

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin # 1

Week 2 Friday, January 9, 2009

Weekly and Year-To-Date Summaries

WEEKLY COMMENTS



No arbovirus activity has been detected in 2009.

2008 Update

Humans

Seventeen new human cases of West Nile virus (WNV) illness have been reported from Glenn (1), Los Angeles (3), Orange (1), Riverside (1), San Bernardino (2), and San Diego (9) counties. In 2008, a total of 433 human WNV cases were identified in the following 26 counties: Alameda (1), Butte (6), Calaveras (1), Colusa (1), Contra Costa (4), El Dorado (1), Fresno (3), Glenn (1), Kern (2), Kings (2), Los Angeles (153, including 4 from Long Beach and 3 from Pasadena), Merced (1), Orange (71), Placer (6), Riverside (62), Sacramento (13), San Bernardino (30), San Diego (34), San Joaquin (12), Santa Clara (1), Shasta (1), Solano (1), Stanislaus (17), Tehama (4), Tulare (4) and Yolo (1). Of the 433 individuals, 282 (65%) developed neuroinvasive disease symptoms. The median age of the 433 individuals was 55.5 years (range: 3-94 years), and 276 (64%) were male. Fifteen WNV-related fatalities were reported in Fresno (1), Los Angeles (6), Orange (3), Riverside (4) and San Bernardino (1) counties. A total of 71 WNV-positive blood donation samples were reported in 2008; 21 of the individuals reported symptoms and were reclassified as cases.

Horses

In 2008, 32 horses from 14 counties tested positive for WNV; 17 died or were euthanized as a result of their infection.

Dead Birds & Tree Squirrels

One WNV-positive dead bird was reported last week from San Diego County. In 2008, 2,530 WNV-positive dead birds were detected in 46 counties.

In 2008, 32 WNV-positive tree squirrels were detected in seven counties.

Mosquito Pools

In 2008, 2,001 WNV-positive mosquito pools were detected in 26 counties. Western equine encephalomyelitis virus (WEE) and St. Louis encephalitis virus (SLE) were not detected in mosquito pools in 2008.

Sentinel Chickens

In 2008, 584 WNV seroconversions were detected in chickens from 27 counties. No SLE or WEE seroconversions were detected in 2008.

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

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YTD WNV Activity by Element and County, 2008

County	Humans	Horses	Dead Birds	Mosquito Pools	Sentinel Chickens	Squirrels
Alameda	1		12	1		1
Amador			3			
Butte	6		38	5	31	
Calaveras	1		1		9	
Colusa	1		3		1	
Contra Costa	4	3	88	31	15	6
Del Norte			1			
El Dorado	1		9			
Fresno	3	1	41	52	24	1
Glenn	1		17	1	5	
Humboldt			1			
Imperial				7	26	
Kern	2		10	7	18	
Kings	2		1		1	
Lake		1	2	3	1	
Lassen				1		
Los Angeles	153		480	517	133	14
Madera			3	1	2	
Marin			1			
Mendocino			1			
Merced	1	1	5		3	
Modoc			1			
Mono			2			
Monterey			6			
Napa			1			
Nevada			5			
Orange	71	2	636	361	3	4
Placer	6	1	4	27	11	
Riverside	62	9	39	118	118	
Sacramento	13	3	130	277	7	1
San Bernardino	30	2	174	170	61	5
San Diego	34	4	562	40	15	
San Joaquin	12		69	207	18	
San Luis Obispo			2			
San Mateo			2			
Santa Barbara			1			
Santa Clara	1		13	1		
Santa Cruz			3			
Shasta	1		7		3	
Solano	1		7	1	7	
Sonoma			11	2		
Stanislaus	17	2	45	75	38	
Sutter			2	12	9	
Tehama	4		6			
Trinity			1			
Tulare	4	1	51	64	20	
Ventura		1	24		4	
Yolo	1	1	9	19		
Yuba				1	1	
Totals	433	32	2,530	2,001	584	32

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2007 & 2008 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2007	2008
Total # Dead Bird Reports	31,950	33,345
# Positive Counties	51	49
# Human Cases/ # Tested	380 / 1,326	433 / 1,284
# Horse Cases/ # Tested	28 / 332	32 / 407
# Positive Dead Birds/ # Tested	1,395 / 5,986	2,530 / 5,950
# Positive Mosquito Pools/ # Tested	1,007 / 27,595	2,001 / 35,015
# Positive Chicken Sera/ # Tested	510 / 28,874	584 / 29,541
# Positive Squirrels/ # Tested	26 / 224	32 / 298

