



**MOSQUITO and VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT
of SANTA BARBARA COUNTY**

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

February 2021

Live Mosquito-Borne Virus Surveillance

Some trapping in San Luis Obispo County was done to determine need for and timing of treatment. Encephalitis virus surveillance will resume in March. No additional *Aedes aegypti* were detected.

Location	Date	Number of Mosquitoes	Type of Trap	# of Traps	Mosquitoes per Trap Night	Pools Submitted	WSW Virus Test Result
Santa Barbara County							
Orella St.	2/4-2/10	0	BGS1	1	0	0	
Chino St.	2/4-2/12	1	BGS2	1	0.125	0	
Crescent Dr.	2/4-2/12	0	BGS2	1	0	0	
Crescent Dr.	2/11-2/12	1	EVS	1	1	0	
Villa St.	2/11-2/12	0	EVS	1	0	0	
MVMD SumInd.	2/4-2/10	0	BGS1	1	0	0	
San Luis Obispo County							
Oceano	2/19 11AM-4PM	0	EVS	4	0	0	
Oceano	2/19-2/26	9	BGS2	3	1.29	0	
Oceano	2/25-2/26	27	EVS	4	6.75	0	
North Beach Campground	2/25-2/26	50	EVS	2	25	0	
Chumash Park	2/25-2/26	9	EVS	3	3	0	
Pismo Lake	2/25-2/26	7	EVS	1	7	0	

BGS2=BioGents Sentinel 2

EVS=encephalitis surveillance trap (CO²)

WSW=WNV, SLEV, AND WEE

West Nile Virus Activity

No West Nile virus activity has been reported by the California Department of Public Health in 2021. One dead crow in Santa Barbara County was reported to the WNV hotline but was not accepted for testing.

Sentinel Chicken Flocks

The District currently maintains four sentinel chicken flocks in Santa Barbara County located at the Goleta Sanitary District, Mission Hills Community Services District, the Solvang City Wastewater Treatment Plant, and the U.S. Forest Service Fire Station in Carpinteria. Blood samples were collected from these chickens during the first week of February, and all tested negative for the presence of WNV, SLEV, and WEE. From November through March, chickens are tested only once every four weeks.

St. Louis Encephalitis Virus Activity

No SLEV activity has been detected in California in 2021 to date.

Western Equine Encephalitis

There was no reportable WEE activity in California in February.

Zika Virus and Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito Update

No *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes have been collected in Santa Barbara County in 2021.

There were no Zika virus infections reported in California in February 2021.

Tick Surveillance

Specimens will be preserved in resin blocks for public outreach use.

Date	Location	Western Black-Legged Tick	Pacific Coast Tick
2/16/2021	Toro Canyon Trail, Carpinteria	3 female, 4 male	6 female, 11 male
2/28/2021	Sage Hill Campground	1 male	7 female, 3 male, 1 nymph



Adult Female



Adult Male



Nymph



Larvae

Pacific Coast Tick *Dermacentor occidentalis*

The scientific name of the Pacific Coast tick, *Dermacentor occidentalis*, means “skin bite in the West.” It is commonly found in Santa Barbara County. It can vector *Rickettsia philipii*, the bacteria that causes Pacific Coast fever. Rocky Mountain spotted fever (*Rickettsia rickettsii*) and tularemia (*Francisella tularensis*) can also be transmitted by this tick’s bite. These bacteria can be transmitted after four to six hours of tick attachment. The District advises to avoid tick bites by wearing repellent, staying on hiking trails, avoiding contact with vegetation, and checking for ticks after outdoor activity. To remove an attached tick, grip with tweezers close to the skin and pull straight out (no twisting).



Eschars (dead tissue)
caused by Pacific Coast
fever



Rocky Mountain
spotted fever rash