



MOSQUITO and VECTOR MANAGEMENT DISTRICT of SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE REPORT

July 2026

Santa Barbara County Vector-borne Disease Surveillance

The West Nile Virus Dead Bird Hotline received three reports of dead birds in the County, and one of them tested negative for West Nile Virus (WNV). Another was a seagull which was not picked up because it is not an accepted species for testing. A house finch also was not accepted because it was infested with ants.

Santa Barbara County Trapping

Location	Date	Number of Mosquitoes	Type of Trap	# of Traps	Mosquitoes per Trap Night	Pools Submitted	WSW* Virus Test Result
West Micheltorena St, Santa Barbara	6/15-7/7	5***	BGS2	1	0.2	0	--
West Micheltorena St, Santa Barbara	7/7-7/13	16***	BGS2	2	1.3	0	--
UCSB/SBAir Bluffs	7/14-7/15	1411	EVS	11	128.3	15	Negative
UCSB/SBAir Bluffs	7/20-7/21	634	EVS	11	57.6	9	Negative
Church Lane, Carpinteria	7/15-7/22	2	BGS2	1	0.3	0	--
West Micheltorena, Santa Barbara	7/13-7/20	14***	BGS2	1	2	0	--
Lake Los Carneros, Goleta	7/23-7/24	136	EVS	12	11.3	2	Negative
Church Lane, Carpinteria	7/22-7/28	3	BGS2	3	0.2	0	---
Zoo/Bird Refuge, Santa Barbara	7/28-7/29	9	EVS	6	1.5	2	Negative
North West Mesa, Santa Barbara	7/28-7/29	4	EVS	2	2	0	--

BGS2=Biogents Sentinel 2; BGP=Biogents Pro; EVS=enkephalitis surveillance trap (CO²)

*WSW=West Nile (WNV), St. Louis Encephalitis (SLE), AND Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE)

**Color indicates the virus-transmitting ability of some or all of the mosquito species caught in the traps:

Purple = high (example: *Aedes aegypti*, *Culex tarsalis*); Aqua = moderate; Tan = low.

For specific trap collection data, please email a request to: info@mvmdistrict.org.

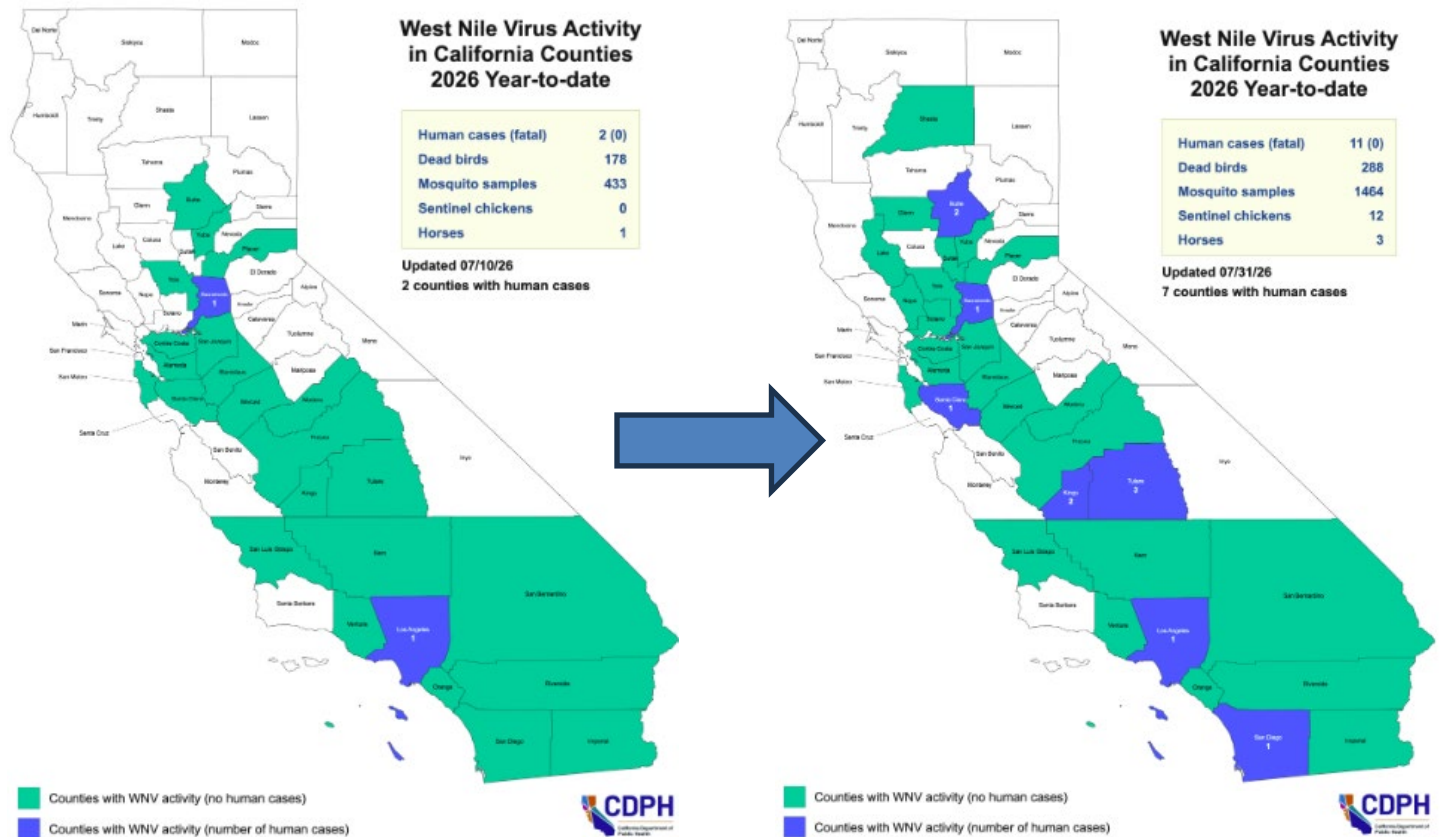
*** 1 female *Aedes notoscriptus*

California Vector-borne Disease Surveillance

2025 & 2026 YTD West Nile Virus Comparisons		
	2025	2026
Total No. Dead Bird Reports	5,195	5,762
No. Positive Counties	25	31
No. Human Cases	6	11
No. Positive Dead Birds / No. Tested	58 / 998	288 / 1,256
No. Positive Mosquito Pools / No. Tested	815 / 24,439	1,464 / 31,943
No. Seroconversions / No. Tested	0 / 1,766	12 / 2,213

