

LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



Newsletter

September, 2009

The Malaria Project

The Malaria Project is a civic engagement, service learning initiative being conducted by two classes at Florida Gulf University (FGCU) during the summer of 2009. Students in *Foundations of Civic Engagement IDS 3300*, taught by adjunct instructor, Courtney Satkoski and *The Colloquium IDS 3920*, taught by instructor Neil Wilkinson are working jointly to raise public awareness of the ongoing plight of individuals living in sub-Saharan Africa from mosquito vectored malaria. This preventable disease deprives those who live in afflicted areas of economic development, education, and health. To truly eradicate the disease, all aspects of community life need to be addressed. But with proper use of inexpensive insecticide coated bed nets, the incidence of malaria can be dramatically reduced. These two classes are working together to not only raise awareness, but to raise \$5,000 to purchase 2,000 nets to be delivered to the village of Kanke, Nigeria by the beginning of July when the rainy season typically gets underway. Thanks to matching funds from “Clarke Cares,” the Malaria Project has raised \$10,000 helping over 2,000 families. You can follow the project at www.fgcumalariaproject.com. A big thanks goes to Think Tank Solutions for donating the designing of the website. This project has exceeded everyone’s expectations. FGCU has asked Courtney Satkoski to present *The Malaria Project* as the key-note address to all faculty in August. They selected it as the top project ever and want to use it as a model for all courses.



NAVY OFFICERS



LTJG TONY HUGHES	LTJG RYAN LARSON	LT JAMES DUNFORD
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August 10—14th, we were pleased to welcome Jim, Tony and Ryan, Naval Entomologists, who were here to study mosquito habitat, spraying techniques with aircraft, trucks and hyacinth control measures at our districts. They are stationed at Naval Air Station Jacksonville, in the Naval Entomology Center of Excellence. They were impressed with all of our operations and felt they had learned a great deal through our “hands on” training.

FIELD ACTIVITY — 2009

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	24.0
February	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
March	116.7	0.0	1.5	388.0	9.0
April	4,284.0	0.0	6.7	899.7	55.0
May	34,232.3	12,697.7	67.2	7,011.6	156.0
June	58,174.4	7,335.9	193.3	20,667.2	788.0
July	92,689.4	237,873.9	257.5	8,519.1	835.0
August					529.0
September					
October					
November					
December					
Y-T-D Totals					

LCM/HCD send our best wishes for a speedy recovery to Roger Taylor after open-heart surgery and to Robert Hedrick's son, who is recovering after a severe heat stroke during football practice at North Ft. Myers HS.

BEST OF LUCK TO BUTCH STERLING WHO IS RETIRING AUGUST 24TH. BUTCH STARTED HERE AS A TANK TRUCK DRIVER WITH LCMCD IN 1986 AND TRANSFERRED TO LEE COUNTY HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICT IN 1991. HE IS MOVING OUT WEST TO BE WITH FAMILY.



Applied Science & Technology Dept

Disease Surveillance Section, Jim Burgess

This year, Lee County to date, has not had any Arbo-Disease activity. The State of Florida is a different case. Nine counties are under mosquito-borne illness advisories for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE). These counties are Clay, Columbia, Leon, Madison, St. Johns, Suwannee, Union, Volusia and Walton. No counties are under alerts as of August 24, 2009. Florida leads the nation with 63 horse cases of EEE. Meanwhile, 32 counties have had some type of activity for EEE. Florida also has a human case of California Serogroup Virus. This was a case of LaCrosse Virus and was acquired out of state. Only four (4) counties have had any West Nile (WN) activity. This activity has been in wild birds or sentinel chickens. These counties are Duval, Okaloosa, Santa Rose and Walton.

Nationally, EEE is now found in eight (8) states counting Florida. Second place for horse cases is Georgia with 29, followed by Mississippi with 21. How does this compare to 2008? Florida finished the season with 89 horse cases, again leading the country.

On a different front: West Niles Virus seems to be down on the national human case front, with only 20 states reporting 83 human cases with three (3) deaths. Mississippi leads with 15 cases and 2 deaths, followed by Texas with 11 cases and 1 death. California and Nevada tied at 10 cases each.

Staff Changes: Sonny Williams was selected to replace Roger Zocki as a Field Inspector upon Roger's retirement. Rodney Wolford was selected to fill the Transport Operator position vacated by Sonny and Don Altenburg was selected to move from seasonal employee to the Ground Larvicide Inspector vacated by Rodney.