



This is the stick-fast or stick-tight flea *Echidnophaga*. The female flea never leaves the skin of the host animal.



This is the common dog or cat flea *Ctenocephalides*. It is mobile and can leave the host animal to find other hosts and to lay eggs. The lifecycle below is typical of this flea species.

The new adult flea finds a host pet on which to feed. The host pet can be the same as the one that the flea's own mother fed on.



HOST COAT

The adult flea feeds on the host's (e.g. dog, cat) blood. Adult fleas rarely leave their hosts unless the skin is overcrowded.

Flea cocoons are sticky and get coated in debris from their local surrounds



2 wks after hatching, the third stage larva forms a cocoon that later hatches to release an adult flea

2 days later adult fleas lay eggs in the coat of the host pet



The flea eggs fall from the coat, into the environment.

HOST'S LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

2 days later, the eggs hatch, releasing a first stage larva (grub). NOTE - grubs can live in host's fur.



The first stage flea larva moults becoming a second stage larva



The second stage flea larva moults becoming a third stage flea larva.

