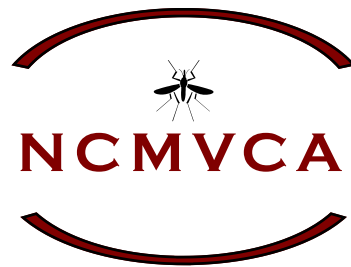
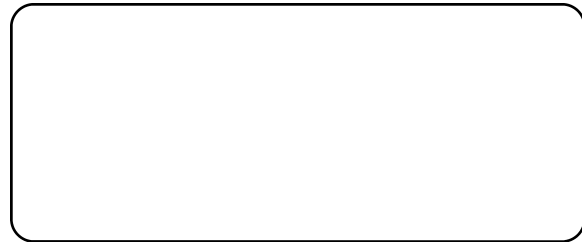


Mail Registration to:

Robert Collins  
Secretary/Treasurer NCMVCA  
POB 402  
Rocky Mount, NC 27802

Editor:  
Joe Rowell  
704-336-5550  
Joe.rowell@mecklenburgcountync.org



### New Membership Application and Membership Renewal Form N.C. Mosquito and Vector Control Association

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Company \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues Payment for Year \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: (\$5.00/year) \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to NCMVCA and mail to:

Robert Collins  
POB 402  
Rocky Mount, NC 27802

MAIL REGISTRATION TO:



# THE BITING TIMES

## The Continuing Series:

### Using the Data your Program Collects Part III Precipitation Data

Rick Hickman & Jeff Brown  
Brunswick County Mosquito Control

Brunswick County has an area of approximately 907 square miles. It is one of the biggest counties in the state. There are times when it rains in one part of the county but not rain in other areas. How can you anticipate mosquito production across an area this size? We use a number of different strategies for operational evaluations. The easiest way is to watch the weather on television in the evenings. This gives us an idea of when and where to look for mosquito production across the county each day.

Once we know what area of the county to check for rain, the next step is to figure out if it rained enough to produce a brood of mosquitoes. We need to ask a couple of questions about what is going on in the area. What time of year is it? How long has it been since it last rained? How much did it rain? To answer these questions we use indicator sites. These are low areas in the county where runoff from a rain event are the first to fill and last to dry. We check these sites regularly during the course of our duties. Most of these sites can be checked visually from the truck. The fluctuating water levels at these indicator sites provide us with the information we need to initiate larval control operations. Regular monitoring of

## Annual Meeting Update:

This years Annual Meeting will be held November 7th, 8th, and 9th at the City Hotel and Bistro in Greenville.

877-271-2616

Information can also be found online at :  
Www.cityhotelandbistro.com

ing forward to both the program this year, and the chance to meet and catch up with our colleagues from around the state.

Eugene has put together what should be a very interesting program for us, and the City Hotel and Bistro is one of the finest venues we have ever used. The rooms are very nice, and the audio-visual system is excellent.

Please make reservations by October 8th to guarantee a room. After that date rooms may not be available.

See you all in November!

As far as the really important stuff, Barry Engber and the local arrangements committee have arranged what should be a very nice menu for the banquet.

The address is:  
City Hotel and Bistro  
203 W. Greenville Bv.  
Greenville, NC 27834

I'm sure we're all look-

#### Inside this issue:

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## From the Newsletter Staff

- Well folks, it's a tad late, but here is the Summer '06/pre-Annual Meeting issue.
- In this issue we announce

### AWARDS:

#### Call for Nominations for the 2006 Hamilton W. Stevens Award

Each year we have the unique opportunity to recognize outstanding performance by a member of our association by nominating him or her for the Hamilton W. Stevens Award. Do you know someone that has made an outstanding contribution to mosquito control in 2006? What about that someone you have always been able to count on over the years? The Hamilton W. Stevens award is your opportunity to get this individual the recognition they richly

the creation of a new award, The Golden Dipper, for vector control field staff.

- Also, look for information on the upcoming and eagerly

deserve.

To nominate someone for the Hamilton Stevens Award submit a written nomination to Jeff Brown by October 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. Jeff can be reached at Brunswick County Mosquito Control, PO box 249 Bolivia North Carolina 28422. Nominations can also be submitted via email to [jbrown@brunscoco.net](mailto:jbrown@brunscoco.net). We need to take the time to recognize outstanding performance.

