

Retention Pond Surveillance for *Coquillettidia perturbans* and Other Select Mosquito Species

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ABSTRACT

During the 2011 season, several local retention ponds were selected as part of an ongoing surveillance study for *Coquillettidia perturbans* and other target mosquito species. *Cq. perturbans* are associated with this type of habitat because while developing in their early stages, these mosquitoes attach themselves to the aquatic roots systems of retention pond plants to obtain oxygen. Upon emergence, this species can acquire and transmit both West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis to humans as it readily feeds on mammals. Collections were periodically conducted at these locations, which helped gauge the seasonal population dynamics of *Cq. perturbans* and other local species. Significant numbers of specimens were observed and the population information gathered from these areas can eventually be used as baseline data in future efficacy trials. Potential control activities around these retention ponds will now have accompanying pre-treatment data. In preparation for these later efficacy trials, data collection at these retention ponds will continue.