Georgia Mosquito Control Association May 14, 2012 Volume 3, Issue 1

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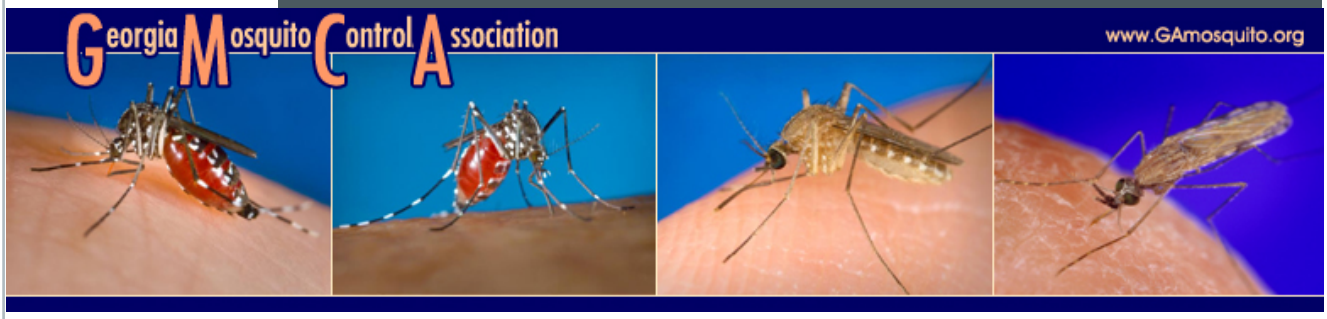

The GMCA Newsletter - DIDEEBYCHA - is a means of spotlighting various programs throughout Georgia, as well as a way of providing the membership with information about topics of interest to mosquito control.

NPDES Update

The Georgia Environmental Protection Division has released the final NPDES…

… pesticide permit document and we are all currently working under its authorization. By law, agencies that apply pesticides for mosquito control will have to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to apply pesticides and have a Pesticide Discharge Management Plan (PDMP) on file BEFORE they can apply pesticides.

Commercial Pest Control companies may also have to have a PDMP. The threshold that needs to be reached before a NOI is required to be filed is based on adulticiding acreage. Check out the NPDES Update page on the GMCA website

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Georgia Arboviral Summary

The mosquito season got a head start this year, with warm winter weather and early spring rains. In some areas of Georgia mosquitoes were active throughout the winter. Currently, in Coastal Georgia, both saltmarsh and spring floodwater mosquitoes are making life difficult for residents and visitors to enjoy outdoor activities. In mid-March, an EEE+ horse was reported in SE Georgia.

In 2011, our final arbovirus case count was:

*14 neuroinvasive WNV cases
*3 Presumptive WNV+ Viremic Donors
*8 WNV fever cases
*7 Dengue fevers with travel outside the US
*2 LaCrosse Encephalitis case

There were three deaths; one associated with a WNV fever cases.

The highest number of WNV cases reported in Georgia was 55 in 2003. In 2007, 52 cases of WNV were reported. The third highest case count occurred in 2011.

Overall WNV was detected in 439 mosquito pools. Prior to 2011, the most WNV detected in Georgia in mosquitoes was 126 pools. No other viruses that cause disease in humans have been detected.

One WNV+ bird was reported, as well as 3 WNV+ horses. No EEE was reported in horses or birds in 2011.

http://health.state.ga.us/epi/vbd/pastsurv.asp

AMCA Washington Day

The AMCA Washington Day conference (April 30 - May 2, 2012) is THE venue to identify issues or concerns that can only be examined and resolved at the federal level or on a nationwide basis.

The American Mosquito Control Association, founded in 1935, is a scientific/educational, not-for-profit public service association. It is world-wide in scope with members or subscribers to its publications in over 50 countries; the majority of its members are in the United States. Its mission is to provide leadership, information, and education leading to the enhancement of public health and quality of life. The AMCA

AMCA Washington Day (cont)

accomplishes this mission through the suppression of mosquitoes and vector transmitted diseases and the reduction of annoyance levels caused by mosquitoes, other vectors, and pests of public health importance.

2012 Position Papers

Clean Water Act NPDES Permit Impacts on Mosquito Control Programs

Endangered Species Act Considerations and Mosquito Control

Funding for National Disease Surveillance Network through Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Grants from the Centers for Disease Control

Failure to Appropriate FQPA-Authorized Funding Threatens Availability of Public Health Pesticides

Mosquito Control on National Wildlife Refuges and Federal Lands

GDPH: Arboviral Testing

When WNV was first detected in Georgia, the State, District, and local health departments collected human and dead bird data and collaborated with the Georgia Department of Agriculture to collect horse data. Mosquito surveillance was done through a variety of sources. Funding for testing of birds and mosquito pools at SCWDS was provided through the Epi Lab Capacity grant given to the GDPH. This funding initially paid for all mosquito and bird testing in Georgia.

In anticipation of decreasing funding, the burden of mosquito pool testing was transferred to some of the larger mosquito control programs and to local health departments in areas of high risk. These programs agreed to continue to share data with the GDPH, while the GDPH continued to support testing in counties that lacked the resources to conduct their own surveillance and testing.

In 2012, budget cuts eliminated the ability of the GDPH to pay for any bird or mosquito testing.

