



## Equine West Nile Virus in New Jersey

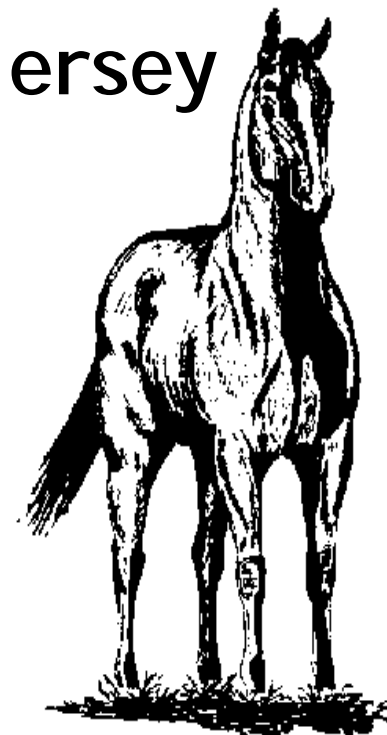
Equine West Nile virus in New Jersey has increased steadily since its introduction in 1999. The primary amplification cycle involves native birds and a bird-biting species of mosquitoes, *Culex pipiens*. This species of mosquito, along with other species that are likely to be involved, tend to be referred to as “back-yard breeders”. They prefer highly organic larval habitats that are common to horse farms, such as water troughs, buckets, pails, tarps, ditches, and temporary pools often found in paddocks and near manure piles.



## Reduce the Risk of West Nile Virus to Your Horses

- √ Become a volunteer horse farm
- √ Contact your veterinarian and have your horses vaccinated
- √ Empty and clean troughs every four days
- √ Turn over unused containers
- √ Consider buying troughs with drainage plugs
- √ Learn to recognize mosquito breeding areas on your horse farm
- √ Contact your county mosquito agency for information and assistance
- √ Educate yourself and others about West Nile virus

# A Proactive Approach to Fighting Equine West Nile Virus in New Jersey





## Rutgers Services For Horse Owners

As a service, Rutgers Mosquito Research and the NJ Agricultural Experiment Station would like the opportunity to educate horse owners about the basic biology of mosquitoes. Our goal is to teach the public how to recognize mosquito breeding on their farms. In order to provide this service, an inspector will visit volunteer farms. The horse owners may follow the inspector around the farm while he/she points out problem areas and makes recommendations for reducing mosquito breeding.



## Education and Research

Mosquito larvae will be collected and identified to species. As different species are found, the inspector will educate the horse owner about their basic biology. This service will benefit all involved and will be a proactive approach to fighting equine West Nile virus in New Jersey.



## Would you like to become a volunteer horse farm?

**If you are interested or  
have any questions, please  
call or e-mail**



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