

County Agent's NOTEBOOK

(By Leroy J. Hajdik, County Extension Agent, Colorado County)

Hot Weather Brings Ticks; Controls Cited

Tick populations increase dramatically with warmer weather, causing inconvenience and health hazards for homeowners and pets.

Ticks are biting, blood-sucking parasites, and their bites may become inflamed and infected due to toxic secretions. Tick paralysis, tularemia and Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever may be transmitted through tick bites.

Brown dog ticks and American dog ticks are the most common in Texas home areas.

These ticks are reddish-brown while American dog ticks are yellowish-brown when unfed and slate gray when engorged. The brown dog tick rarely occurs in rural areas; instead, it hides in crevices around buildings. American dog ticks are most often found along roads and trails.

A female tick may lay several thousand eggs, beginning a two to four month life cycle. Remaining stages—six-legged larva (seed tick) and eight-legged nymph and adult—generally develop on separate host animals. After each feeding, the tick drops off the host and temporarily hides until the next developmental stage.

Regardless of the species, control is basically the same for all ticks.

Heavy infestations in the

home may require treatment by professionals. Household sprays containing 0.5 percent diazinon or ronnel will control light infestations.

Outside the home where vegetation is thick, use 5 percent carbaryl (Sevin) dust at 20-25 pounds per acre. Increase the rate at vegetation thickens. If using a spray, mix five tablespoons of 25 percent diazinon emulsifiable concentrate (EC) in one gallon of water. Apply one square foot of spray per 1,000 square feet of area. Carbaryl gives the best residual control. When spraying, pay particular attention to roadside, animal trails and paths.

Most species of ticks can survive in cleared areas where they are exposed to excessive sunlight and predation.

Removing areas clear of debris is important in tick control. Hikers and campers may want to use repellent materials on their jacket cuffs or the bottoms of their trousers. Also, we recommend tucking trousers into the tops of socks or boots. Sleeves buttoned tight will also aid in protection.

Pet owners should examine their animals frequently. Light infestations can be controlled by rubbing carbaryl dust into the pet's hair. Also, treat the animal's sleeping quarters every week.

If a tick becomes attached to the skin, remove it with a slow, steady pull. Be careful not to break off its mouthparts. A drop of chloroform, isopropyl alcohol, ether, acetone or fingernail polish rubbed over the tick

Coach and Mrs. Michael Benedict Welcome Son

Coach and Mrs. Michael Benedict of Columbus are the pleased parents of a son born Saturday, July 26th at 7:25 p.m. in the Park Plaza Hospital in Houston. The young man, who weighed eight pounds and two ounces at birth, has been named Michael Kyle.

Grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Warren E. Benedict of Houston and Mr. and Mrs. James F. Stephenson of Missouri City. The great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Ben Schroeder of Rosenberg.

Coach Benedict, basketball coach at Columbus High School, is a former Eagle Lake Middle School coach.

Truck Driver Injured In Hwy. 71 Wreck Mon.

Franks Bard, driving a 1978 Mack truck and trailer owned by Lundy Vacuum of El Campo, went to sleep while traveling east on Highway 71, 2.6 miles east of Garwood, at 12:30 a.m. Monday, July 28th. He was taken to the El Campo hospital with injuries received when the truck went out of control.

Highway Patrolman Andy Taquard investigated the accident. The report showed the vehicle went into a ditch and traveled 210 feet in the ditch, then back onto the road and skidded for another 175 feet before turning over onto its side in the westbound lane. Bard was taken to the El Campo Hospital by the Garwood Ambulance unit.

Bard was cited for driving at an unsafe speed. In another accident investigated by Trooper Taquard at 11 p.m. Thursday, July 24th, a 1969 Chev. driven west on Highway 90A went out of control and went into a ditch, but managed to stay upright. The driver's report stated that the car was driven by Mary Carlines Lujan of Eagle Lake. The driver apparently lost control due to a defective tire and the car went into the westbound ditch and turned sideways and skidded 80 feet before coming to rest. Considerable damage was done to the vehicle's undercarriage because of the steep embankment in the ditch.

may help remove it. It can be removed a half-hour later with less damage to the skin because its oxygen supply is cut off.

Always apply an antiseptic to tick bites. If your hands touch the tick, wash them thoroughly with soap and water to reduce the risk of spreading disease.

