

VEE SUMMARY NO. 9

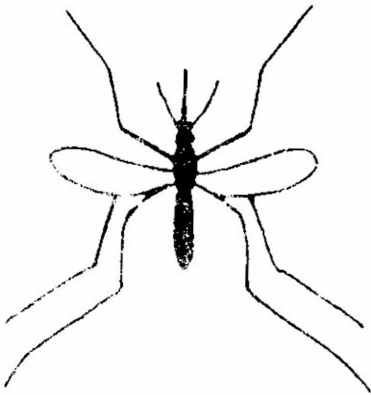
September 22-30, 1972

Issued October 1972

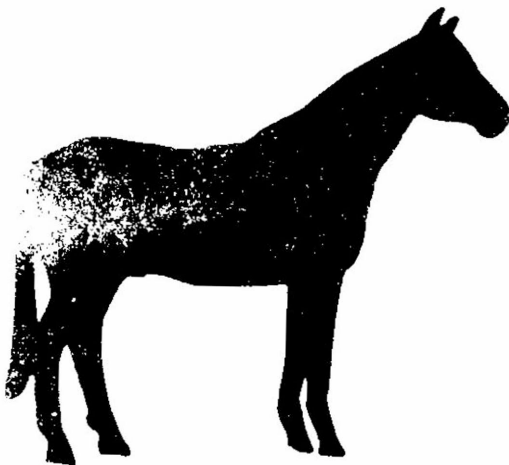
CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

# VENEZUELAN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS

## SURVEILLANCE



# ZOOONOSIS



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF  
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE  
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE  
HEALTH SERVICES AND MENTAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

# PREFACE

Summarized in this report is information received from State Health Departments, university investigators, virology laboratories and other pertinent sources, domestic and foreign. Much of the information is preliminary. It is intended primarily for the use of those with responsibility for disease control activities. Any one desiring to quote this report should contact the original investigator for confirmation and interpretation.

Contributions to the surveillance report are most welcome. Please address to:

Center for Disease Control  
Attn: Office of Veterinary Public Health Services  
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Atlanta, Georgia 30333

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No. 9, Sept. 22-30, 1972, Issued Oct. 1972

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Because of the need to provide information as soon as possible on VEE activity, these surveillance reports will be issued at various intervals--daily, weekly, bi-weekly or monthly--as the urgency of the information demands.

We invite your inquiries or information on VEE and related activities: Center for Disease Control, Office of Veterinary Public Health Services (404) 633-3311, Ext. 3691. Evening or weekend phone numbers:

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## I. SUMMARY

As of October 1, 1972, the Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis (VEE) outbreak in humans and equines in Sonora, Mexico, has showed signs of being brought under control. There have been no reported equine or human cases of VEE in the United States except the human case in which the patient was exposed outside of the country (See VEE Surveillance Report #8). Surveillance activities by a number of cooperating federal, state, and local agencies to monitor possible VEE activity in mosquitoes and equines in the United States are continuing.

## II. INTERNATIONAL NOTES

Extensive surveillance along the United States-Mexican border has failed to demonstrate any further movement northward of epidemic VEE in Sonora, Mexico (See Venezuelan Equine Encephalitis Surveillance Report #8, September 1-21, 1972, issued September 1972). (Source: Dr. Jorge Cardenas Lara, Epidemiology and Health Campaign, Ministry of Health, Mexico D.F., Mexico)

## III. STATE ACTIVITIES, VEE SURVEILLANCE, 1972

### A. California

As of October 2, 1972, there have been 3,495 pools of mosquitoes and other Diptera (over 101,670 individual insects) tested by the California State Department of Public Health, Arbovirus Surveillance Program. There have been 36 isolates of Turlock virus, 42 SLE virus, 28 WEE virus, and 11 of unidentified viruses which are none of the commonly expected arboviruses and may be new agents. There were 50 clinical suspect equine cases of encephalitis reported, but none of these have been confirmed in the laboratory as arboviruses. (Source: Dr. Richard W. Emmons, Public Health Physician, California Department of Health, Berkeley, California and Dr. George L. Humphrey, Chief, Veterinary Section, California State Department of Health, Berkeley, California)

