

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending October 22, 2010

Mosquito-borne Disease Activity in New Jersey: West Nile virus (WNV) and / or Eastern equine encephalitis (EEE) activity has been identified in all 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 29 human cases of WNV that have been identified from the following counties: Atlantic (1), Burlington (2), Camden (7), Cumberland (1), Essex (4), Hudson (2), Mercer (3), Monmouth (2), Ocean (2), Passaic (3), Salem (1) and Union (1). Of these 20 cases, there were 2 reported fatalities (one each in Camden and Hudson counties). 14 cases had evidence of WNV neuro-invasive disease and 15 cases had evidence of WNV fever syndrome.

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.

- A total of 129 birds have been confirmed positive for WNV from the following counties: Atlantic (21), Bergen (1), Burlington (5), Cape May (4), Essex (1), Gloucester (7), Hunterdon (1), Mercer (5), Monmouth (15), Morris (10) and Ocean (59).

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):

- A total of 846 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 21 counties: Atlantic (60), Bergen (140), Burlington (46), Camden (76), Cape May (11), Cumberland (1), Essex (25), Gloucester (117), Hudson (94), Hunterdon (11), Mercer (59), Middlesex (53), Monmouth (9), Morris (47), Ocean (18), Passaic (11), Salem (1), Somerset (10), Sussex (6), Union (44) and Warren (7).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- A total of 21 EEE positive mosquito pools were detected in the following 6 counties: Burlington (4), Camden (3), Cape May (6), Cumberland (2), Gloucester (3) and Salem (3).

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- No SLE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

La Crosse encephalitis virus (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 of WNV that were reported from Atlantic and Gloucester counties, and 1 equine case of EEE that was identified from Monmouth county.
- For more information on equine testing, visit the Department of Agriculture website at www.state.nj.us/agriculture.