

4-Poster Deer & Tick Control Study



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The 4-Poster device is a passive feeding station designed to control ticks that feed on white-tailed deer. As deer feed on corn at the device, tickicide-treated rollers brush against the animal's neck, head and ears where many ticks feed. This study is being conducted on Shelter Island, Fire Island, and North Haven, New York.



Adult female (top) and adult male (bottom) lone star ticks

Is 4-Poster tick control technology effective in reducing high tick densities ?



Blacklegged male (left) and female (right) ticks



GPS-Collared Doe

How do 4-Posters influence deer behavior and movement and how does this impact the community ?



Areas delineating home ranges occupied by collared deer.



• Evaluating tick abundance and efficacy of 4-Poster technology through tick drags

• Previous research and initial phases of tick sampling suggest promising reductions in tick abundance through the use of 4-Poster technology.



Larval stage of the lone star tick

• Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis, babesiosis, and anaplasmosis are spread to humans through tick bites. Ticks can be difficult to detect on your skin.



Nymphal stage of the blacklegged tick

Deer Browse Line (below)



• Deer browsing damage on landscaping and natural vegetation

• Deer-Vehicle Collisions

• Increases in deer populations from supplemental feed and reduced tick stress resulting from 4-Poster devices



Lone star tick load on a deer ear

- Human exposure to tickicide via handling and consuming deer that use 4-Posters
- Wildlife use of 4-Poster devices
- Disease transmission between deer



Deer, raccoons, and grey squirrels frequently use 4-Poster devices