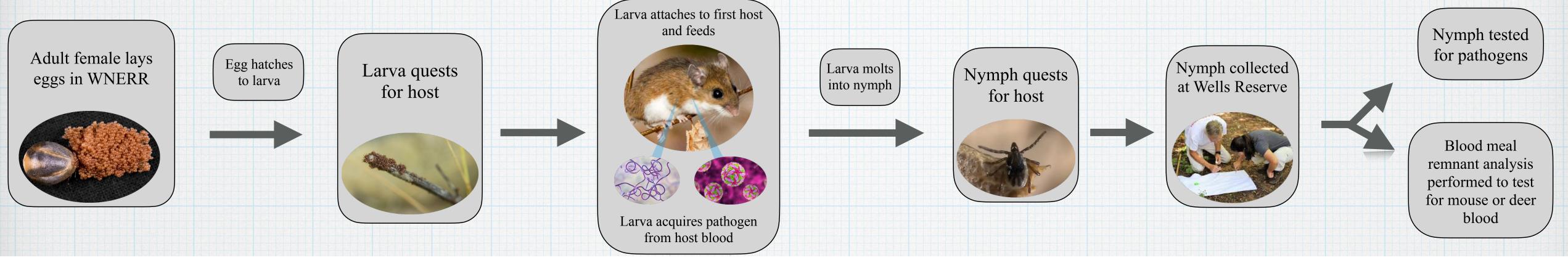
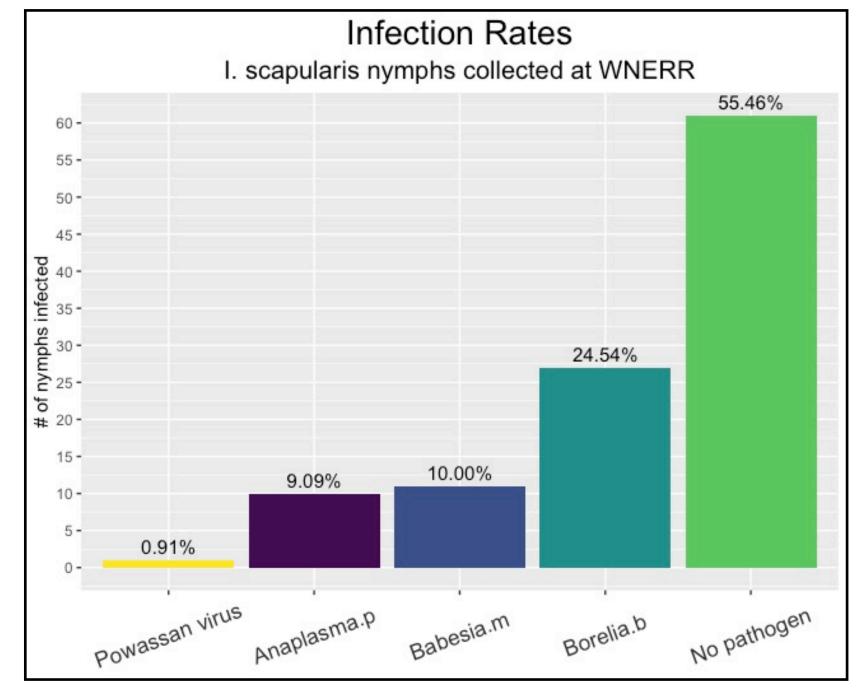
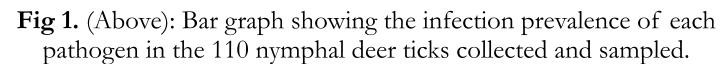
Blood Meal Analysis and Infection Rates of *I. Scapularis* Nymphs Collected From Wells, Maine

Henry Becker, Rebecca Robich, Libby Schneider, Danielle Cosenza, Chuck Lubelczyk, Susan Elias, Robert Smith



- 1. On what animals are nymphal deer ticks feeding at the WNERR?
- 2. From what animals are nymphal deer ticks acquiring the pathogens they carry at the WNERR?
- * 110 nymphs collected and tested
- * 91% of nymphs negative for mice and deer blood
- * 2/31 infected nymphs positive for deer blood
- * 0/31 infected nymphs positive for mouse blood





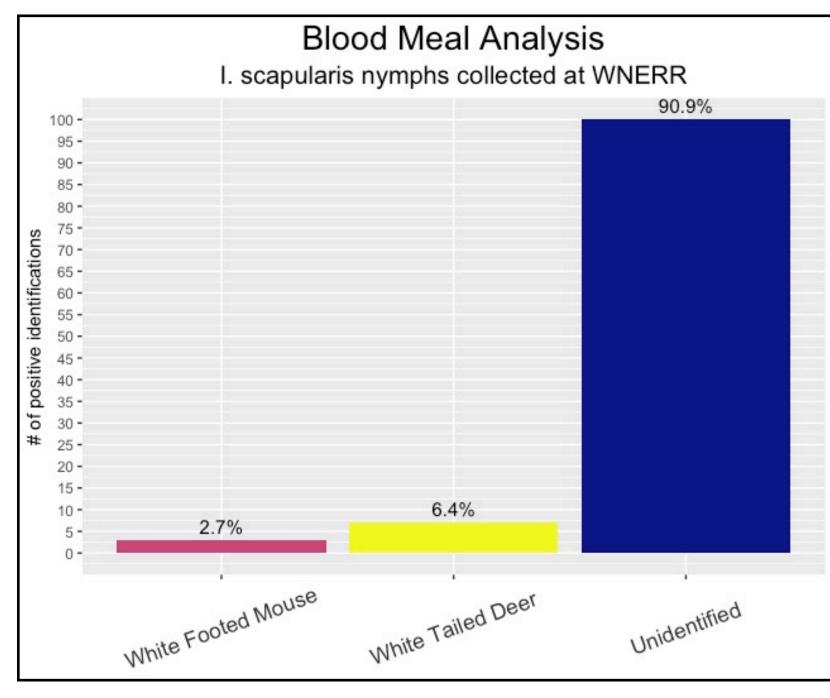


Fig 2. (Above): Bar graph showing the number and percentage of nymphs that tested positive for mice or deer blood based on blood meal remnant analysis.

Rodino, Kyle G, Elitza S Theel, and Bobbi S Pritt. "Tick-Borne Diseases in the United States." Clinical Chemistry 66, no. 4 (April 1, 2020): 537–48. https://doi.org/10.1093/clinchem/hyga040

Goethert HK, Mather TN, Buchthal J, Telford SR, III. 2021. Retrotransposon-based blood meal analysis of nymphal deer ticks demonstrates spatiotemporal diversity of *Borrelia burgdorferi* and *Babesia microti* reservoirs. Appl Environ Microbiol 87:e02370-20. https://doi.org/10.1128/AEM.02370-20.

Thank you to the vector borne disease lab! - Dr. Rob Smith, Dr. Rebecca Robich, Dr. Chuck Lubelczyk, Dr. Susan Elias, Libby Schnieder, and Danielle Cosenza. Thank you to the SSRP coordinators Liz Bergst, Christine Ellis, Dr. Rob Koza, and Dr. Lucy Liaw for making this program possible!