#### A New Award

The association is introducing a new award, The Golden Dipper.

C

#### Executive Committee:

**Walker Rayburn, President**

**Eugene McRoy, Vice-President**

**Robert Collins, Secretary-Treasurer**

**Joe Garcia, Past President**

**Jeff Brown, 2006 Awards Chair**

Walker Rayburn

**Clifton Woods, 2006 Auditing Chair**

Courtney Silverthorne

Jerry Robinson

**Dennis Salmen, Legislative Chair**

Walker Rayburn

**Joe Rowell, Newsletter Chair**

Marcee Toliver

Vicky Hudson

Mark O'Donoghue

Walker Rayburn

Eugene McRoy

Robert Collins

**Ryan Harrison, 2006 Website Chair**

Marcee Toliver

Joe Strickhouser

**Tim McGonegal, 2006 Resolutions Chair**

**Tommy Bowen, 2006 Constitution &**

anticipated Annual Meeting, held this year in Greenville.

- Also look for the latest from Jeff and Rick, and my article about rodent control

The Golden Dipper Award may be awarded to up to three individuals annually to outstanding Vector Control Operators or Technicians. Our field people are the backbone of our organization. Day in and day out it's our field people that respond when it's killing time. It may be someone who works all day then jumps into a spray truck for another shift, it may be the person who spends eight hours in the August heat treating for larval mosquitoes. It could be that person with the gift of gab that you can depend on to address that difficult complaint. Please submit nominations to Jeff Brown.

o

#### By-Laws Chair

Bruce Harrison

Chrystal Swinger

Robert Collins

**Ray Silverthorne, 2006 Parliamentary Chair**

**Joe Andrews, 2006 Nominating Chair**

Nolan Newton

Ken Manual

**Parker Whitt, 2006 Local Arrangements Chair**

**Eugene McRoy, 2006 Program Chair**

**Mark O'Donoghue, Member-at-Large**

## NCMVCA By-Law Changes

Below are proposed changes to the present NCM&VCA Bylaws approved by the Executive Committee on June 13, 2006. Please refer to the NCM&VCA website to review the present Bylaws and the changes below. The membership will vote on these changes at our annual business meeting this November in Greenville. Tommy Bowen—Constitution / By-laws Committee Chair.

### Article III Membership

Membership shall be in one of the following categories:

**Active Members:** Individuals (vector control specialists, sanitarians, vector control and pest control technicians, public works personnel, entomologists, other persons interested in the control of mosquitoes and other vectors) who are not student, sustaining, or life members.

**Student Members:** Individuals who are full-time high school or college students at the time of membership.

**Sustaining Members:** Memberships of commercial entities, such as companies, firms, and corporations. This mem-

bership shall be represented by one individual and have one vote.

**Life Members:** Life members may be conferred upon any person whose membership is presently in good standing with the NCM&VCA, Inc or whose membership was in good standing at the time of his/her retirement. A life membership is exempt from dues payment, but carries the same rights and privileges as an active membership.

The term of membership shall be January 1 through December 31. All persons who wish to become active, student, or sustaining members or renew their active, student, or sustaining memberships shall submit their applications in writing to the Association each year and pay the established dues.

Any active, student, or sustaining member may submit to the Membership Committee the name of any active or sustaining member who they wish to have considered for life membership. A written statement of justification must accompany each nomination. After receipt, the Membership Committee shall consider each nomination at its next regular meeting and

convey its recommendation to the Executive Committee via the Secretary-Treasurer. If a nomination is rejected by the Executive Committee, the Secretary-Treasurer shall promptly inform the active member who submitted the nomination. All life memberships that are conveyed will be announced by the President at the next regular meeting of the NCM&VCA, Inc.

### Article IV Provision of Funds

Section A

#### Dues

The annual membership dues shall be set by the Executive Committee. The membership shall be notified of any proposed changes to the dues at least 30 days prior to the annual meeting and a simple majority of the membership must approve any changes in membership dues. In order to be eligible to vote at the annual meeting, dues must be paid no later than the first day of the annual meeting.

