

Mosquito-borne Virus Test Results

For the week ending August 12, 2011

In This Update: New West Nile virus (WNV) mosquito pools and birds have been identified in New Jersey, and the first human infection was reported.

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 has been one case of WNV reported from Mercer County.

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, 56 birds were tested for WNV.
- 11 WNV positive birds have been identified from the following counties: Gloucester (1), Morris (3), Ocean (4) and Warren (3).

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, 4,402 mosquito pools have been tested for WNV by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- A total of 167 WNV positive mosquito pools were detected in the following counties: Bergen (41), Burlington (12), Camden (9), Cape May (1), Essex (9), Gloucester (23), Hudson (4), Hunterdon (3), Mercer (16), Middlesex (13), Monmouth (5), Morris (7), Ocean (4), Passaic (3), Somerset (3), Sussex (2), Union (9) and Warren (3).

Eastern equine encephalitis virus (EEE):

- To date, 1,224 mosquito pools have been tested for EEE by the NJDHSS PHEL and CMBSL3 Laboratory.
- No EEE positive mosquito pools have been identified.

St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE):

- To date, 777 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, 70 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.