Two Minor Wrecks Investigated In City

Eagle Lake police investigated two minor accidents during the past week.

At 5:07 p.m. Thursday, July 24th, a 1974 Chev. pickup driven by Everett Charles Dutcher of East Bernard and a 1968 Ford pickup driven by Clifford L. Merritt of Eagle Lake collided at the intersection of Clark and Stevenson. Investigating officer, city patrolman Larry Hill, issued a citation to Dutcher for failure to yield right of way.

At 7:30 p.m. Friday, July 25th, a 1979 Ford pickup driven by Owen Pfeiffer of Eagle Lake and pulling a utility trailer and a 1967 Chev. Impala driven by Clay Henry Jr. collided at the intersection of West Main and Austin Road.

Investigating officer was city patrolman Richard Saunders and he noted that Henry made a right turn onto Main off Austin Road and hit the trailer being towed by the pickup. Henry was charged with making an improper right turn.

Jail Bond Issue Passes In Austin Co.

It was proven again that the third time is the charm. Austin County voters went to the polls July 19 for the third time to vote in a jail bond issue, and passed it this time. Of the total 1088 ballots counted, 710 voters were in favor of a \$950,000 bond issue to build a new county jail facility and 378 voters opposed it. Only three voting boxes recorded a higher vote against than for, these being precinct 3 at Kenney, precinct 9 at New Ulm and precinct 10 at Industry.

Total vote recorded was 14.2 percent of the registered 7609 voters, a small response to such a major issue.

Commissioners Court submitted a more concise project for a vote in January, when the \$2,000,000 issue was defeated by a vote count of 586 for and 966 against. At that time 1552 ballots were cast in the county—Sealy News.

Another reason besides price... Bute Paint is manufactured in Houston by the James Bute Paint Company. The Bute Company is family owned and operated, and was founded in 1867. Through innovations in science and technology, our knowledge has grown over the years—but not so large that we have or will forget you—our customer.

Please remember you are buying a quality product from an experienced company who cares about you, the homeowner.

Thank you, John Bute, Bute Paint Products.

White and 459 pastel colors. Mid and deepstone colors, some higher.

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Homemakers' Reflections

By Donella Pontel, County Extension Agent

Nutrition Of Value To The Athlete

Athletes usually mean profuse sweating. Watch sodium and potassium when this occurs.

During the hot summer, profuse sweating—particularly in the athlete, can lead to deficits of the principle minerals: sodium and potassium.

Be careful about using potassium and sodium (electrolyte) supplements, as well as salt tablets.

The American Dietetic Association recommends that potassium and sodium (electrolyte) supplements be used only on the advice of a physician.

Salt tablets are not recommended as they can cause nausea, vomiting and gastric distress.

Excessive salt intake caused by overuse of these supplements may increase the strain on the kidney and without adequate fluid intake, they can lead to dehydration.

Dehydration can be dangerous—even fatal.

Remove Pesticides From Clothes

Colorado County Extension Agent Donella R. Pontel cautions citizens to pay careful attention to clothing contaminated by pesticides. Some pesticides can enter the body through the skin.

Wash clothes worn while applying pesticides daily, or store them in a plastic bag to await laundering. Do not mix contaminated clothes with other laundry. Normal heavily soiled laundry procedures will remove pesticide from clothing.

Follow this procedure: Use hot, wash water, 130-140 degrees F. and normal or full water level. Pre-soak or prewash for extra

another for \$2,500,000 bond issue.

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heavily soiled garments. Use the manufacturer's recommended amount of heavy duty detergent for heavily soiled laundry.

Use chlorine bleach to aid in sanitizing and deodorizing if garments are bleachable. Check permanent-care labels for warnings against bleaching.

Thoroughly rinse with cold water.

If possible, thoroughly dry in an automatic dryer at the regular fabric setting.

Remove any leftover pesticide from the washer by running the machine through the complete laundering cycle, using detergent but no clothes.

Visit Here

Misses Cosina and Carol Burkhardt from Conroe are spending several days with Mr. and Mrs. Elmo Sens here and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Allen in El Campo.

Free Tony's Dinner

Jaime Camarillo is a ticket for a free Tony's Deluxe Dinner at Taco Tony's on Highway 90A just west of the city. You'll find delicious foods in a pleasant atmosphere. Clip this out and present at Tony's not later than Aug. 5, 1980.

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