

IMVCA



SMALL BITES of News

**Spring 2013**

## **2013 IMVCA's 59th ANNUAL MEETING**

November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, Hilton Hotel  
700 EAST ADAMS STREET, SPRINGFIELD, IL

### **PRESIDENTS MESSAGE BY JACK SWANSON**

Hello all, I am very happy we can share some news and other miscellaneous items of interest to our membership regarding the Illinois Mosquito & Vector Control Association as well as things we do and love. By now most of you have figured out what happened last year and are working hard to get the new season underway. Mother Nature has been very fickle and can't seem to decide what season it is. Well, life goes on anyway so here's hoping this issue will have something useful or at least sort of fun for all. Enjoy and please remember, you as members are always welcome to share with us things you have found or thoughts you think would be of interest to others. Please share with us!

### **New Secretary-Treasurer**

Please remember that Allison Montgomery has taken over the duties of Sec.-Treas. from Nina Krasavin. Contact Allison with any questions you have regarding dues or membership.

### **West Nile virus Activity in the U.S. for 2013**

For the United States, West Nile virus activity has been reported on these States websites. The first report found was for California which reported its first positive bird by early March in Los Angeles County. They now have two birds reported in two Counties, adding one for Yuba County in their May 1<sup>st</sup> report. As of May 13<sup>th</sup> California now has its first positive mosquitoes in Tulare County.

The next report was from Arizona when a positive mosquito batch was reported in Maricopa County updated on April 9<sup>th</sup>. After that, was a report from Mississippi where a person was reported in Madison County for early April 2013.

The next State that had positive West Nile activity is Texas which had reported a horse in Grimes County in their report of April 29<sup>th</sup>. Since then they have also reported positive mosquitoes from Brazoria, Collins, Dallas & Denton Counties updated May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

We have just seen a report from Tennessee also dated May 13<sup>th</sup> that has 10 positive West Nile mosquito batches. With the weather warming up in Illinois also, we may see some activity here soon as well.

### **IMVCA 2012 Henry M. Lawicki Student & Intern Competition Results**

At our Annual Meeting last November we had a great competition with wonderful talks from five students. The winner was Bethany Krebs, a University of Illinois PhD Candidate who took home \$300. The two runners up talks were from Katie Westby also a PhD Candidate at Illinois State University and Allison Gardner another PhD Candidate from the U. of I. They each received \$100. The other two talks were from Christine M. Roy an M.S. student and Tyler Hedlund a B.S. student both at the U. of I. They received framed pictures done by Alex Wild. They are all winners!



### Mosquito Abatement Legislation

By Robert Berry, North Shore Mosquito Abatement District

In February this year, an Illinois Legislature Bill proposed to dissolve the four mosquito abatement districts in Cook County and consolidate them under the Cook County Department of Environmental Control. The districts named were Northwest MAD, Des Plaines Valley MAD, South Cook County MAD, and North Shore MAD.

In March, each of the four districts sent letters to members of the House Counties and Townships Committee in opposition to House Bill 2815. Also, the four districts sent representatives to Springfield for the March 21 hearing. Three representatives spoke in opposition at the hearing. The Bill was defeated on a committee vote of three to two.

Personal comment by Richard Lampman: It amazes me how the general public overlooks the expertise of the mosquito abatement district and their demonstrated value in controlling disease vectors.

### Weather.com's Mosquito Activity Reports






I ran across <http://www.weather.com/activities/homeandgarden/home/mosquito/> by accident.

In my opinion, we all tend to say that rain fall events are associated with a brood of human biting floodwater mosquitoes and that most mosquitoes don't tend to fly searching for hosts unless the temperature is above 50-55°F. Plus we have seen that warmer than average and drier than average tends to forebode West Nile virus cases (probably by promoting Culex abundance in urban areas). However, in the end, it is still difficult to capture mosquito activity and risk solely based upon the weather. Regardless, the site is interesting.

Here is what they say:

The Mosquito Activity Forecast predicts how active mosquitoes in your area will be, based on a variety of environmental factors, including temperature, wind, humidity values, and time of day and year.

The levels of Mosquito Activity include:

-  None: Conditions not favorable for mosquitoes
-  Limited: Most mosquitoes unlikely to be biting
-  Moderate: Conditions may keep some mosquitoes at bay
-  High: Be on the lookout! Lurking mosquitoes likely to be busy
-  Very High: Light winds and ideal temperatures make it perfect for mosquitoes

The Mosquito Activity Forecast cannot predict how many mosquitoes are in your area or how often you may be bitten. Mosquito populations and concentrations of species with different behaviors can vary considerably in short distances and are not taken into account in the forecast. While most mosquitoes are busiest at dawn and dusk, other species may bite throughout the day, even when the overall Activity Forecast is lower.

For more information about mosquitoes, see:

- [About Mosquitoes](#)
- [Mosquito-borne Diseases](#)
- [Controlling Mosquitoes](#)

I found a report for Chicago.

