

# Buzz Words



The Newsletter of the Florida Mosquito Control Association  
Sept/Oct 2007

Volume 7, Issue Number 5

FMCA Annual Fall Meeting  
November 11 – 14, 2007  
Crowne Plaza, 1201 Riverplace Blvd., Jacksonville, FL 32207  
904-398-8800 ext. 500



Northeastern Mosquito Control Association Annual Meeting  
Radisson Hotel Plymouth Harbor, Plymouth, MA  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup>, 2007  
[nemmc.edws@comcast.net](mailto:nemmc.edws@comcast.net)



2008 FMCA Dodd Plenary Short Courses  
January 28 – February 1, 2008  
Ocala Hilton, 3600 SW 36<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Ocala, FL, 352.854.1400  
Rooms: \$109.00 S/D before 12/7/07.  
On-Line reservation code will be available soon at [www.floridamosquito.org](http://www.floridamosquito.org)



Southeast Regional Public Health & Vector  
Management Conference  
February 19 – 21, 2008  
[www.pherec.org](http://www.pherec.org)



## News from FMCA

**New Phone Number** Effective Immediately:  
352-275-8143

Kellie Etherson, Executive Director  
FMCA

P. O. Box 358630

Gainesville, FL 32635-8630

352-275-8143

Fax: 354-334-2286

Email: [floridamosquito@earthlink.net](mailto:floridamosquito@earthlink.net)

### **FMCA Silent Auction**

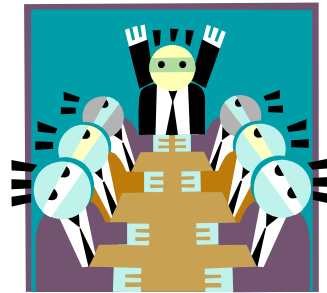
Ed Fussell, Immediate Past President of the FMCA and Silent Auction Chair, reminds us that the Florida Mosquito Control Foundation will be holding a silent auction during the FMCA Fall meeting at the Crowne Plaza in Jacksonville. Please start thinking about any items you would like to donate to this wonderful cause. You may send any items ahead of time to Ed at the Florida Keys Mosquito Control District, or bring them to the meeting and drop them off at the registration desk. If you have any questions, please contact Ed at 305-292-7190

## News from PHEREC

Our quarterly newsletter is now available online. Please go to:

<http://pherec.org/PHERECNews/Vol8No3/PHERECNewsVol8No3.pdf>

The 6/07 PHEREC Annual Report Available has been posted to the Center's web site. It can be viewed at <http://www.pherec.org/annual-report.pdf>.



## Job Openings

**South Walton County Mosquito Control District** is accepting applications for a Director III position. Minimum qualifications: Graduate of four (4) year college or university with a degree in the basic sciences or engineering and two years work experience in mosquito control. Must hold a valid Director's Certification prior to appointment or obtain the Director's Certification within six (6) months of employment. Applicants must hold a valid Public Health Pest Control license in order to take the Director's Certification Exam. Salary range is \$48,000 to \$68,000 and is negotiable. SWCMCD is an equal opportunity employer and a drug free workplace. Application may be picked up at the SWCMCD Office on Highway 393 North in Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459, Mon. – Fri., 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Phone (850) 267-2112.



**Seminole County Mosquito Control District:** Mosquito Control Team Leaders - 2 positions; \$15.91 - \$26.25/hour; \$33,080-\$54,582/year

**General Statement of Job:** Performs specialized work involving the supervision of mosquito control field operations. Works under the direction of the Manager and is expected to exercise considerable independent judgment to accomplish work with a minimum of

supervision. Work also includes performing the functions and duties of a Mosquito Control Technician.