### Article VI

#### Election of Officers and Terms

A slate of officers shall be submitted by the Nominating Committee to the President at the final business meeting at the annual meeting of the NCM&VCA, Inc. Additional nominations may also be made from the floor by an active, student, sustaining, or life member during the election of officers. A motion to close the nominations shall require a second and an affirmative vote of at least three-fourths of the members present for the motion to be carried. A slate of officers, which shall include a president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer, shall be elected by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present at the annual meeting. Elected officers shall assume their duties after the final business meeting of the annual meeting and they shall continue to

hold their respective offices until their successors are duly elected and installed. If any office is vacated for any reason, the Executive Committee may appoint another member to the office for the remainder of the term.

The term of office of the President and the Vice President is normally a year, with the officers serving from the annual meeting which they were elected, to the following annual meeting. The Secretary Treasurer shall serve a two year term.

## A Troubling Trend in Mecklenburg:

Mecklenburg County is, of course, dominated by the city of Charlotte. Charlotte being by far the largest and most densely populated urban area in the state, we have to deal with the typical problems that come with large urban areas. Among these is rats, and the Public Health Pest Management Program has operated a rodent control program for years. We respond to citizen complaints & address infestations found during these investigations, monitor and bait the sanitary sewer system, inspect

On April 4 I collected a Roof Rat from a snap trap in a client's basement. Jim Ericson, my field supervisor, verified my identification. I also e-mailed photos to Dr. Harrison, who agreed and also recommended sending the specimen to a taxonomist at UC Berkeley for definitive corroboration. The rat was collected in the Dilworth section of Charlotte, an area where we typically find Norways, & infestations are often linked to broken or breached sewer lines.



*R. rattus*

On June 21 I responded to a call from a very concerned client in the Plaza-Midwood area, across town from Dilworth, who stated she had a rat in her trash can. Upon arrival on site I found a Roof Rat unable to get back out of the clients trash can. I killed the rat & collected it.

Both of these neighborhoods are close to downtown, but in neither case were the typical attracting factors, i.e. animal feed, seeds, overflowing garbage, etc. present.

This is a disturbing trend given the distance between where the two specimens were collected. While not necessarily

a bigger threat than the Norway, the Roof Rat exhibits different behavior and obviously would necessitate different tactics for control.

If anyone out there regularly finds Roof Rats, or has recently encountered any, please contact me at [joe.rowell@mecklenburgcountyNC.org](mailto:joe.rowell@mecklenburgcountyNC.org)

all vacant buildings prior to demolition, and enforce the county rodent control ordinance.

