Flea “Table”

Refer to the PowerPoint lecture

Things to know

1. What is the most common pet flea? (Scientific name & Common name)? Are fleas insects or arachnids?
2. In general, fleas show very low host specificity.
3. What are the 4 flea life stages? Which stage(s) spend most of the time on the Host? ... which in the environment? Is the flea population mostly on the pet or in the environment?
4. Which habitat characteristic would promote the thriving of a flea population? Temperature: Moderate or High. Humidity: Low or High
5. Ways to diagnose fleas on the pet? ... in the environment?
6. What are the 5 types of flea associated pathology?
7. What is the minimum number of flea bites does it take to elicit a Flea Bite Dermatitis in a sensitized pet?
8. What are the 2 classes of chemical control for fleas?
10. An integrated flea control program targets what 2 flea habitats? (1. host & 2. environment) Which stages of the flea life cycle are found in each habitat?
11. What are the consequences of the very large flea population (eggs, larvae, pupae) being in the environment? - as well as the longevity of pupae and unfed adult fleas?
   a. One must continually clean the environment (vacuum, etc.)
   b. One must keep pets on some sort of Adulticide “preventative”
   c. If one relies solely on Larvicidal flea control (Insect Growth regulators, Chitinase inhibitors, juvenile hormone analogue) then it would likely take over 3 months to clear the pet’s environment.
   d. In short -- one must develop an integrated flea control plan.