



### COMMUNITY UPDATES

#### 2019 Summer Intern Feature

We are proud to offer a showcase of this year's summer interns! The CDC Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases provided support to six interns throughout the region this past summer:



*"Interning through the CoE in Vector Borne Diseases at the Collier Mosquito Control District was truly an exceptional foundational experience. I gained hands on field and lab exposure that helped me comprehensively understand mosquito borne disease control from an operational and research standpoint. Being able to work among different professionals throughout the internship taught me how interdisciplinary disease control is and the critical need for this field domestically as well as globally. Upon completion of this internship, I am very eager to apply the principles of vector control to my graduate classes as well as my future career."*

**Emory Babcock | Collier Mosquito Control District | Naples, FL**

*"My experience as a COE internship involved mosquito surveillance in Kentucky. I gathered data from 52 counties' trapping and lab results and compiled a full state report every few weeks. It was great to see all the participating local public health departments work together to help us with the larger picture of mosquito presence in Kentucky. I really enjoyed learning more about my state and being able to work with epidemiologists and other public health officials to see how vector-borne disease is studied."*



**Elizabeth Henderson | Kentucky Department for Public Health | Frankfort, KY**



*“This is the farthest that I have ever been from home [Asheville, NC] and this was a big step in my life after graduating college. Vector control is the area of my major that I have been most interested in, so working on a mosquito-based project was the perfect opportunity to explore this interest and gain great experience. I enjoyed having my own project to complete and I am currently writing a paper for it, which will hopefully be published...I have gained so much additional knowledge outside of my individual project. I have also made several new connections to professionals in this field. I am now working for AMCD as an intern for at least another four months and I may pursue a Master’s degree next year. I am grateful to have had this opportunity and I am excited to see what the future holds.”*

**Mandi Pearson | Anastasia Mosquito Control District | St. Augustine, FL**

*“I chose this internship because as graduation was approaching, I wanted more laboratory experience to complement my degree program. I had experience with plants and the spread of their fungal infections, so I was intrigued about this internship that encompassed biting insects and the spread of viruses. I soon found out, of course, that they are very different...Through my experiences here I have found that I enjoy working in a governmental lab and having a role in keeping people safe and healthy. My next career goal is to seek out similar employment opportunities so that I can use the skills I learned from this internship to continue to be a public servant. Although I will miss working here, I am so grateful for this opportunity to learn about the public health field and Vector-Borne diseases.”*



**Penny Reif | Tennessee Department of Health | Nashville, TN**

**Not pictured: Kyndall Braumuller | University of SC, Dept. of Epidemiology | Columbia, SC  
Sarah Machado | Alabama Department of Public Health | Birmingham, AL**

**Thanks to all the interns and preceptors for the hard work!**

## Washington, D.C. Visit: Vector Borne Diseases Education



A group from throughout the Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases met in Washington D.C. October 27 – 29<sup>th</sup> to educate representatives on our collaborative work; vector borne disease challenges and priorities for our states; and the important role of continued prevention, control, and outreach efforts. Another group will head to Washington D.C. to reach more states' representatives in mid-November. We look forward to continuing educating others on vector borne diseases!

L to R: Ms. Anna Pasternak (Kentucky); Dr. Abelardo Moncayo (Tennessee); Dr. Brian Byrd (North Carolina); Dr. Gregory Glass (Florida); Ms. Kaci McCoy (Florida)

## FEATURED TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

### Mosquito & Vector Control Legacy Leadership Course

The Southeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases is awarding several scholarships to attend our first Mosquito & Vector Control Legacy Leadership Course, held in Gainesville, FL over four sessions. The Course is aimed to benefit individuals who are currently part of daily operations and who are interested in a long-term career with mosquito and vector control. The scholarship will provide funding to fully cover course cost and lodging, plus travel reimbursement of up to \$1,000 per applicant. Completed applications are due Friday, November 29, 2019. The application and more details can be found at <http://cdcsercoevbd-flgateway.org/node/188>. Please direct any questions to Kaci McCoy, at [kd.mccoy@ufl.edu](mailto:kd.mccoy@ufl.edu).

