

2017 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 2013: <http://www.cdc.gov/westnile/resources/pdfs/wnvGuidelines.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 April 28, 2017 meeting of the Louisiana Arboviral Surveillance Sampling Committee meeting and are recognized as the standards for Arboviral Surveillance in the State of Louisiana.

For 2017, 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

- RT-PCR will be performed for WNV, SLE, EEE
- Submissions from September 1-March 31 will be limited to a maximum of 2 pools/trap/trap night.
- 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
- From June -October, 2017, pools will be tested for SLE and EEE
- All mosquito pool submissions will be invoiced \$1.50/pool (January 1st-October 31, 2017) by LMCA.

Wild bird bloods

- RT-PCR will be performed for WNV,SLE, EEE
- RT-PCR will be performed for SLE and EEE on birds from selected locations that have had a prior history
- Can be collected all year long
- All species will be accepted
- All Wild Bird Submissions would be invoiced \$8.00/sample by LADDL

Sentinel Chickens

- IgM ELISA will be performed (WNV,SLE)
- 11/1 – 5/31 No chicken sera will be accepted for this time period
- 6/1 - 10/31 Bleed every week
- All sentinel chicken submissions would be invoiced \$8.00/sample by LADDL

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

- Will not be collected or tested.

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 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 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, SLE, EEE activity and safety procedures.

Beginning January 2016, the laboratory and all participants in the Louisiana Arbovirus Surveillance Program will be required to use the Web based database system LASTS (Louisiana ArboVirus Surveillance Tracking System) for both tracking field surveillance and recording lab test results. All Sentinel chickens, mosquito pools and wild birds' samples will be tracked in the LASTS. <http://LAarbo.net>

The Louisiana Arboviral Working Group Sampling Committee members include:

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