

LEE COUNTY MOSQUITO/HYACINTH CONTROL DISTRICTS



Newsletter

July, 2009



Each year, Katie Heggemeier provides instruction for students in adult mosquito identification. Her half-day classes were offered from June 15th through June 19th. Twenty students were from our District, two (2) were from the Lee County Port Authority, two (2) were from Ft. Myers Beach Mosquito Control District, and one (1) was from Port Labelle.

These classes were held at our District which saved travel and registration costs. The class provided three (3) continuing education units (CEUs) to maintain the student's Public Health Applicator Licenses. These sessions take an incredible effort on Katie's part to prepare the mosquito samples. At a minimum, ten (10) adult specimens, in extremely good condition for every species studied; must be collected, identified, and pinned. LCMCD is a sustaining government member, in good standing, with the Florida Mosquito Control Association (FMCA) which allows the District to borrow six (6) stereomicroscopes to teach these classes.



Congratulations to the Staff at Ft. Myers Beach Mosquito Control on their anniversary celebrating 60 years of service to their residents!

Our Director was once again invited to give a lecture on *Emergency Mosquito Control* for the CDC/FEMA Course entitled *Environmental Health Training in Emergency Response* which was presented at Homeland Security's training facility at Ft. McClellan in Anniston, Alabama. The course provides training for state and local public health personnel in responding to environmental health issues related to disasters. Following flooding events, mosquitoes can be a serious nuisance problem that can hamper recovery efforts and they also may pose a disease transmission threat as well.

On May 28th, the Annual US Fish and Wildlife Meeting was held at our District. This meeting encompasses many important areas regarding: 1. Notification Procedures for Pesticide Applications, 2. Chemical Use Plan for 2009, 3. New personnel, 4. New Water Management Practices, and 5. New and Old Business.

Our Executive Director, T. Wayne Gale welcomed Patrick Martin from the Ding Darling Refuge on Sanibel. Other key personnel included Jon Hornby, George Wichterman, Katie Heggemeier, Jim Burgess, Bryan Smith, Tommy Stewart, Roger Zock, Paul Morgan, Robert Hedrick, Michael Thomas, Richard Daugherty, Clyde Nabers, and Sonny Williams.

FIELD ACTIVITY — 2009

ACRES TREATED	GROUND ADULTICIDING	AERIAL ADULTICIDING	GROUND LARVICIDING	AERIAL LARVICIDING	SERVICE REQUESTS
January	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	24.0
February	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
March	116.7	0.0	1.5	388.0	9.0
April	4,284.0	0.0	6.7	899.7	55.0
May	34,232.3	12,697.7	67.2	7,011.6	156.0
June					804.0
July					

Don Doggett and John Cassani attended the Florida Lake Management Society meeting June 9th in Key Largo. John presented the results of District research. Don Doggett participated in the Florida Aquatic Plant Management Society Board Meeting June 23rd in Orlando. Don chairs the Scholarship Committee.



Five top science fair entries in the Thomas Alva Edison Kiwanis Science and Engineering fair were selected as the recipients of the Lee County Mosquito Control Emerging Scientist Award. In addition to receiving this award, the five students were given the opportunity to apply for a Summer Internship hosted by the Lee County Mosquito Control District. The intern was awarded a one-week, unpaid, experience which involved learning about the biology of mosquitoes, mosquito vectored diseases, application of basic research and science, and issues related to controlling mosquitoes and aquatic plant management.

The internship involved both laboratory and field activities. This year's intern was Ricardo Lasso de la Vega. He was selected based on two application essays: *"Why is science research a value to society?"* and *"Why do you want to participate in this actual research project?"* The selection committee also considered responses on the Survey of Research Readiness: Student Self Assessment. The internship was June 15-19 and everyone involved found Ricardo to be enthusiastic, helpful, interested in the work and good natured with the work conditions.

