

**Adult Female *Ornithodoros tartakovskyi*,  
Infected with *Acanthocheilonema viteae*  
(Frozen)**

**Catalog No. NR-48969**

This reagent is the tangible property of the U.S. Government.

**For research use only. Not for human use.**

**Contributor:**

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**Manufacturer:**

Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center supported by Contract HHSN272201000030I, NIH-NIAID Animal Models of Infectious Disease Program<sup>1</sup>

**Product Description:**

Classification: Argasidae, *Ornithodoros*

Species: *Ornithodoros tartakovskyi* (also referred to as *Ornithodoros tartakowskyi*)

Strain: FR3

Original Source: *Ornithodoros tartakovskyi* (*O. tartakovskyi*), strain FR3, was obtained from TRS Laboratories in Athens, Georgia, USA.<sup>2</sup>

Comment: *O. tartakovskyi* is used to maintain the life cycle of *Acanthocheilonema viteae* (*A. viteae*) at University of Wisconsin Oshkosh for the Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center.<sup>2</sup>

*O. tartakovskyi* is a soft tick whose natural distribution includes central Asia, the former USSR and Iran. It usually resides in the burrows of rodents and tortoises, but it is also capable of feeding from humans. *O. tartakovskyi* vectors the filarial nematode *A. viteae*, as well as *Borrelia latyschewii* (a bacterial agent of tick-borne relapsing fever) and the Karshi and Langat viruses.<sup>3,4</sup>

**Material Provided:**

NR-48969 consists of up to 15 frozen adult female *O. tartakovskyi*, infected with *A. viteae*. Actual numbers available for immediate shipment will be based on current inventory. If more material is required for your intended use, please contact BEI Customer Services at [contact@beiresources.org](mailto:contact@beiresources.org) to request the additional material.

**Packaging/Storage:**

NR-48969 is packaged in 2 mL round bottom microtubes or 15 mL conical vials, dependent on the number of ticks requested. Ticks will be flash frozen with liquid nitrogen or an ethanol/dry ice mixture and shipped in insulated boxes with approximately 2.5 kilograms of dry ice. The product should

be stored at -20°C to -80°C or colder, depending on desired application.

Questions regarding handling of *O. tartakovskyi* can be sent to Dr. Shelly Michalski at [michalsk@uwosh.edu](mailto:michalsk@uwosh.edu).

**Citation:**

Acknowledgment for publications should read "The following reagent was provided by the NIH/NIAID Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center for distribution by BEI Resources, NIAID, NIH: Adult Female *Ornithodoros tartakovskyi*, Infected with *Acanthocheilonema viteae* (Frozen), NR-48969."

**Biosafety Level: 1**

Appropriate safety procedures should always be used with this material. Laboratory safety is discussed in the following publication: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and National Institutes of Health. Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories. 5th ed. Washington, DC: U.S. Government Printing Office, 2009; see [www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/index.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/biosafety/publications/bmb15/index.htm).

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**References:**

1. Michalski, M. L., et al. "The NIH-NIAID Filariasis Research Reagent Resource Center." PLoS Negl. Trop. Dis. 5 (2011): e1261. PubMed: 22140585.
2. Michalski, M. L., Personal Communication.
3. Manzano-Román, R., et al. "Soft Ticks as Pathogen Vectors: Distribution, Surveillance and Control." Parasitology. Ed. M. M. Shah. Croatia, Rijeka: InTech, 2012. 125-162.
4. Parola, P. and D. Raoult. "Ticks and Tickborne Bacterial Disease in Humans: An Emerging Infection Threat." Clin. Infect. Dis. 32 (2001): 897-928. PubMed: 11247714.

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