

**News for those with concerns with Rocky Mt. spotted fever and lymes disease. Clothing link is <http://www.insectshield.com/> and gives retail stores.**

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Researchers at the **UNC-Chapel Hill** Gillings School of Global Public Health say that [they have found an insect repellent](#) that fends off nearly all ticks.

The study found 93 percent fewer tick attachments among a group of state water quality employees who wore Insect Shield Repellent Apparel, compared to workers in similar environments who used spray repellents or other tick bite prevention methods.

The company Insect Shield did not fund the study in any way and simply applied the repellent to clothes provided by UNC researchers for the study, according to UNC.

Insect Shield apparel uses a process to bind the insect repellent permethrin – a man-made version of a natural insect repellent found in certain chrysanthemum plants – to the fibers of clothes. That process makes the permethrin a part of the clothing, instead of a more traditional spray-on repellent, according to the company's website.

Results from the study showed that for every 100 hours spent outdoors, the group wearing treated clothing had 99 percent fewer tick attachments during work hours and 93 percent fewer tick attachments overall than the control group.

Tick-borne diseases raise concerns, especially because they can lead to serious illnesses or even death if not treated properly, said **Steve Meshnick**, a UNC epidemiology professor and lead author of the study.

The findings were published this month in the journal *Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases*.