First Session
2) Georgia Update – Ros Kelly
   a) 2007 – predicted to be worst year for WNV cases based on weather and other conditions (nationwide)
   b) *Culex quinquefasciatus* – main WNV carrier in GA (abundant in 2007)
      i) container breeders – do well in drought conditions (lack of flushing activity)
      ii) not a nuisance species (people wear less repellent with lack of floodwater/nuisance species present --> more WNV cases!)
      iii) very predictive for human cases (fly near breeding site)
      iv) feed on birds 70%, mammals 30% (not good if birds have positives!)
   c) Birds - no longer a good human case predictor (human cases tend to show up first), therefore less testing of birds
   d) Horses
      i) indication of WNV in horses = high risk to humans!
      ii) 2007 – no cases (2003 – 60 cases)
      iii) no longer a good sentinel species
   e) Can’t control WNV by larviciding/adulticiding alone… must use surveillance!!
   f) Human Cases (WNV)
      i) 2007 compared to previous years:
         2007 – 45
         2006 – 8
         2005 – 24
         2004 – 22
         2003 – 55
         2002 – 36
         2001 – 6
      ii) 2007 breakdown:
         June – 1
         July – 7
         August – 18
         September – 19
   g) Summary (2007)
      i) not GA’s worst year for human WNV cases
      ii) more cases than usual (national trend as well) - mean of WNV human cases for years 2001-2006 is 25 (compared to 45 in 2007)
          (1) reasons include weather conditions, increase in susceptible bird populations, and lack of nuisance mosquitoes
      iii) technically an epidemic, realistically not!