

**Supplementary Fig. S1.** Student´s t test between localities and sexes of white-tailed deer ticks. (A) Bacterial richness (number of OTUs) between *Rhipicephalus* *microplus* (Tam F) and *A. cajennense* (NL M). (B) Comparison between male and female ticks of Rm NL, where females showed a significant difference. (C) Male ticks of *Dermacentor nitens*, in contrast, showed higher richness than females (GraphPad Software, version 9.5.1). https://www.graphpad.com/quickcalcs/contMenu/). Statistical significance with Student’s t test is cited. (For abbreviations, see Fig. 2).