



Tick Submissions to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)

Effective March 1, 2017, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) will no longer accept ticks from the public for identification or disease screening. For information related to any tick identification or disease testing requests, citizens should contact the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases Section (EZID), at 517-335-8165 or www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases for tick submission forms and more details.

For the last ten years the MDARD, Insect & Rodent Management Program receives hundreds of tick submissions from the general public for identification and tick borne disease screening. Tick samples received peak between the months of May through August. Tick species received from the public included the following ticks: *Amblyomma americanum* (Lone Star Tick), *Dermacentor albipictus* (Winter Dog Tick), *Dermacentor andersoni* (Rocky Mountain Wood Tick), *Dermacentor variabilis* (American Dog Tick), *Haemaphysalis leporispalustris* (Rabbit Tick), *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* (Brown Dog Tick), *Ixodes banksi* (Skunk Tick), *Ixodes cookie* (Woodchuck Tick), *Ixodes dentatus* (Eastern Rabbit Tick), *Ixodes marxi* (Squirrel Tick), *Ixodes muris* (Mouse Tick), *Ixodes pacificus* (California Black-Legged Tick), *Ixodes scapularis* (Deer Tick/Black-Legged Tick), *Ixodes sculptus* (Ground Squirrel Tick), and *Ixodes woodi* (Woodrat Tick).

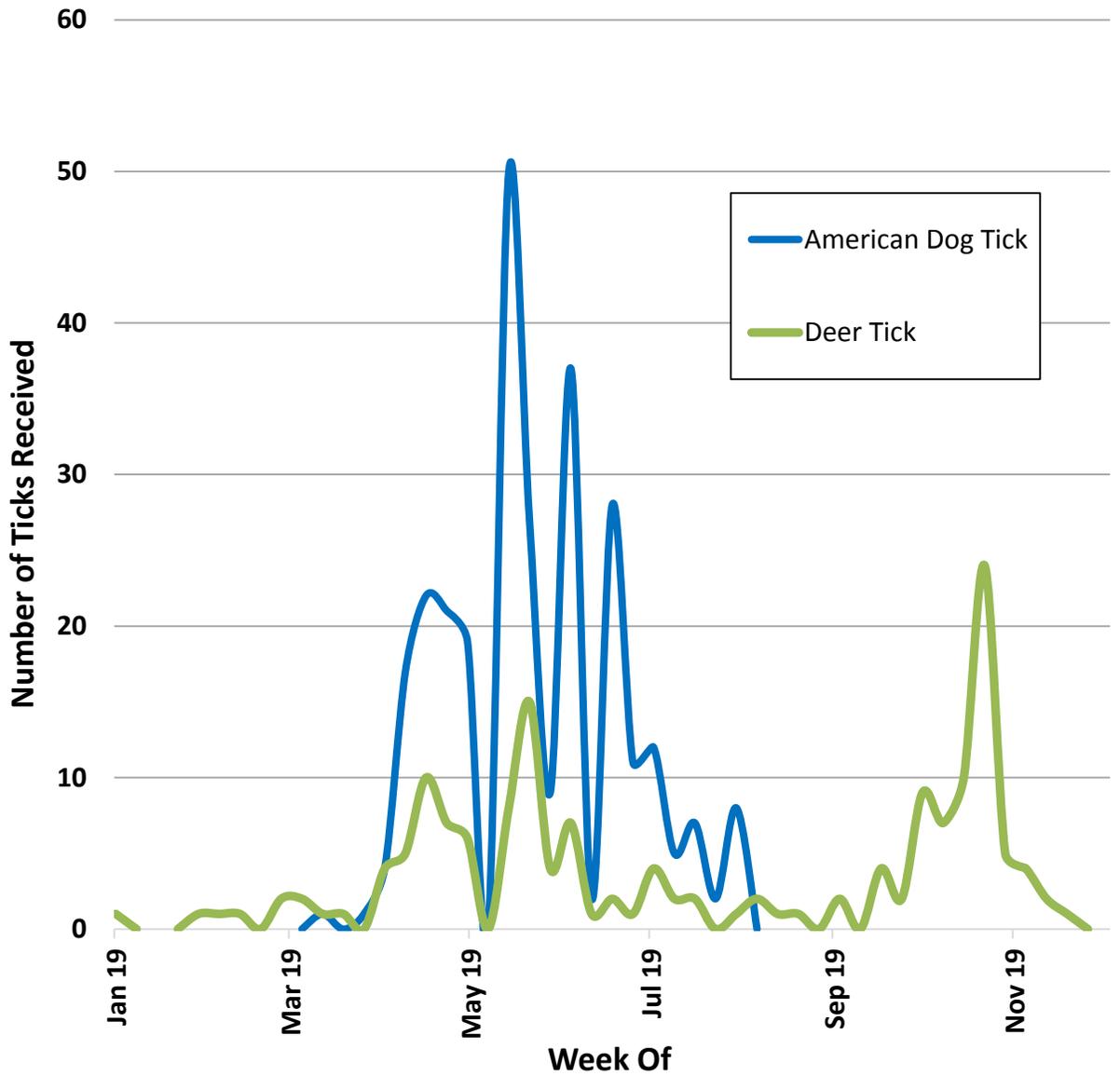
The species of tick which is submitted the most by the public for identification in Michigan is the American Dog tick. They are usually submitted between the months of March and September. The Deer/Black-Legged tick (second most submitted tick) is received from the public throughout the year (January – December). Other tick species where several submissions are received have included the Lone Star tick, Rabbit tick, Brown Dog tick, Woodchuck tick, and Squirrel tick. These tick submissions occur between the months of April through November.