**Essential Functions:** These are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the position.

Assists in coordinating field evaluations of pesticides and application equipment. Supervises field surveillance, larviciding and adulticiding operations and evaluates the effectiveness of these operations. Conducts field inspections to detect the presence of mosquitoes; sets and retrieves mosquito traps. Ensures all spray equipment is calibrated according to label specifications. Conducts quality assurance evaluations and oversees the safety program. Assigns complaint investigations to the appropriate personnel. Evaluates work performance and abilities of subordinates. Applies natural predators known to be effective against immature mosquitoes. Maintains records and completes reports. Maintains daily records of areas sprayed, to include location, time, volume of chemicals used and miles traveled. Establishes and maintains effective working relationships with other employees and the general public. Maintains Sentinel Chicken Flocks and performs other duties of Mosquito-Borne Virus surveillance. Provides information to the public on the production and elimination of mosquitoes. Responds to citizens' requests in a courteous and timely manner. Conducts Out-Reach and Public Education programs as assigned by Manager. Participates in continuing education on Public Health Pest Control and federal, state and county laws and regulations governing pesticides. Keeps abreast of advancements in the mosquito

control field through self-study and professional training courses. Other related duties as required.

**Minimum Qualifications:** High school diploma or GED and three (3) years of experience in all phases of mosquito control to include three (1) year of supervisory experience. Mosquito control supervisory experience preferred. Must be able to calibrate spray equipment for proper application rate. Knowledge of the geographic layout of Seminole County is a plus.

**Special Requirements:** Must possess a valid Public Health Pest Control certification issued by the State of Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services or obtain within 90 days of appointment. Must possess and maintain a valid Florida Driver's License. Must be able to work evenings, weekends, holidays or rotating shifts.

**Technical Requirements:** Knowledge of the technical aspects of mosquito control operations

**Working Conditions:** Working extended outdoors in high temperatures and humidity.

**How to apply:** Send resume by email or mail. Open until filled.

Seminole County Mosquito Control  
177 Bush Loop  
Sanford, Florida 32773  
(407) 665-5568  
[ehorvath@seminolecountyfl.gov](mailto:ehorvath@seminolecountyfl.gov)



***Vector-Borne Pathogens and the University of Florida's  
Emerging Pathogens Institute***

Recent news reports demonstrate the continued risks to world health due to emerging pathogens. The news concerning vector-borne pathogens during the past year has been grim.

West Nile virus continues to cause hundreds of cases in North America. Readers can review a previous *BuzzWords* column discussing levels of West Nile virus transmission to humans living in the Northern Plains during 2007 and what a similar transmission level of WNV would mean for Florida residents and visitors (Tabachnick, W.J. 2007). Another article of interest is, "Is West Nile virus a threat to Florida? Reasons for concern" and can be found in *BuzzWords* 7(4): 8-9. As of October 4, 2007, North Dakota has the highest WNV incidence with 5 cases per 10,000 people. A similar transmission level in Florida would result in more than 9,000 human cases!

In past *BuzzWords* columns we have explored the danger to the U. S. from Chikungunya virus and Dengue virus (Tabachnick, WJ. 2007. Chikungunya and Dengue: Challenges for Florida mosquito control. *BuzzWords* 7(1): 6-7). The entry of either of these viruses into U. S. regions where there are substantial *Aedes aegypti* or *Aedes albopictus* populations is a real threat.

So far during 2007 the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) has recorded 630,356 cases of dengue in the Americas. This transmission level is 11 percent above that reported in 2006 when there were close to 12,000 severe hemorrhagic dengue cases and 183 deaths. The PAHO expects that dengue cases in the America's will exceed 1 million in 2007. Puerto Rico, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Brazil have been particularly hard hit this year. For example, Puerto Rico is now reporting an average of 500 new cases weekly with a total 6,175 cases and 4 confirmed deaths so far in 2007.

