



## MOSQUITO and VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT of SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

# DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

May 2020

### Live Mosquito-Borne Virus Surveillance

Mosquito activity along the south coast was low to moderate with a few hotspots but overall trap catches were low.

Location	Date	Number of Mosquitoes	Number of Traps	Mosquitoes per Trap Night	Pools Submitted	Result
<b>Santa Barbara County</b>						
Andree Clark Bird Refuge	05/05 – 05/06	53	12*	4	1	Negative
Orella Apartments	05/06 – 05/07	2	1**	2	1	Negative
MVMD office	05/06—05/07	5	1**	5	3	Negative
El Estero Wastewater Treatment Plant	05/22 –05/23	78	6*	13	2	Pending
The Mesa at Shoreline Dr. x Orchid Dr.	05/27—05/30	80	2**	13		Pending

\*Encephalitis Virus Survey (CO<sub>2</sub>) traps.

\*\* Gravid trap

### West Nile Virus Activity

Two dead birds in Santa Barbara County were reported to the hotline. Neither bird was tested due to the poor condition of the bird carcasses.

There have been no reported cases of human infection with WNV this year in California. As of 5/29/20, six (6) birds have tested positive for WNV in California, four (4) from Santa Clara County, one (1) from Sacramento County and one (1) from Napa County. No horses have tested positive for WNV in California. One (1) positive mosquito pool was reported from Los Angeles County, one (1) from Tulare County, and two (2) from Stanislaus County. No WNV activity of any kind has been detected in Santa Barbara County this year, to date.

### St. Louis Encephalitis Virus Activity

No cases of humans infected with SLEV have been reported in California this year. Thirteen (13) positive mosquito pools were reported from Riverside County.

### Zika Virus and Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito Update

As of May 1, there have been 746 travel-associated Zika virus infections in California since 2015. Neither yellow fever mosquitoes, *Aedes aegypti*, nor Asian tiger mosquitoes, *Ae. albopictus* (both known vectors of the Zika virus) have ever been detected in Santa Barbara County, to date. However, invasive *Aedes* are present in the following counties: Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Riverside, San Bernardino, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Fresno, Madera, Merced, San Joaquin, Placer, Sacramento, Stanislaus and Tulare.

### Western Equine Encephalitis

There was no reportable WEE activity in California for May.

### **Sentinel Chicken Flocks**

The District currently maintains 3 sentinel chicken flocks in Santa Barbara County located at the Goleta Sanitary District, Mission Hills Community Services District, and the Solvang City Wastewater Treatment Plant. Blood samples collected from chickens at these three sites on 5/12, 5/26 and 5/28 tested negative for the presence of WNV, SLEV and WEE viruses. Currently, there are no sentinel chicken flocks at the Los Prietos Ranger Station in the Los Padres National Forest and the U.S. Forest Service Fire Station in Carpinteria due to COVID-19 restrictions.



Southern house mosquito, *Culex quinquefasciatus*,

Adult southern house mosquitoes become active at dusk and into the evening and readily enter residences to feed on people. They also feed on large mammals but birds are their preferred hosts. Southern house mosquitoes lay their eggs in foul water rich with organic matter such as in catch basins, dairy ponds, and neglected swimming pools. To prevent bites from this mosquito, residents should avoid being out at night starting at dusk. If you are outside during this time you should wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants and use a repellent. Keep doors closed and be sure that all of your windows have screens without holes. Southern house mosquitoes are found throughout California south of Sacramento. They are known to carry West Nile virus though they are not a primary vector.