However, the mosquito season of 2011 in Georgia points out the need for mosquito surveillance and testing to reduce the impact of arboviral diseases. Three times the number of WNV+ mosquitoes was detected in 2011, and a majority of these were collected in Chatham County, where no virus transmission had been detected since 2007. Although mosquito control is not based on the presence of virus, finding virus in the mosquito pools in an area does increase the mosquito control response. This increase in response was likely responsible for reducing the risk of transmission in these areas of high viral transmission in 2011.

We do not yet know the extent of virus transmission from year to year (WNV activity might be yearly, cyclical, or sporadic), but to-date WNV activity has been a yearly occurrence and is considered endemic throughout the state.

NPDES Update (cont)

(www.GAmosquito.org) for continuing updates or request to be included on the NPDES e-list for up-to-date information. To be included on the list, please email Rosmarie Kelly at rmkelly@dhr.state.ga.us and ask to be added to the list.

GA EPD NPDES permit for pesticide use - http://www.georgiaepd.org/Documents/NPDESPesticideGeneralPermit.html

Adulticide Threshold Calculations

You need to submit an NOI to the EPD within 30 days of going over the 8960 acre threshold for mosquito control. This ONLY applies to adulticides. If you truck spray, this is ~246 spray miles, taking into account a 300' spray swath.

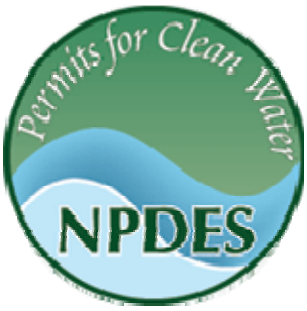
Another way to calculate acreage sprayed by truck is to note your actual spray time (some spray pumps will monitor hours of use) and the mph at which you are spraying.

Acres sprayed are:

- 181.8 acres per hour at 5 mph
- 363.6 acres per hour at 10 mph
- 545.5 acres per hour at 15 mph
- 727.3 acres per hour at 20 mph

The NPDES Permitting program offers training courses, workshops, and webcasts to explain the regulatory framework and technical considerations of the NPDES Permit program. These courses are designed for permit writers, dischargers, EPA officials, and other interested parties.

http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/outreach.cfm?program_id=0&otype=1



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT
Liberty County Mosquito Control Program

Jack Vereen, a mosquito control veteran, manages the Liberty county Mosquito Control program. This program provides mosquito control for the county; several of the cities have their own control programs. Liberty County has a total area of 602.52 square miles, of which 519.05 square miles (86.15%) is land and 83.47 square miles (13.85%) is water. It is a coastal county, so the program has to deal with both saltmarsh and freshwater mosquitoes. Fort Stewart, home of the 3rd Infantry Division, is located in Liberty County.

This is what Jack Vereen says about the Liberty County Mosquito Control program:

"There are so many things that I could say and do to show how little I rely on chemical use here at Liberty County Mosquito Control. After we receive enough rainfall that water is accumulating on the ground we start our inspection on the second day. This way we can see larvae better and determine how fast the water is drying up, and what the mosquito impact might to the residential area. In most cases the rain water will dry up and no treatment would be necessary. If the site is a high larvae producer (10-25 per dip) and close to residential populations we might put out a light film of EPA approved surfactant on the water surface. But if the same site proves to be a consistent larvae producer and holds water for a long enough time we will install fish to do the job for us.

All of the products we use to control Mosquitoes here in Liberty County are EPA approved, and purchased from a reputable company. Anyone that knows me and how I do work at Mosquito Control knows I take my work seriously and expect my employees to do the same. I have been doing this work since June 1970. I have functioned in all phases of Mosquito Control from how to operate a mosquito egg separator to how to plan and implement source reduction projects and seeing them to completion."

Surveillance in Liberty County is done by Frazier Sylvers. Both CDC light and gravid traps are set in areas throughout the county. Mosquitoes are identified and some are sent to SCWDS for testing. These data help to focus the mosquito control program.

The City of Hinesville, the county seat of Liberty County, has its own mosquito control program. This program has undergone a complete overhaul in the past year. Liberty County Mosquito Control has been instrumental in helping Kenna Graham, the parks and ground supervisor, bring the Hinesville program up to speed in surveillance and control.

Both the Liberty County and the Hinesville Mosquito Control programs show how well mosquito control can be done even with small budgets and limited resources.

The Tennessee Mosquito and Vector Control Association (http://www.tennmosquito.com/index.html)

The TMVCA is a professional scientific organization dedicated to providing leadership, information and education leading to the enhancement of public health and quality of life through the suppression of mosquitoes and other vectors of pathogens causing diseases.

The TMVCA's 1st Annual Conference occurred on March 1st, 2012. The purposes of the TMVCA are to:

- To promote integrated pest and vector management through scientifically based methods that consider the ecological, environmental and economic impact on humans, domestic animals and wildlife;
- To promote control and research of mosquitoes and other vectors in the state of Tennessee by facilitating professional cooperation and collaboration between mosquito and vector abatement districts, public health departments, applied and basic scientists, commercial municipality vector control specialists, and the general public;
- To keep members informed of new developments in the study of vector-borne diseases, vector control and vector surveillance; and
- To promote the advancement of this field in Tennessee and elsewhere.

Welcome and best wishes to our neighbor association to the north.

The Georgia Mosquito Control Association

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GEORGIA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
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