

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 28, 2009

New In This Update: New West Nile virus (WNV) positive birds and mosquito pools have been identified, new Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) positive mosquito pools have been identified, and the first horse cases have been reported in New Jersey.

Human Testing

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

- To date, 60 birds were tested for WNV.
- Of those tested, 5 birds from the following counties have been confirmed positive for WNV: Burlington (1), Monmouth (1) and Ocean (3).

Mosquito Testing

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

West Nile virus (WNV):

- To date, 6,368 mosquito pools have been tested for WNV.
- WNV was detected in 133 mosquito pools in the following counties: Atlantic (1), Bergen (34), Burlington (16), Camden (12), Cape May (5), Essex (1), Gloucester (1), Hudson (20), Hunterdon (4), Mercer (3), Middlesex (10), Monmouth (1), Morris (3), Ocean (3), Passaic (1), Somerset (3), Sussex (3), Union (12).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- To date, 988 mosquito pools have been tested for EEE.
- EEE was detected in 43 mosquito pools in the following counties: Atlantic (3), Burlington (6), Camden (10), Cape May (18), Gloucester (2) and Monmouth (4).

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- To date, 1,881 mosquito pools have been tested for SLE.
- No SLE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

La Crosse encephalitis virus (LAC):

- To date, 221 mosquito pools have been tested for LAC.
- 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 2 equine cases reported as follows: 1 horse from Gloucester county tested positive for both WNV and EEE, and 1 horse from Salem county tested positive for WNV.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.