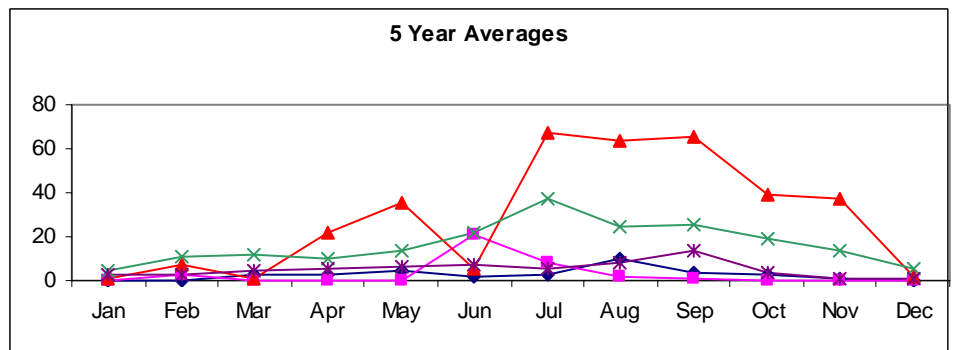
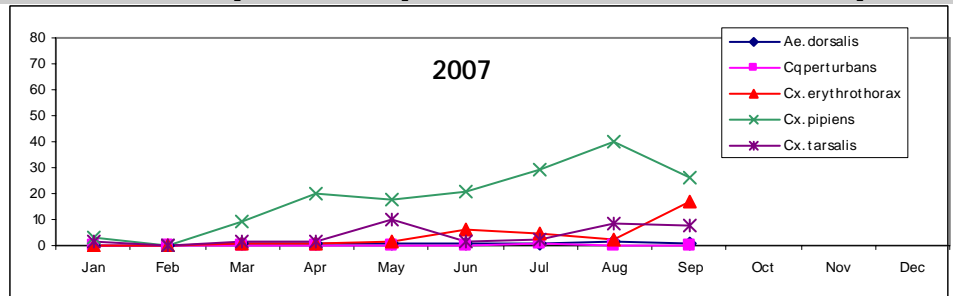


Entomology Report



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Adult Mosquito Populations in CO2 Traps



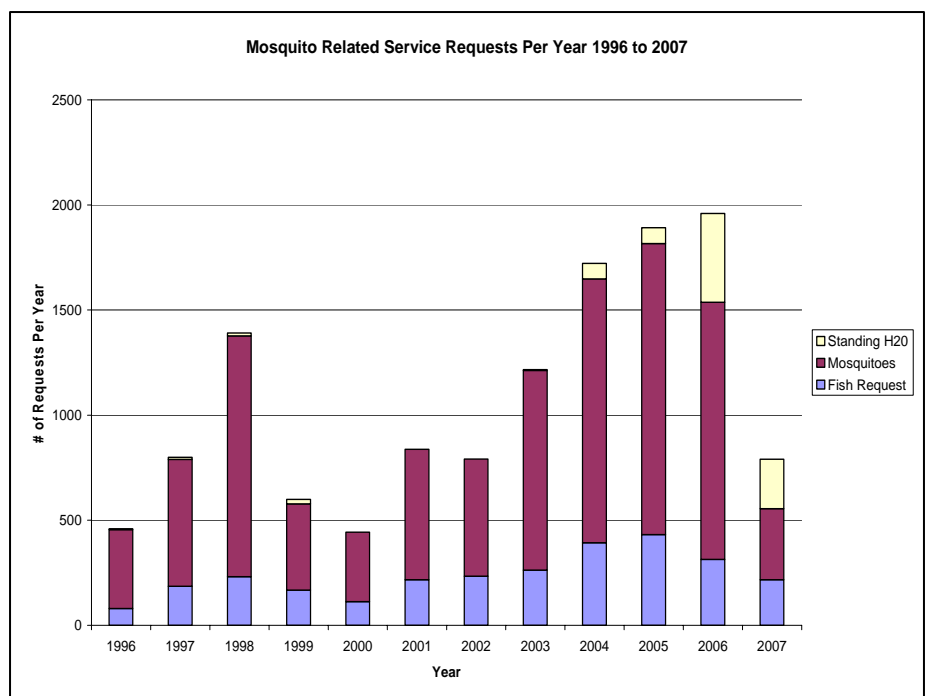
Mosquito Control Operations

In September, mosquito control technicians treated:

- 631 backyard fishponds
- 200 ditches and drain lines
- 43 vaults
- 45 neglected swimming pools
- water under 20 buildings
- 36,562 catch basins

Catch basin program – Seasonal treatment of storm drains has begun to wind down. Summer staff will be leaving in mid to late October.

