

## 2009 Louisiana Arboviral Surveillance Sampling Standards

All Louisiana Mosquito Abatement Districts (MADs) and Parish surveillance based abatement programs which contracted with the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals - Office of Public Health (LDHH-OPH) for funding in 2007 under the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act - Mosquito Abatement Funds agreed to the requirement that all surveillance activities must be consistent with published CDC guidelines, Epidemic/Epizootic West Nile Virus in the United States: Revised Guidelines for Surveillance, Prevention and Control, April 2003: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/resources/wnv-guidelines-aug-2003.pdf>

These CDC guidelines specify the use of standardized and consistent surveillance efforts by adult mosquito surveillance programs.

Each year the Louisiana Arboviral Working Group's Surveillance Sampling Committee holds a meeting(s) to establish statewide Arboviral Sampling Standards for that year. All MADs and Parish surveillance based abatement programs in the State of Louisiana are invited to participate at this meeting.

The Louisiana Arboviral Surveillance Sampling Committee's Arboviral Sampling Standards listed below were agreed to by consensus at the February 25, 2009 meeting of the Louisiana Arboviral Surveillance Sampling Committee meeting and are recognized as the standards for Arboviral Surveillance in the State of Louisiana.

For 2009, all sample analyses are to be conducted by the Louisiana Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory (LADDL), and all samples submitted to the LADDL must meet the following guidelines:

### **Mosquito pools**

- *Culex quinquefasciatus* – 3 pools / trap / trap night
- Other Species - Maximum: 3 pools (100/pool) / species / site/ trap night
- Mixed species pools – Limited to gravid trap collections, only.
- Total submissions 6 pools (all species) / site/ trap night
- Maximum: 100 mosquitoes / pool with a Minimum of 5 mosquitoes / pool, except during winter months when Minimum number may be lowered.
- Mosquitoes may be submitted throughout the year
- During May, 2009, samples from requesting MADs, i.e. Tangipahoa and St. Tammany MAD's, will also be screened for SLE

### **Wild bird bloods**

- PCR (viral RNA) will be run (WNV, SLE)

- PCR will be run for EEE on birds from selected locations that have had a prior history of EEE
- Can be collected all year long
- All species will be accepted

### **Sentinel Chickens**

- 11/1 – 5/31 No chicken sera will be accepted for this time period
- 6/1 - 10/31 Bleed every week

When a sentinel chicken tests positive, it should be removed immediately and replaced with a new sentinel chicken. If subsequent sample(s) for that positive sentinel chicken are submitted, the LADDL will refuse to test that sample(s). Each chicken tested must have a discreet number, i.e. do not use the same number for two different chickens.

### **Dead Birds**

- Limited to Blue Jays, Crows and Cardinals
- Sampling Start Date – April 1, 2009 (Exceptions may be granted on a case by case basis.)
- Sampling Ending Date - To be determined by the Sampling Committee
- In parishes with organized MAD, dead birds will be collected by MAD.
- Dead birds will not be collected from the other parishes.

### **Horses**

- Serum samples can be submitted to the LADDL for WNV and EEE IgM antibody testing (ELISA) and will not be charged the standard laboratory fee.
- Request for testing must be through a veterinarian using the standard LADDL submission form.
- Laboratory results will be reported to the client (submitting veterinarian) and to the State Veterinarian.
- Western or Venezuelan encephalitis antibody tests and necropsy request for confirmation of encephalitis are not included in this program. These requests can still be performed by the LADDL for the standard fee.

All samples must be submitted within 8-10 days of sampling or those samples will not be processed, unless prior notification to and agreement with the LADDL has been reached. Submissions to LADDL must be received by 1:00 P.M. each Wednesday for that Friday afternoon's report.

In order to participate in this surveillance program, all participants must utilize and comply with the ARBONET Reporting Requirements, including timely data entry.

The LADDL sample results must be utilized for all public distributions, including ARBONET Reporting Requirements and press releases.

MADs and Parish surveillance based abatement programs may retain a split of some samples for internal testing. However, any such internal testing does not meet Louisiana Arboviral Surveillance Sampling Committee's established statewide 2009 Arboviral Sampling Standards, and therefore any such internal test results, including any split sample results, may only be utilized for that program's internal use and distribution.

The Sampling Committee will review numbers of submissions throughout the year. MADs are encouraged to "be reasonable" in their numbers of submissions. If disproportionate numbers are submitted, the Sampling Committee may convene to address the problem.

LDHH-OPH will continue to make statewide Press Releases concerning WNV activity and safety procedures but not make statewide announcements regarding collection of dead birds. MADs and Parish surveillance based abatement programs will make their own announcements/press releases regarding individual policies regarding collection of dead birds, i.e. drop off times, whether birds will be picked up or must be brought to office, etc.

The Louisiana Arboviral Working Group Sampling Committee members include:

Kyle Moppert, OPH  
Dr. Alma Roy, PhD, LSU  
Dr. Wayne Kramer, PhD, LSU  
Dr. Gary Balsamo, DVM, OPH  
Chuck Palmisano, St. Tammany MAD #2