

# California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin # 12

Week 17 Friday, May 1, 2009

## Weekly Summary

### WEEKLY COMMENTS



#### **Humans**

No human cases have been reported in 2009.

#### **Horses**

No equine cases have been reported in 2009.

#### **Dead Birds & Tree Squirrels**

One West Nile virus (WNV) positive dead bird was reported this week from San Diego County. To date this year, 10 birds have tested positive for WNV from four counties.

No WNV positive tree squirrels have been reported this year.

#### **Mosquito Pools**

Four WNV positive mosquito pools were reported this week from Contra Costa County. In 2009, 12 mosquito pools have tested positive for WNV from two counties.

#### **Sentinel Chickens**

No seroconversions were reported this week. In 2009, three chickens from Los Angeles County have tested positive for WNV.

**Website Information:** For updated information on WNV in California, please visit the California WNV website, [www.westnile.ca.gov](http://www.westnile.ca.gov), or the California Vectorborne Disease Surveillance System website, [www.calsurv.org](http://www.calsurv.org). For national information on WNV and other arboviruses, please visit the CDC website, [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov), and the USGS website, [www.westnilemaps.usgs.gov](http://www.westnilemaps.usgs.gov).

**YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2009**

County	Humans	Horses	Dead Birds	Mosquito Pools	Sentinel Chickens	Squirrels
Contra Costa				11		
Fresno			1			
Los Angeles			1	1	3	
Orange			2			
San Diego			6			
<b>Totals</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>

# California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin # 12

Week 17 Friday, May 1, 2009

2008 & 2009 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2008	2009
Total # Dead Bird Reports	3,901	3,174
# Positive Counties	7	5
# Human Cases/ # Tested	0 / 171	0 / 286
# Horse Cases/ # Tested	0 / 0	0 / 32
# Positive Dead Birds/ # Tested	11 / 502	10 / 418
# Positive Mosquito Pools/ # Tested	9 / 1,373	12 / 2,030
# Positive Chicken Sera/ # Tested	2 / 2,709	3 / 2,614
# Positive Squirrels/ # Tested	0 / 24	0 / 11

## 2009 TEST SUMMARIES

### Human & Horse Cases

		Number Tested	WNV		WEE		SLE		Other	
			Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local
Humans Tested*	Week	21	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	286	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horses Tested	Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Dead Birds & Tree Squirrels

		Number Tested	WNV Positive
Dead Birds	Week	55	1
	YTD	418	10
Tree Squirrels	Week	3	0
	YTD	11	0

### Sentinel Chickens & Mosquito Pools

		Number Tested	WNV Positive	WEE Positive	SLE Positive
Chicken Sera	Week	775	0	0	0
	YTD	2,614	3	0	0
Mosquito Pools: RT-PCR	Week	413	0	0	0
	YTD	2,001	1	0	0
Mosquito Pools: RAMP	Week	7	4	N/A	N/A
	YTD	29	11	N/A	N/A

## POSITIVES

### Dead Birds

County	City	Zip	Species	Reported	Tested
San Diego	San Diego	92115	American Crow	2/5/09	4/27/09

# California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin # 12

Week 17 Friday, May 1, 2009

## Mosquitoes

County	Site Code	Pool #	Species	# in Pool	Collected	Tested	City	Virus
Contra Costa	CNTR2206	57	Cx erythrothorax	50	4/23/2009	4/27/2009	Concord	WNV
Contra Costa	CNTR2206	58	Cx erythrothorax	50	4/23/2009	4/27/2009	Concord	WNV
Contra Costa	CNTR2206	60	Cx erythrothorax	50	4/23/2009	4/27/2009	Concord	WNV
Contra Costa	CNTR2222	62	Cx tarsalis	15	4/23/2009	4/27/2009	Crockett	WNV

## TEST PROTOCOLS

### Humans:

Specimens are tested by local laboratories with an IgM or IgG immunofluorescent assay (IFA) and/or an IgM enzyme immunoassay (EIA). Specimens with inconclusive results are forwarded to the California Department of Public Health Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) for further testing or confirmation by plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT).

\*Human denominator data only includes specimens tested at VRDL and does not include additional negative specimens that are tested by local agencies only.

---

### Horses:

Serum or brain tissue specimens from horses displaying neurological symptoms are submitted to the California Animal Health and Safety Laboratory (CAHFS) and tested by EIA and PRNT.

---

### Dead Birds and Tree Squirrels:

Dead birds and tree squirrels are necropsied at CAHFS laboratory at University of California, Davis. Oral swabs from American Crows and kidney tissue from all other dead birds and squirrels are forwarded to the UC Davis Center for Vectorborne Diseases (CVEC) for West Nile virus testing using the singleplex RT-PCR Taqman assay and confirmed with a second primer set. The WNV Dead Bird Surveillance Coordinator, Erin Parker, can be reached directly at (510) 412-6254.

---

### Sentinel Chickens:

Dried blood spot specimens from sentinel chickens are submitted to the California Department of Public Health Vector-Borne Disease Laboratory and tested for the presence of antibodies to West Nile, western equine encephalomyelitis (WEE), and St. Louis encephalitis (SLE) viruses by EIA and IFA. Positive samples are confirmed by western-blot or PRNT.

---

### Mosquito Pools:

Mosquito pools are submitted to CVEC and screened for WEE, SLE, and WNV viral RNA using a Taqman multiplex RT-PCR. CVEC will cease confirmation testing on PCR-positive pools of *Cx. tarsalis* and *Cx. quinquefasciatus* but will continue to confirm multiplex PCR-positive results for other mosquito species using singleplex RT-PCR.

---

Prepared by the Vector-Borne Disease Section (Infectious Diseases Branch), California Department of Public Health, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Richmond, CA 94804. Questions concerning this bulletin should be addressed to Tina Feiszli by phone (510) 412-6298 or email: [tina.feiszli@cdph.ca.gov](mailto:tina.feiszli@cdph.ca.gov)

---