Cordgrass- Extensive work on invasive cordgrass was conducted in early September (refer to page 3).



(Continued on page 2)



Mosquito Control Operations (*cont. from page 1*)

Bair Island- Weekly inspections continued on Bair Island throughout September. Inner and Middle Bair Island have dried up and are not breeding mosquitoes. However, on Outer Bair, periodic high tide flooding lasts throughout the summer, creating small amounts of mosquito production. This was treated with small applications of biological control materials. Numbers of adult summer salt marsh mosquitoes remained very low in the surrounding communities.

Helicopter - Helicopter treatment of cattail marshes in Portola Valley, San Bruno (Mills Field) and Pacifica (Sharp Park) continued through September. Low numbers of adult mosquitoes found in CO2 traps indicate that control has been very effective.

Sewer plants - Weekly treatment continued in Half Moon Bay, South San Francisco and San Mateo through September. In October the Fall/Winter schedule will commence, with treatments every 3 weeks.

Service Requests - The District received 163 requests for service. Service requests were lower than in August in all categories, most dramatically for yellow jackets (88 in September as compared to 152 in August). District mosquito control technicians responded to 67 requests related to mosquito control services.

New Products - Technicians are testing two new larval control materials in their local sources. BVA Oil, a potential alternative to Golden Bear Oil, leaves less sheen on the surface of the water. FourStar briquets, a new formulation of the bacterial agent Bti, is purported to last for 45 days and may provide an alternative to Altosid briquets. Both products are currently being tested in back-

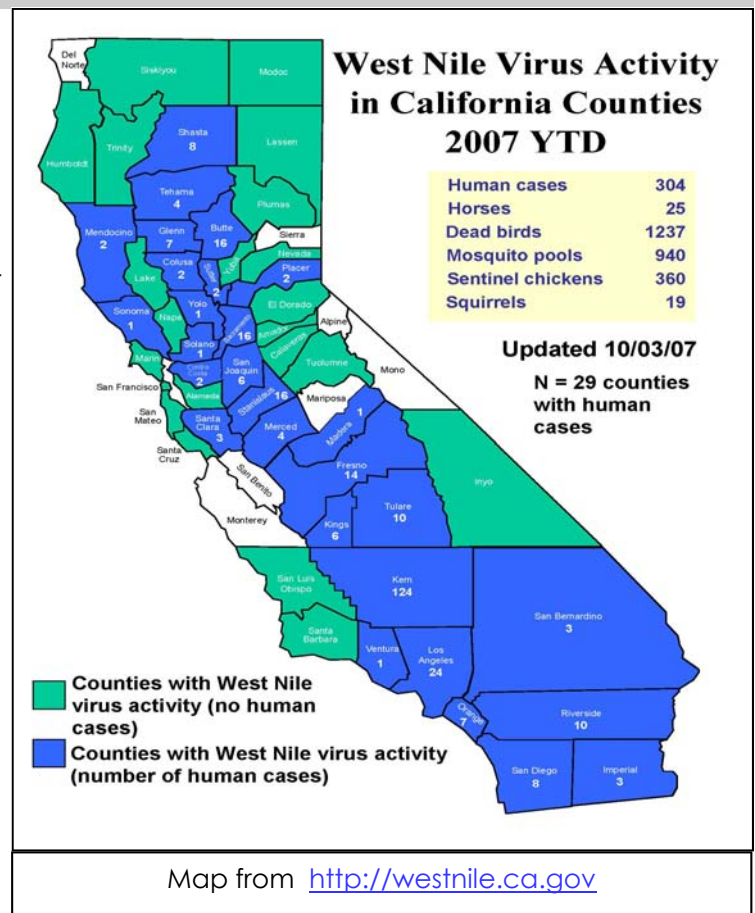
West Nile Virus Update

Although the state of California has seen a large increase in both the total human West Nile Virus (WNV) cases (196 → 304) and bird and squirrel positives (843 → 1256) over the past month, San Mateo County has continued to escape the epidemic. The District year-to-date total, as of September 30, was only 2 WNV positive birds and 1 squirrel. There have been no positive human cases or horses for WNV. mosquito pools (3,295 mosquitoes tested) and sentinel chickens also tested negative in the county in 2007.

Dead Birds and Squirrels Reported, Tested, and Positive for WNV in San Mateo County

Year*	Reported	Tested	Positive
2007	209	97	3
2006	201	129	7
2005	214	173	11
2004	96	38	14

*This table represents totals from January 1 through September 30 of each year.





