

California Arbovirus Surveillance Bulletin # 12

Week 19 Friday, May 12, 2006

Weekly Summary

COMMENTS

Humans

No human infections have been reported in 2006.

Horses

No equine infections have been reported in 2006 by the California Department of Food & Agriculture.

Dead Birds

This week, the hotline received 1,387 dead bird reports for a YTD total of 10,526 reports. Four out of 179 dead birds collected from 38 counties tested positive for WNV.

- 0/167 dead birds tested positive via RT-PCR.
- 0/0 dead birds tested positive via VecTest.
- 0/0 dead birds tested positive via RAMP.
- 4/12 dead birds tested positive via IHC.

The following bird species tested positive for WNV this week from Orange County: American crow (2); western kingbird (1); and western scrub-jay (1).

In 2006, 19 out of 1285 (1.5%) dead birds have tested positive for WNV from six counties: Orange (10); Sacramento (2); San Diego (1); San Mateo (1); Santa Clara (4); and Ventura (1).

Mosquito Pools

No positive mosquito pools were reported this week. In 2006, 5 mosquito pools from Riverside County have tested positive for WNV.

Sentinel Chickens

No seroconversions have been reported in 2006.

Website Information

For updated information on WNV, please visit the California WNV website, www.westnile.ca.gov, the CDC website, www.cdc.gov, and the USGS website, www.westnilemaps.usgs.gov. Please go to the Vector website at <http://vector.ucdavis.edu/arbo.html> for flock location and more information on WNV and other vector-borne diseases.

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TEST SUMMARIES

Humans and Horses

		Number Tested	WNV Positive		WEE Positive		SLE Positive		Other Positive	
			Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local	Imported	Local
Humans Tested	Week	38	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	404	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Horses Tested	Week	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	YTD	119	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Dead Birds

	Number Tested	WNV Positive
Week	179	4
YTD	1285	19

Sentinel Chickens* and Mosquito Pools

		Number Tested	WNV Positive	WEE Positive	SLE Positive	Other Positive
	YTD	5619	0	0	0	0
Mosquito pools	Week	296	0	0	0	0
	YTD	1636	5	0	0	0

*Total has been adjusted to include local agency submission

Mosquito pools tested by local agencies

		Number Tested	WNV Positive	WEE Positive	SLE Positive	Other Positive
	YTD	165	0	0	0	0
RAMP	Week	0	0	N/A	N/A	N/A
	YTD	3	0	--	--	--

POSITIVES

WNV Positive Dead Birds

Species	County	City	ZIP	Collected	Tested	Tested By
American Crow	Orange	Huntington Beach	92647	04/18/06	04/18/06	IHC
American Crow	Orange	Laguna Niguel	92677	04/26/06	04/26/06	IHC
Western Kingbird	Orange	Anaheim	92805	04/26/06	04/26/06	IHC
Western Scrub-Jay	Orange	Orange	92866	04/20/06	04/20/06	IHC

National Comments: As of May 2, 2006, avian, animal or mosquito West Nile virus (WNV) activity has been detected in California, Florida, and Missouri. One human case has been reported from Mississippi.

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TEST PROTOCOLS

Dead Birds:

All bird species from all zip codes are currently being accepted for testing unless otherwise requested by a local agency. Additionally, once WNV has been detected within a county, doves, pigeons, and chickens will no longer be accepted for testing from that county. Corvids that test positive via RAMP or VecTest are no longer confirmed. Dead birds are necropsied at the California Animal Health and Food Safety (CAHFS) laboratory at UC Davis. Oral swabs from American Crows and kidney tissue from all other dead birds are forward 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, Ryan Carney, can be reached directly at (510) 412-6254.

Sentinel Chickens:

Dried blood spot specimens from sentinel chickens submitted each week to the DHS Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory (VRDL) are 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. The VRDL performs additional testing, including plaque reduction neutralization (PRNT), on specimens from sentinel chickens from geographic areas where WNV is detected for the first time.

Mosquito Pools:

All mosquito pools are 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) and the Viral and Rickettsial Disease Laboratory Branch, Division of Communicable Disease Control, California Department of Health Services, 850 Marina Bay Parkway, Richmond, CA 94804. Questions concerning this bulletin should be addressed to Tina Albrecht by phone (510) 412-6298, FAX (510) 412-6263, or email [talbrech@dhs.ca.gov].