

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 20, 2010

Mosquito-borne Disease Activity in New Jersey: West Nile virus (WNV) and / or Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) activity has been identified in 20 out of 21 counties in New Jersey.

Human Testing

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL) tests blood and other clinical samples from people suspected of having West Nile virus (WNV), Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) and St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) infection.

- To date, there are no human cases of WNV, EEE or SLE reported.

Avian Testing

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL) tests select bird species for WNV infection.

- To date, 146 birds were tested for WNV.
- Of those tested, 66 birds have been confirmed positive for WNV from the following counties: Atlantic (9), Cape May (2), Essex (1), Gloucester (6), Mercer (3), Monmouth (6), Morris (6) and Ocean (33).

Mosquito Testing

The New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (NJDHSS) Public Health and Environmental Laboratories (PHEL) and the Cape May Department of Mosquito Control Bio-safety Level 3 (CMBSL3) Laboratory test mosquitoes for the following viruses:

West Nile virus (WNV):

- To date, 3,755 mosquito pools have been tested for WNV by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 399 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 19 counties: Atlantic (20), Bergen (66), Burlington (18), Camden (12), Cape May (5), Essex (16), Gloucester (60), Hudson (54), Hunterdon (4), Mercer (38), Middlesex (43), Monmouth (4), Morris (12), Ocean (15), Passaic (5), Somerset (1), Sussex (3), Union (21) and Warren (2).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- To date, 887 mosquito pools have been tested for EEE by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 12 EEE positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 5 counties: Burlington (2), Camden (3), Cape May (4), Gloucester (1) and Salem (2).

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- To date, 398 mosquito pools have been tested for SLE by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- No SLE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

La Crosse encephalitis virus (LAC):

- To date, 22 mosquito pools have been tested for LAC by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- No LAC positive mosquito pools have been identified.

Horse Testing

Equine testing for WNV and EEE is conducted at the New Jersey Department of Agriculture's animal health laboratory. Positive results are sent to the National Veterinary Services Lab in Ames, Iowa for confirmation.

- To date, there are no equine cases of WNV or EEE reported.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.