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This paper reports on a study of the distribution taxonomy and abundance of ticks parasitizing domestic cattle in five areas representing climatological zones in Sri Lanka.

Cattle ticks were sampled from a total of 1240 head of cattle in five areas belonging to the low country dry zone (Dambulla), low country wet zone (Ruwanwella), hill country (Kandy), montane wet zone (hatton), and high montane wet zone (Nuwara Eliya) in Sri Lanka.

A total of 164,695 ticks belonging to eight species namely *Amblyomma integrum*, *Boophilus* sp, *Haemaphysalis bispinosa*, *Haemaphysalis intermedia*, *Haemaphysalis spinigera*, *Hyalomma brevipunctata*, *Hylomma marginatum* and *Rhipicephalus haemaphysalodes* were collected during the study. The most abundant species found in all areas except Hatton was *Boophilus* sp. in Hatton it was *H. bispinosa*.

The mean number of ticks per host ( $\pm$ SE) was highest in Dambulla ( $190.44 \pm 12.86$ ) and Ruwanwella ( $190.94 \pm 13.12$ ) and least in Nuwara Eliya ( $61.81 \pm 8.12$ ). A study of tick distribution on different body regions (head neck, dorsal trunk, ventral trunk, forelegs, hindlegs and tail,) of the host (n= 500) revealed that *Boophilus* sp (27.55% of total sample) and *H. bispinosa* (39.32%) were most abundant in the neck region. *Rhipicephalus haemaphysaloides* (73.74%) was highest in the head, while *Hyalomma marginatum* (42.45%) and *H. brevipunctata* (47.50%) were highest in the hindlegs and tail. Overall, more ticks occurred on the head and neck than in other regions.