SUMMARY

The present experiment was carried out to study the effect of three temperatures in the non parasitic phase, on the parasitic period and recuperation percentage of engorged nymphs, females and larvae of *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*. The experiment was conducted from march 1993 to september 1994.

Engorged females of the tick, collected from naturally infested dogs, were kept at 27 ± 1°C, 80 ± 10% RH and escotophase for oviposition and larval production. The larvae obtained were fed on rabbits. These larvae were transferred to the temperature of 18, 27 and 32°C, 80% RH and escotophase, furnishing of each temperature, material for others infestations and to study of the parasitic phases of the tick life-cycle. Results showed that adults from the group exposed to 18° C had a significantly ($p<0,05$) longer parasitic phase (13,54 +/- 0,23 days) than those from goups kept at 27° C (9,69 +/- 0,43 days) or 32° C (9,57 +/- 0,49 days). The opposite happened with nymphs. They showed the logest parasitic period (5,16 +/- 0,06 days) in the group exposed to 32° C while 4.87 +/- 0.12 days and 4,30 +/- 0,09 days were observed in the groups exposed to 27 and 118° C, respectively. The three parasitc stages showed no statistically significant differences of the percentage os tick recovery. Tick weight differences were not statistically different on larvae and nymphs, but were significant ($p<0.05$) in adults, that showed an average of 171,06 +/- 9,67 mg, 152,67 +/- 4,42 mg and 91,87 +/- 1,47 mg in the groups exposed to 27, 32 and 18° C, respectively.

KEY WORDS: *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, temperature, parasitic phase.