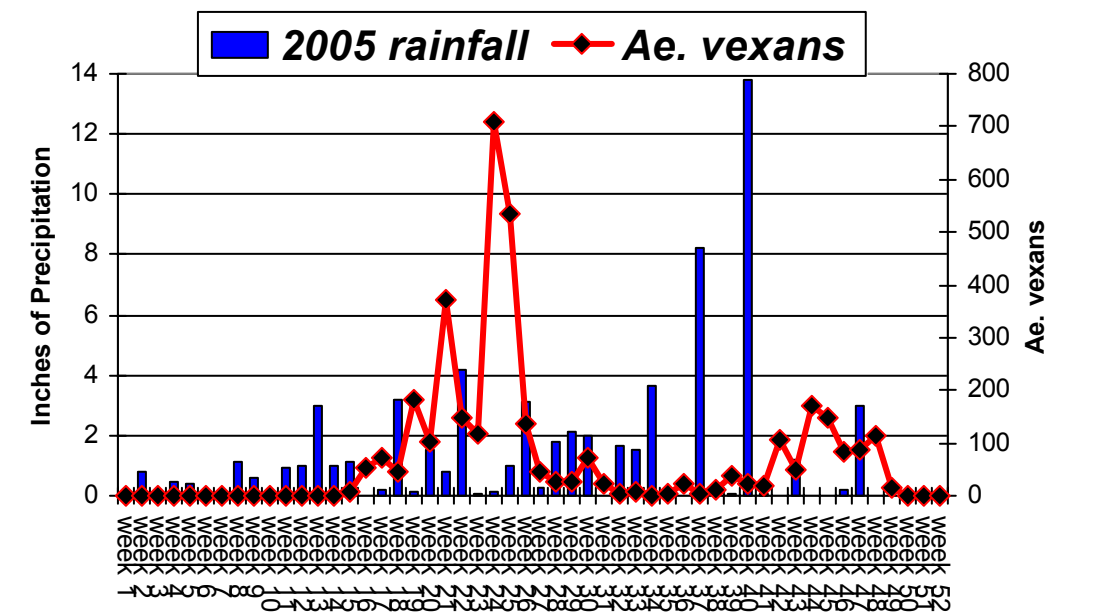
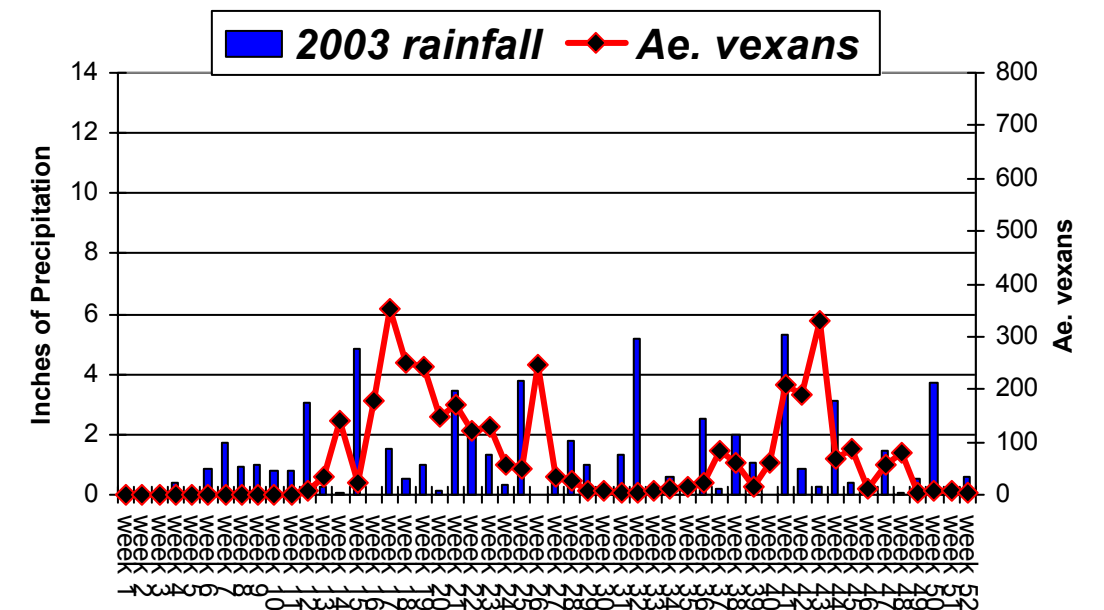
We have always dealt with the Norway Rat, *R. norvegicus*, also known as the wharf rat, sewer rat, or brown rat. The Norway Rat is by far the most commonly found rat in most urban areas. However, twice this spring I have found specimens of the Roof Rat, *R. rattus*.

## Using the Data Your Program Collects Continued:

these sites also tells us when a brood of mosquitoes will be emerging so we can initiate adulticide operations.

We have talked about the day to day operational strategy for monitoring mosquitoes. The next question is how to create a historical record that can be compared to our weekly light trap data. We use internet data from the national weather service to accomplish this. We use the same data templates for the weather that we use for mosquito monitoring. We collect our data from four regional weather stations, North Myrtle Beach S.C., Florence S.C., Lumberton N.C. and Wilmington N.C. We access the daily precipitation data using the internet and transfer it to our data sheets. This may seem like a lot of work, and it is if you wait till the end of the year to enter the data. It takes us about 5 minutes every morning to transfer the data into our spreadsheet.

The advantage of collecting weather data daily and converting it to weekly is that it allows you to select a uniform period of time to compare your data. For example, in field conditions adult mosquito populations typically live for approximately three weeks. By choosing to evaluate the data weekly we capture the beginning, middle and end of the mosquito population over time. When this data is over-



laid with the weekly precipitation data we have a tool that can be used in our day to day operations. We have also created a historical record that we can compare to our current operational data. Comparing our historical data with the real time data we can identify similarities in the data for a given time of year. For example, do we have above average

precipitation going into weeks 18 through 22 (the month of June) and what could that mean with respect to *Aedes vexans* production?