

Flea collars pollute bird nests

Dogs that are protected against fleas and ticks with flea collars, drops or tablets contaminate their environment. Tests show they introduce products such as imidacloprid and fipronil into the environment when swimming or peeing or from dog hairs shed during coat care. Those hairs can end up in bird nests, which could have consequences for newborn chicks. When dogs are washed at home or a grooming salon, the products can get into the sewers and water treatment plants.

This study was an initial exploratory analysis. The results were published in February in the journal *Science of the Total Environment*.

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