National note: Arizona has reported 72 human cases of WNV this year

California Vector-borne Disease Surveillance

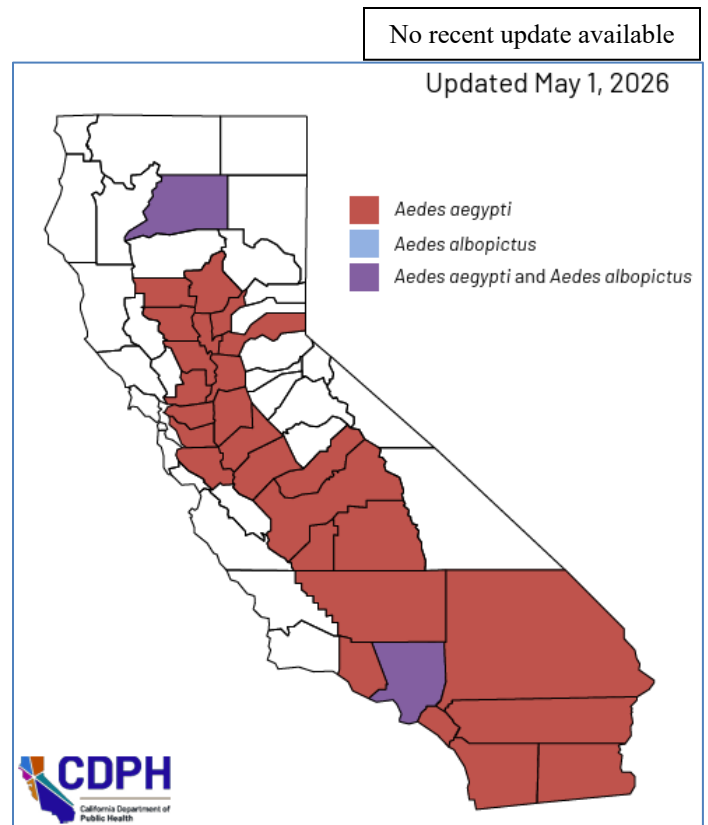


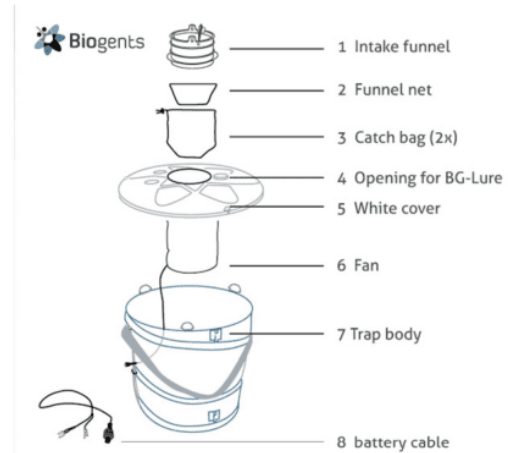
Update on Invasive *Aedes* Mosquito in California

On July 14, the District received photos of an *Aedes aegypti* from a resident of Carpinteria. ID was confirmed in the lab. Residents in the area have been notified, and many have allowed us to place *Aedes*-specialized traps on their property.

Invasive *Aedes notoscriptus*, the Australian backyard mosquito, was identified from a residence in Santa Barbara's Westside neighborhood on March 12. The District has collected a total of 49 female and 9 male adult *Aedes notoscriptus*. In mid-July, staff also discovered more than 24 larvae from two In2Care stations that were placed in the neighborhood.

In 2025, the CA Dept. of Public Health reports 6 locally-transmitted cases of dengue virus in California. *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, capable of vectoring dengue, Zika, and chikungunya viruses, are common in the Greater Los Angeles area. One mosquito sample collected in Greater L.A. has also tested positive for dengue virus. This is the first official record ever of dengue virus identified from a mosquito collected in California. In 2024, there were 18 locally-transmitted dengue cases. As of August 1, there have been 23 travel-related human dengue cases (2 in Santa Barbara County), two chikungunya cases, and no cases of Zika virus in California this year. *Aedes aegypti* is found in 28 California counties and *Aedes albopictus* is found in two.





Biogents Sentinel 2 Invasive Aedes Mosquito Traps (BGS2)



The Biogents Sentinel 2 (BGS2) trap is specialized for catching invasive, human-biting, container-breeding *Aedes* mosquitoes. The District is using these traps for surveillance of the Australian backyard mosquito (*Aedes notoscriptus*) and the yellow fever mosquito (*Aedes aegypti*). The BG-Lure cartridge attracts these mosquitoes by smelling like human skin. Mosquitoes fly over the trap opening and get sucked into a net by a small fan. The lure can also attract our native Southern house mosquito (*Culex quinquefasciatus*). A carbon dioxide source and a light can be added to attract other mosquito species. A BGS2 can be plugged into an electrical outlet or powered by a large battery. If power is lost, the top of the trap closes to keep trapped mosquitoes from escaping.