<http://www.weather.com/outlook/homeandgarden/home/mosquito/forecast/USIL0225?x=-447&lswe=chicago%2C+IL&lswa=MosquitoForecast&y=-305>

### MOSQUITOES ON THE WEB (A FREQUENT OBSERVATION DURING MY STORM WATER TUNNEL COLLECTION DAYS IN ILLINOIS)

Predictions for an Excessive Mosquito Year in 2013

<http://www.today.com/video/today/47532495#47532495> (Florida)



<http://kvnf.org/post/active-2013-mosquito-season-predicted-delta-county> (Colorado)

<http://blogs.mprnews.org/cities/2013/04/late-spring-means-mosquito-tick-delay-but-theyre-still-coming/> (Minnesota)

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/tag/mosquito/> (Texas gears up for aggressive surveillance and control efforts. And positive mosquitoes are already showing up)

[http://blogs.dallasobserver.com/unfairpark/2013/04/mosquitoes\\_are\\_already\\_testing.php](http://blogs.dallasobserver.com/unfairpark/2013/04/mosquitoes_are_already_testing.php)

Super Mosquitoes invade Florida

<http://newsfeed.time.com/2013/03/14/giant-mosquitoes-set-to-invade-florida-this-summer/>

### NAVCO Webinar

On May 8 NAVCO (National Association of Vector-Borne Disease Control Officials) conducted a day long webinar on vectors and vector-borne diseases in the USA. The review on the 2012 West Nile virus season was interesting. I think we all knew it was an active year, but in many ways it rivaled and in some ways it surpassed 2002.

<tps://downloads.mymeetings.com/NetReplay/2013/May/PW2057919/PW2057919.wmv> and enter USER NAME: **PW2057919** and PASSWORD: **NAVCO**

**This is only available for a short time. These need to be downloaded by 6/7/2013.**

### CHECK OUT THE "NEW" IMVCA WEBSITE—THANKS TO TOM VELAT AND WORDPRESS

<http://imvca.org/>

WEST NILE VIRUS - USA (02): 2012

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A ProMED-mail post

<<http://www.promedmail.org>>

ProMED-mail is a program of the International Society for Infectious Diseases

<<http://www.isid.org>>

Date: Tue 14 May 2013

Source: The Global Dispatch [edited]

<<http://www.theglobaldispatch.com/final-2012-west-nile-numbers-released-by-cdc-israeli-researchers-suggest-global-warming-contributes-to-the-outbreak-of-mosquito-borne-disease-11677/>>

As promised, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have released the final data for West Nile Virus in the US for 2012.

According to the federal health agency numbers, "In 2012, all 48 contiguous states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico reported West Nile virus infections in people, birds, or mosquitoes. A total of 5674 cases of West Nile virus disease in people, including 286 deaths, were reported to CDC. Of these, 2873 (51 per cent) were classified as neuroinvasive disease (such as meningitis or encephalitis) and 2801 (49 per cent) were classified as non-neuroinvasive disease. The numbers of neuroinvasive, non-neuroinvasive, and total West Nile virus disease cases reported in 2012 are the highest since 2003." The number of deaths is the highest since cases of WNV disease were 1st detected in the United States in 1999.



In 2012, 62 per cent of all reported West Nile virus cases were concentrated in California, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and Texas. Texas reported 33 per cent (1877) of all reported West Nile virus cases in 2012. Dallas County, Texas alone accounted for 405 human cases of WNV.

The CDC says, "Last summer's [2012] outbreak likely resulted from many factors, including higher-than-normal temperatures that influenced mosquito and bird abundance, the replication of the virus in its host mosquitoes, and interactions of birds and mosquitoes in hard-hit areas. Because the factors that lead to West Nile virus disease outbreaks are complex, CDC cannot predict where and when they will occur."

Richard Lampman would like to correct the ProMED REPORT as to the number of cases by state. Texas did report one-third of the cases but the states with the next most were California, Louisiana, and Illinois, followed by the other states listed in the ProMed article.

**What does a mosquito weigh?**

About 2 to 2.5 milligrams for medium size mosquitoes (e.g., *Aedes aegypti*).

**How much blood does a female mosquito "drink" per bite?**

About 1-5-millionths of a liter (1-5 microliters or 1-5 mg). Often this is 2-3 times their body weight.

**How fast and far do they fly?** Often about 1-2 mph, and they fly up to 1-50 miles (depending upon species and physiological state).

**Why do mosquito bites itch?**

Mosquito saliva contains enzymes and proteins that affect [vascular constriction](#), [blood clotting](#), [platelet](#) aggregation, and [inflammation](#). The itch and bump is our allergic response to these antigens.

**Are some people more attractive to mosquitoes than others?**

Yes. In most studies, one person will tend to get more land-biting counts than the other, which may be related to release of attractants (body odorants and carbon dioxide upwind flight activator), body heat, and color and contrast.

**Ever see a mosquito with a clear pink swollen abdomen?** I saw several and then realized they were feeding at my hummingbird feeder!

**THANKS to Our Generous Sponsors and Exhibitors**

Adapco, AllPro, Central Life Sciences, Clarke, FourStar, Mug A Bug, Univar Environmental Sciences, Valent BioSciences, Vector Disease Control Inc & Zoecon Professional Products.