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Molecular evidence confirms occurrence of *Rhipicephalus microplus* Clade A in Kenya and sub-Saharan Africa

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Mapping of invasive cattle ticks in Kenya

January 2019–December 2021



Objectives

- 1) Map the prevalence of the invasive cattle tick *Rhipicephalus microplus* in Kenya.
- 2) Characterize acaricide resistance of local strains of *R. microplus* and related tick species.
- 3) Develop decision tools to inform policy on the control of invasive ticks and tick-borne diseases.

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Partners: ICARDA, University of Nairobi, DVS, University of Sydney.

Funding: CRP Livestock-Herd Health

Highlight of 2020 achievements

- *Rhipicephalus microplus* described in Kenya for the first since 1998.
- Four complete mitochondrial (mt) genomes for two *R. microplus*, one *R. decoloratus* and one *R. appendiculatus* ticks from Kenya were assembled from next generation sequence data.