Tick borne disease has been associated with certain species of ticks in Michigan. They include the following tick species as a potential vector:

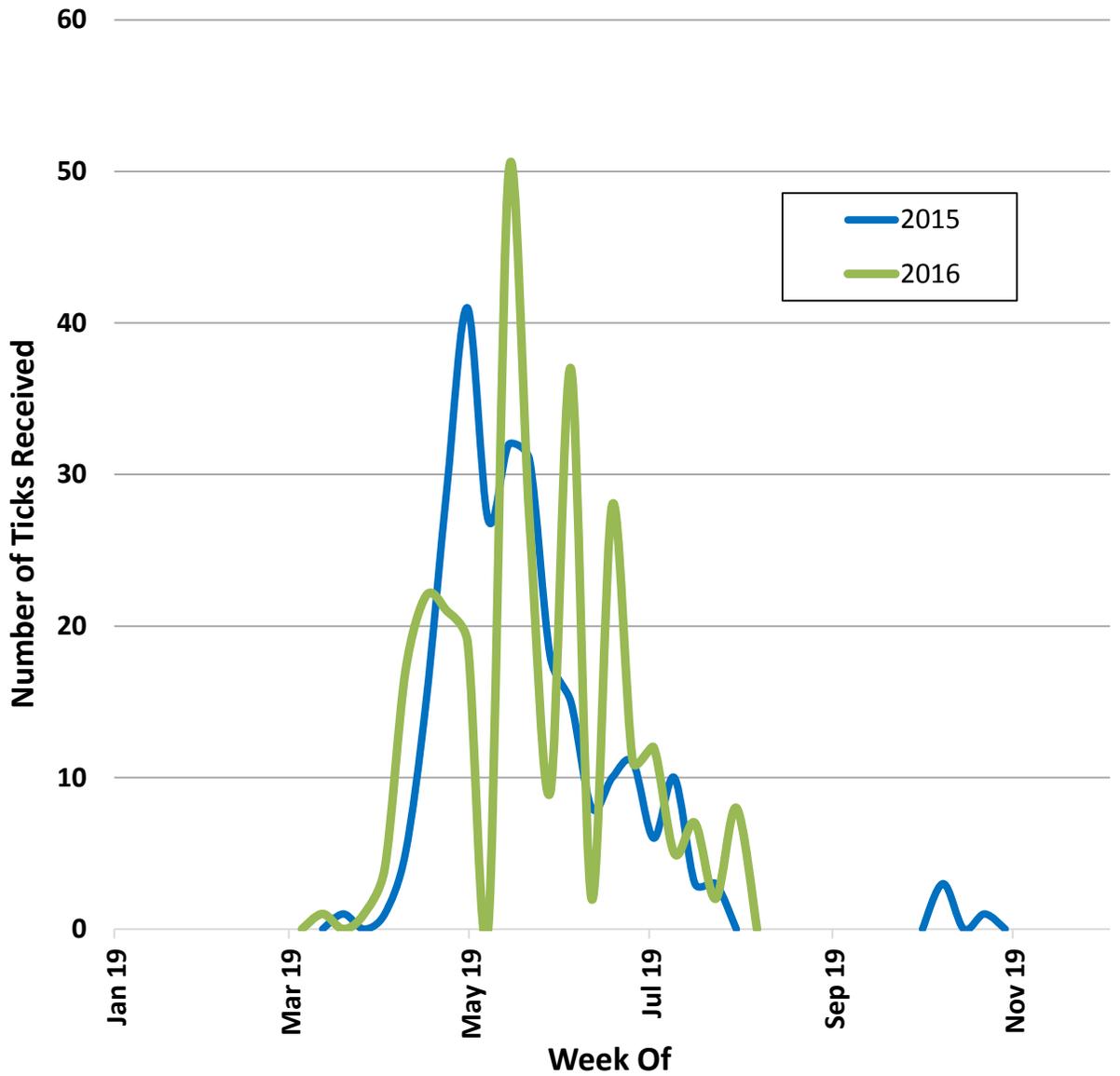
DISEASE AGENT(S)	POTENTIALLY CARRIED BY – TICK SPECIES
Lyme Disease (<i>Borrelia burgdorferi</i>)	Deer/Black-Legged tick
Human Granulocytic Anaplasmosis (<i>HGA</i>)	Deer/Black-Legged tick
Babesia	Deer/Black-Legged tick
Powassan Encephalitis	<i>Ixodes cookie</i> tick
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	American Dog tick
Human Monocytic Ehrlichiosis (<i>HME</i>)	Long Star tick

The following maps and table shows where and when the American Dog tick and Deer/Black-Legged tick samples were received by MDARD in 2015 and 2016:

Weekly Distribution of American Dog Tick and Deer Tick Samples Received in 2016



Weekly Distribution of American Dog Tick Samples Received in 2015 and 2016



Weekly Distribution of Deer Tick Samples Received in 2015 and 2016