### B. North Carolina

In August 1972, 22 equine cases of encephalitis were reported by North Carolina veterinary practitioners. Eleven of these were laboratory confirmed; one case of eastern equine encephalomyelitis was confirmed by virus isolation, one by histopathology, and nine by serology. (Source: Dr. T. B. Ryan, Director, Diagnostic Laboratories, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, North Carolina)

C. Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas  
 No VEE cases have been reported in Arizona, New Mexico, or Texas, but investigation of sick horses is continuing in these states. (Source: Dr. Nancy C. McCaig, State Epidemiologist, New Mexico Health and Social Services Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico; Dr. Philip M. Hotchkiss, State Public Health Veterinarian, Arizona Department of Health, Phoenix, Arizona; Dr. Jack Pitcher, Assistant Veterinarian in Charge, USDA, Austin, Texas; and Dr. M. S. Dickerson, Medical Consultant, Texas State Department of Health, Austin, Texas)

IV. FEDERAL ACTIVITIES

USDA and CDC Surveillance Activity in Six States

No VEE virus activity has been detected in Arizona, Colorado, Louisiana, Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas. In the southern area of Arizona, surveillance was intensified in September because of the equine and human VEE cases that occurred in southern Sonora, Mexico.

As of September 29, 1972, 126,176 mosquitoes (39 pools) had been tested by the Arboviral Diseases Section, EIP, CDC, Fort Collins, Colorado. There were 189 arboviral agents isolated from 10 mosquito species; 160 of these were from Culex tarsalis. The WEE virus infection rate in the C. tarsalis tested was 2.8 per 1,000 mosquitoes, and the overall virus infection rate for the species was 0.6 per 1,000. Since August 31, 1972, the WEE virus infection rate per 1,000 C. tarsalis declined in four of the states as follows: Arizona from 1.9 to 1.0, New Mexico from 3.5 to 1.9, Colorado from 3.6 to 2.7, and Texas from 4.0 to 0.7. Surveillance for VEE virus among mosquitoes in Colorado, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and eastern Texas is to be discontinued in October. However, surveillance will be continued in southern Arizona, Southern New Mexico, and western Texas.

No VEE virus has been isolated nor has there been any serologic conversion to VEE antibody in any of the 30 burros at the 22 equine sentinel sites in the state area. Plans are to discontinue the equine sentinel activity in October.

Through July 1972, USDA reports a total of 173,924 equine VEE vaccinations in the United States. Table 1 shows the number of doses administered by state. Those states not listed made no reports. (Source: Dr. Richard O. Hayes, Chief, Arboviral Diseases Section, Ecological Investigations Section, CDC, Fort Collins, Colorado and Dr. Bob Mathias, Animal and Plant Inspection Service, USDA, Hyattsville, Maryland)

Table 1  
 REPORTED CUMULATIVE VEE VACCINATIONS,\*  
 UNITED STATES

Alabama	40	Montana	149
Alaska	0	Nebraska	5293
Arizona	36	Nevada	4194
Arkansas	187	New Hampshire	466
California	1195	New Mexico	769
Colorado	6440	New York	59040
Connecticut	4054	North Carolina	617
Delaware	97	North Dakota	473
Florida	2072	Oklahoma	653
Georgia	355	Oregon	5643
Hawaii	8	Pennsylvania	3774
Idaho	2589	Rhode Island	0
Indiana	3553	South Carolina	113
Iowa	6	South Dakota	267
Kansas	2207	Tennessee	210
Kentucky	490	Texas	81148
Louisiana	404	Utah	6511
Maryland	394	Vermont	4578
Massachusetts	344	Virginia	378
Michigan	7770	Washington	2882
Minnesota	3250	West Virginia	269
Mississippi	1	Wisconsin	8197
Missouri	72	Wyoming	3026

TOTAL 173,924

\*With Commercial Vaccine Through July 1972

## STATE EPIDEMIOLOGISTS AND STATE PUBLIC HEALTH VETERINARIANS

Key to all disease surveillance activities are the State Epidemiologists, who are responsible for collecting, interpreting, and transmitting data and epidemiologic information from their individual States. Their contributions to this report are gratefully acknowledged. In addition, valuable contributions to zoonoses surveillance reports are made by State Public Health Veterinarians.

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\*Dual assignment