Cordgrass Treatment

District control efforts against invasive cordgrass wrapped up in September. A group of technicians spent two days treating a substantial area to the south of the San Francisco Airport with backpack sprayers on foot, while others used Argos to treat more accessible sections to the south. A combination of boat-mounted and backpack spraying was used on rocky tidal areas of South San Francisco.



Technicians Russ Baker and Brian Weber treat cordgrass near SFO

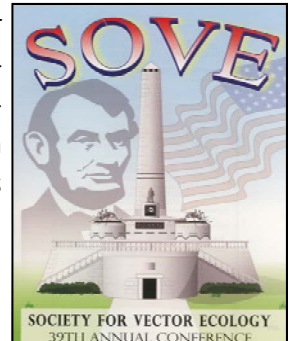
For the first time, the District hovercraft was also employed in cordgrass control. Its ability to travel over both soft mud and open water was invaluable in accessing pockets of cordgrass in tidal mud flats. Areas to the north and south of the San Francisco Airport, as well as sections of Burlingame Lagoon were treated by hovercraft.



James Counts and Angie Nakano use the hovercraft to treat islands of invasive cordgrass.

SOVE Meeting

Assistant Vector Ecologist Angela Rory attended the annual Society for Vector Ecology (SOVE) meeting in Springfield, Illinois. SOVE is a professional organization formed by a group of individuals involved in vector biology and control programs. This group is dedicated to solving complex problems encountered in the field of vector biology and control. Various symposia focused on topics such as: the effects of disease transmission in an increasingly global society, vector-borne pathogens of livestock and wildlife, and vectors, vipers, vermin, viruses, venom and vicissitudes: a military entomology perspective.



Delusory Parasitosis



Sufferers of DP will bring in collections of lint, skin flakes and other materials for inspection.

Delusory parasitosis (also called delusional parasitosis), or "DP," is a medical disorder in which the patient holds the mistaken belief they are infested with insects, mites, or other parasites. The sufferer reports the sensation of bugs crawling in or on their skin or body openings, and may scratch themselves to the extent of bleeding. Often they will interpret any speck of dust, skin flakes, or other material they find on them, their clothes, or furniture as the offending creature, and will present collections to medical professionals or entomologists to inspect.

District laboratory staff typically receive one or two such requests per year. Suspected DP samples are always examined diligently, since on rare occasions actual parasites, such as mites, have been discovered.

Symptoms of delusory parasitosis can arise from a variety of unrelated medical conditions, and can be exacerbated by stress or drug use. People experiencing DP symptoms are advised to seek treatment from a physician.



"An Independent Special District
Working for You Since 1916"

SAN MATEO COUNTY
MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

1351 Rollins Road
Burlingame, CA 94010

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www.smcmad.org

The San Mateo County Mosquito Abatement District is an independent, Special District funded by a property tax voted in by individual cities. Our mission is to safeguard the health and comfort of our citizens through a planned program to reduce mosquitoes and other vectors in an environmentally responsible manner.

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"A VECTOR is any animal that can transmit disease to animals or people."

Tire Amnesty — Free Residential Tire Recycling Day

The County of San Mateo will be hosting a series of **FREE** tire recycling days for San Mateo County residents. Residents may attend any of the events free of charge. A [Tire Recycling Voucher](#) (attached below) must accompany tires brought to the events. Since rainwater that collects in old tires is a problematic source of mosquito development, the District strongly supports all efforts to dispose of used tires.

Tire Recycling Event Schedule:

- October 20, 2007 - Daly City** Civic Center Parking Lot, 333 90th Street
- December 1, 2007 - Redwood City** Public Works Parking Lot, 1400 Broadway
- April 5, 2008 - San Mateo** Event Center, 2495 S. Delaware Street
- May 10, 2008 - Half Moon Bay** Chamber of Commerce, 520 Kelly Street (off Hwy 1)

All events will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Important: Bring your vouchers to tire collection events and do not transport more than 9 tires at a time as allowed by state law. A variance may be granted for transport of up to 20 tires, but you must contact Lindsay Gipe at 650-363-4730 to obtain written authorization.

Tire Recycling Voucher – Good for 4 tires

Please bring this voucher to recycle up to **4 residential tires**. Multiple vouchers may be used. **Residents transporting 10 or more tires must be issued a written variance prior to transporting the tires to avoid citation by local law enforcement.**

For more information or to request additional vouchers or a variance, contact the County of San Mateo at 650-363-4305 or visit www.smhealth.org/enviro/tires.



**Funded by a Grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.
Zero Waste-You Make It Happen!**