the winter so they're not a threat to my cat..."



FALSE

Fleas can survive frozen for a year, hitch a ride on your shoe and warm up nicely in your home. Next thing you know, you've got an infestation on your hands!

...are they?"

* Walker AR. *Bulletin of Entomological Research*, 2001, 91,69-78

WINTER

Ticks become active at

4°C¹

Fleas can survive at

0°C²



1. Walker AR. Age structure of a population of *Ixodes ricinus* (Acari: Ixodidae) in relation to its seasonal questing. Royal School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, Roslin
2. Silverman J, Rust MK, Reiersen DA. Influence of Temperature and Humidity on Survival and Development of the Cat Flea, *Ctenocephalides felis* (Siphonaptera: Pulicidae). *Journal of Medical Entomology*, 1981, 18, 78-83





TICKS ARE NOT JUST A PROBLEM IN THE SPRING OR SUMMER

Ticks will be feeding when the temperatures are 3.5°C* or above – here is an overview of how many days in 2017 were **below** these temperatures in regions near you.

REGION	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY
South East / Central	0.2	5.6	10.7	16.3	3.5
South West / South Wales	0.3	4.5	6.6	9.4	5.2
North East / East	0.4	6.2	13.8	14.6	4.8
North West / North Wales	0.7	6.1	10.6	12.0	4.7
East Anglia	0.1	4.6	10.9	15.5	1.9
Midlands	0.5	5.4	11.3	14.6	4.4

Source: metoffice.gov.uk

* Walker AR. Age structure of a population of *Ixodes ricinus* (Acari: Ixodidae) in relation to its seasonal questing. Royal School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, Roslin

AUTUMN

"As soon as autumn arrives, our cat never goes out so he can't get fleas..."

...can he?"



FALSE

Fleas and flea eggs can be brought into the house on your clothing and on visitors and visiting animals. Once fleas find a host, e.g. a cat or a human, they'll begin feeding within minutes!

"My dog had fleas back in the summer but I treated her for a month and the fleas went so I don't need to treat her any more..."

...do I?"



FALSE

Dogs can pick up fleas any time, so they need continuous nose-to-toes protection all year round. Your vet can help you choose the treatment that's best for your dog.





**Whatever the weather, make
sure your pet is protected against
the threat of parasites!**

Ask here for advice.

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