2008 TEST SUMMARIES

Human & Horse Cases

		Number Tested	WNV		WEE		SLE		Other	
			Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local
Humans Tested*	Week	46	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	1,284	0	433	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horses Tested	Week	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	407	0	32	0	0	0	0	0	0

Dead Birds & Tree Squirrels

		Number Tested	WNV Positive
Dead Birds	Week	7	1
	YTD	5,950	2,530
Tree Squirrels	Week	0	0
	YTD	298	32

Sentinel Chickens & Mosquito Pools

		Number Tested	WNV Positive	WEE Positive	SLE Positive
Chicken Sera	Week	0	0	0	0
	YTD	29,541	584	0	0
Mosquito Pools: RT-PCR	Week	0	0	0	0
	YTD	31,907	1,633	0	0
Mosquito Pools: RAMP	Week	0	0	N/A	N/A
	YTD	3,108	368	N/A	N/A

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POSITIVES REPORTED: 12/22/08 – 1/9/09

Humans

County	Reported	Age	Sex	Clin Pres	Onset Date	WNV Fatality?
GLENN	01/08/09	>18	F	WNF	n/a	NO
LOS ANGELES	12/31/08	42	M	WNND	09/11/08	NO
LOS ANGELES	12/31/08	81	M	WNND	11/07/08	NO
LOS ANGELES	01/06/09	67	M	WNND	n/a	NO
ORANGE	01/06/09	63	M	WNF	Week 36	NO
RIVERSIDE	12/30/08	62	M	WNF	09/01/08	NO
SAN BERNARDINO	01/09/09	81	M	WNND	09/17/08	NO
SAN BERNARDINO	01/09/09	52	M	WNND	n/a	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	65	M	WNND	09/28/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	12	F	WNF	10/01/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	42	M	WNND	09/17/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	49	M	WNF	10/10/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	62	M	WNND	09/22/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	64	M	WNND	09/23/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	65	F	WNND	09/19/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	12/30/08	74	M	WNND	09/30/08	NO
SAN DIEGO	01/06/09	27	M	WNF	11/20/08	NO

Dead Birds and Tree Squirrels

County	City	Zip Code	Species	Reported	Tested	Result
San Diego	El Cajon	92019	Hawk	12/27/08	1/2/09	WNV

NATIONAL COMMENTS

As of December 16, 2008, 1,370 human cases had been reported nationwide this year in the following 42 states: Alabama (21), Arizona (109), Arkansas (9), California (411), Colorado (95), Connecticut (8), Delaware (1), Florida (2), Georgia (8), Idaho (33), Illinois (19), Indiana (3), Iowa (10), Kansas (38), Kentucky (3), Louisiana (36), Maryland (14), Michigan (17), Minnesota (21), Mississippi (99), Missouri (19), Montana (5), Nebraska (49), Nevada (16), New Jersey (7), New Mexico (9), New York (44), North Dakota (43), Ohio (20), Oklahoma (7), Oregon (16), Pennsylvania (14), Rhode Island (1), South Dakota (39), Tennessee (17), Texas (62), Utah (26), Virginia (1), Washington (2), West Virginia (1), Wisconsin (7), and Wyoming (8). Of the 1,370 individuals, 640 (47%) had neuroinvasive illness. As of December 16, 37 fatalities had been reported in Arizona (5), California (13), Colorado (1), Idaho (1), Iowa (1), Illinois (1), Mississippi (3), Missouri (1), New Jersey (1), New York (6), Ohio (1), Pennsylvania (1), Texas (1), and Wisconsin (1). At this time last year, 3,404 human cases had been reported nationwide.

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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:

All bird and tree squirrel species from all zip codes are currently being accepted for testing unless otherwise requested by a local agency. Additionally, doves, pigeons, and chickens are no longer be accepted for testing. Corvids that test positive via RAMP or VecTest are no longer confirmed. Dead birds and 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 WNV 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 VBDS Laboratory and tested for the presence of antibodies to West Nile virus (WNV), 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.

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