The news on the arthropod-borne animal pathogens has also been grim. Northern Europe is experiencing an extensive outbreak in ruminant farm animals due to Bluetongue virus (BTV) transmitted by different species of *Culicoides*. Though BTV is found almost worldwide, including in the U. S., it has historically been absent from Europe. The United Kingdom has reported its first bluetongue cases in cattle ever during the past two weeks! The consequences for the cattle and sheep industries in the UK may be devastating as their industries try to cope with containing the pathogen. Unfortunately, efforts to contain bluetongue may result in restrictions on livestock trade with devastating world wide economic consequences. This is a particularly bad time for UK livestock producers already struggling to contain an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.

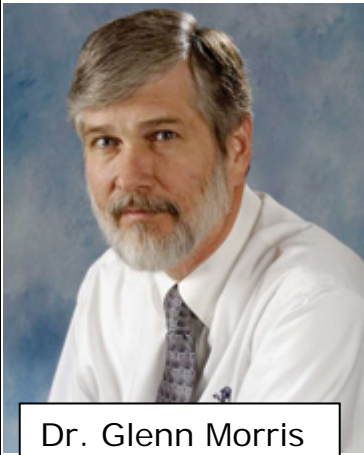
There is a very useful map showing current outbreaks of pathogens with interactive information that can be found at <http://healthmap.org/en>

The FMCA has been a strong supporter of the University of Florida's initiative on emerging pathogens, and efforts by the FMCA in Tallahassee figured prominently in

successfully obtaining state support for UF's Emerging Pathogens Institute (EPI) <http://epi.ufl.edu/> The EPI is Florida's main response to emerging pathogens and one of its main mandates is to provide information and methods designed to protect Florida against new and re-emerging pathogens. It is clear that vector-borne pathogens will figure prominently in the EPI's mandate due to the immediate and constant risk of introduction of these pathogens, some of which are discussed above.

The EPI is moving forward. Dr. J. Glenn Morris Jr., is the new Director of the EPI. Dr. Morris began his duties as EPI Director in early September 2007 and has already visited the FMEL in Vero Beach to discuss the needs for increasing Florida's vector-borne pathogen capabilities by building upon FMEL's existing strengths. By way of introduction to the members of the FMCA, Dr. Morris was Professor and Chairman of the Department of Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and interim Dean of the University of Maryland, School of Public Health. He received his bachelor's degree from Rice University and his M. D. and M. P. H. in tropical

medicine from Tulane University. Dr. Morris has worked at the Centers for Disease Control on cholera and other water- and food-borne diseases. His recent research has included work with viruses known as bacteriophages that invade bacterial cells and cause bacteria to self-destruct. Bacteriophages are an alternative to antibiotics for treating infection because specific phages can be used to attack specific bacteria and bacteria are less likely to develop resistance to them. Dr. Morris' first research project as a graduate student involved dengue, and as a youngster living with his family in Bangkok, Thailand he contracted a severe form of Dengue (Dengue Hemorrhagic Fever). Dr. Morris is no stranger to vector-borne pathogens.



Dr. Glenn Morris

Dr. Morris is eagerly looking forward to working with the FMCA and Florida's mosquito control organizations. He has accepted an invitation to the next FMCA meeting where he will provide a presentation and discussion to the FMCA concerning our mutual goals and how they can be facilitated by the EPI.

**Walter J. Tabachnick, Director and Professor  
Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory  
Department of Entomology and Nematology  
University of Florida - IFAS  
Vero Beach, Florida**



**As seen on a t-shirt**

Alcohol and calculus don't mix. Never drink and derive.

I wear the brains in the family.

No sense in being pessimistic It wouldn't work anyway!

I don't suffer from insanity; I enjoy every minute of it.

You're just jealous because the voices only talk to me.

Quoting one is plagiarism; quoting many is research.

The deadline for submissions to be included in the  
Nov/Dec 2007 issue of  
*BuzzWords* is December 1, 2007.

Please send change of address or newsletter submissions to:  
Roxanne Connelly, Editor, 200 9<sup>th</sup> Street SE, Vero Beach, FL 32962  
or [buzzwords@ifas.ufl.edu](mailto:buzzwords@ifas.ufl.edu)