### FMCA 2020 Dodd Short Courses

Registration for the 2020 Dodd Short Courses begins November 19<sup>th</sup>! New courses this year include Arbovirus Detection in Mosquito Pools, Excel for Mosquito Surveillance, Mosquitoes and Mankind, and Sentinel Chicken Surveillance. Check out the [FMCA page](#) for the Program and more details.

## Online Mosquito Training Course for Pest Managers

Along with partners in the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, we are thrilled to announce [an online course in mosquito training](#) for pest managers. This course can serve as an introduction to mosquitoes and mosquito control for employees in the urban pest management industry. Participants who complete the 11 modules in the course will learn to identify and understand the mosquitoes of major importance in the urban environment, their life cycles, the general methods of control, personal protective equipment required for safe insecticide application, and the laws and regulations governing mosquito control for the urban pest management industry. You can sign up for the course via the [Canvas Catalog](#). \*\*\*There may be downtime December 31st, 2019 as we renew the CEU approval for the course.\*\*\*

## Tick Surveillance Practices Webinar

The Northeastern Center of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases Tick Working Group is hosting a free webinar on tick surveillance guidance and best practices tailored to the Northeast region. The presenters include public health and academic experts working in the NE region, who will cover key components of a tick surveillance program, including: considerations for starting a surveillance program, field methods for targeted species, pathogen testing, data analysis and management, and lessons learned from existing programs. Join us for this webinar on Monday December 2, 2019, from 2:00 - 4:00pm EST. Register at <http://bit.ly/NEVBDTickSurveillanceWebinar>

## Mosquito Surveillance and Control Fellowship

A research opportunity in surveillance and control of mosquitos and mosquito-borne diseases is currently available in the Arboviral Disease Branch within the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases (DVBD), of the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Fort Collins, Colorado. Projects will focus on determining the extent of an invasive and endemic mosquito species in the US and evaluation of an intervention to manage select species. The qualified candidate should have received a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree in a relevant field, preferably in medical entomology or public health and vector-borne diseases. Degree must have been received within five years of the appointment start date. To learn more about the project descriptions, position qualifications, and how to apply, visit Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) position CDC-DVBD-2019-0129. Applications are due November 7, 2019.

## M.S. Assistanceship – Tick Systematics

Funding is available at Georgia Southern University (GSU) starting January 2020 to support one Master student to participate in studies of the taxonomy, evolution, and population genetics of ticks. The successful applicants will be expected to assist with on-going studies investigating taxonomic and evolutionary issues within the hard-tick family Ixodidae. The successful candidate will have the unique opportunity to contribute to the curatorial activities at the U.S. National Tick Collection, a Smithsonian collection housed at Georgia Southern.

## FEATURED JOB OPPORTUNITIES

### Assistant Professor - Mosquito/Arbovirus Research

An Assistant Professor - Mosquito/Arbovirus Research position is open at the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory (Institute of Food and Agriculture, University of Florida) in Vero Beach, Florida. This is a 9-month tenure-accruing position that will be 80% research (Florida Agricultural Experiment Station) and 20% extension (Florida Cooperative Extension Service). Research duties focus on the biology and control of mosquitoes and the pathogens they transmit with emphasis on developing and evaluating information and tools relevant to mosquito and pathogen management. Tenure will accrue in the Department of Entomology and Nematology. More information about this position can be found on our [Job Board](#).

### Senior Public Health Biologist

The Vector-Borne Disease Section of the California Department of Public Health is recruiting for a Public Health Biologist at the Senior level. Public Health Biologists conduct activities relating to the prevention, surveillance, epidemiology, and control of vector-borne diseases in California. This position serves as the lead Public Health Biologist for the statewide tick and tick-borne disease surveillance program and is located in Richmond (San Francisco Bay Area), California. Applications must be submitted by November 20. Check out the listing on our [Job Board](#) for more information.

### Research Technician

The Department of Entomology at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) invites applications for a Research Technician III position to assist with the active tick surveillance program and new tick management research supported by federal grants. Applicants are expected to possess sufficient entomological skills and knowledge to be able to conduct tick sampling and assist with a variety of tick control projects in the field. Experience in tick collecting and field work desirable. Interested candidates can learn more about this position and how to apply by visiting <https://portal.ct.gov/CAES/ABOUT-CAES/Job-Opportunities/Job-Opportunities>.

Keep up to date with our latest news and opportunities!



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