**Bionomics:** Parasitizes rodents that live in burrows, crevices, or caves; owls; snakes; tortoises; and also domestic pigs and other livestock in southern USA and Mexico. Contrary to most *Ornithodoros* feeding patterns, immatures engorge in <30 min, but adults may attach for as long as 2 days.

**Medical Importance:** It is the vector of Borrelia turicatae, which causes relapsing fever. It has been associated with diseases of pigs, and serious toxic reactions and secondary infections can result when people are bitten.
Ornithodoros turicata

Female dorsal view

Female ventral view

Head.

Male dorsal view

APHC