SUMMARY

The hemolymph of adult males and females of the tick *Rhipicephalus sanguineus* was studied at several physiological and nutritional stages under the light microscope. The following cell types were identified, counted, photographed and measured: prohemocytes, plasmatocytes, granulocytes, adipohemocytes, oenocytes. The prevalent types were: spherulocytes, plasmocytes and granulocytes. Some undefined types, no hemocytes types, and possible a few trasitional stages to spherulocytes and adipohemocytes were also observed. Adipohemocytes were differentiated and described for the first time in Ixodoidea. The description of this cell type by some authors generated some doubts and local controversy.

KEY WORDS: Ixodid. *Rhipicephalus sanguineus*, hemocytes, morphology.