



CDC Southeastern
Center of Excellence in
Vector Borne Diseases
The Gateway Program

Newsletter

Fall 2020

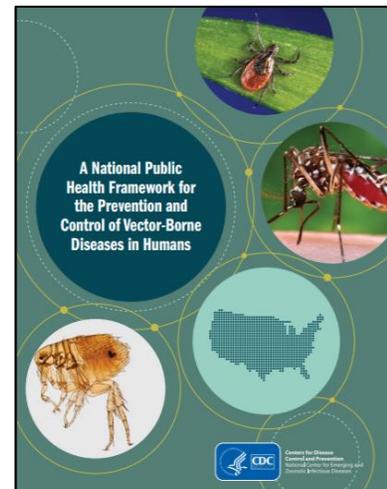
News and Updates

Updated National Framework for Vector-Borne Diseases

An updated national framework for vector-borne diseases, created with contributions from five federal departments and the EPA, has recently been released. An excerpt from the Framework's introduction:

“Our nation’s ability to defend against the present and future threat of vector-borne diseases relies on a comprehensive national system that is able to detect, prevent, and respond to these threats. A concerted and sustained effort is needed to address significant challenges and reverse the upward trends in illness, suffering, and death from vector-borne diseases. This effort must enhance collaboration, coordination, and communication across human, animal, and environmental health sectors, as well as other relevant sectors, to address vector-borne threats at the human-animal-environment interface (a One Health approach).”

Read the full framework [here!](#)



Second National Assessment of Vector Control Programs by NACCHO and CDC

[Response Requested for Second Nationwide Assessment of Local Vector Control Organizations](#)



The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), will administer the second nationwide assessment of local vector control organizations in the United States to inform CDC funding of state and local vector control programs, and to determine how NACCHO can best provide targeted guidance and training opportunities for local agencies. Starting September 2020, NACCHO has been reaching out to every vector control program in the country to confirm the point of contact for the assessment. When they reach out, please let NACCHO know who can best respond to questions on your vector control program’s mosquito and tick strategies. For additional information about this and other technical assistance opportunities from NACCHO, visit the [website](#) or contact vectorcontrol@naccho.org.

Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene

The Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (November 15-19th) has gone virtual this year! Still interested in presentations and posters with the latest in tropical medicine and hygiene? There's still time to [register](#)! Keep an eye out for presentations and posters by many of our collaborating researchers throughout the region.

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report Emphasizes Vector Control

This is the first published policy report by CDC and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to recommend the continuation of mosquito control surveillance and control during non-mosquito-related public health emergencies and natural disasters and to support the use of larvicides and adulticides following the EPA label instructions (Connelly et al. 2020). Read more [here](#)!



National Tick Strategy



A recent article by the CDC Centers of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases highlights the need for a national tick strategy. Dr. Ganser represented SECVBD on this project & sampled ticks throughout Florida. Learn more & see photos from her work here bit.ly/SEVBD_NationalTickStrategy

SECVBD Publications

Our center continues to communicate research through scientific publications. See our publication list featuring our center's research [here](#)!

CDC Regional Centers of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases on Facebook

Did you know the five Regional Centers of Excellence in Vector Borne Diseases have a combined Facebook page, where you can get the highlights in VBD from all over the US? Take a [look](#) and "Like" the page to stay up to date with all of us!

Website Updates

Have you visited our website recently? We have a new look and website full of information from vectors to our weekly updated job board! We even have an interactive map of our partners and interns. Visit us: bit.ly/SECVBD_main

“Meet Our Team” Team Interviews

We have been interviewing researchers from our center! Visit our website to learn more about different [SECVBD researchers](#) and the projects they are working on. Are you an SECVBD researcher interested in being interviewed? Please contact Lexi at alexis.white@ufl.edu



Diana Rojas Araya is a Ph.D. student in the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory (FMEL) and Entomology and Nematology Department at the University of Florida (UF), advised by Dr. Alto, Dr. Burkett-Cadena, Dr. Mathias, and Dr. Cummings. Diana’s SECVBD research studies the impacts of fluorescent powder on *Aedes aegypti* to better understand their movement. Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_DianaRojasAraya



Jovana Bozic, PhD is a postdoctoral fellow at the Florida Medical Entomology Laboratory at University of Florida supervised by Dr. Derrick Mathias. Jovana studies microbial symbiosis in mosquitoes and its influence on reproduction and arbovirus transmission. Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_JovanaBozic



Yuexun Tian is a PhD candidate in the Florida Medical Entomology Lab and Entomology and Nematology Department at the University of Florida, advised by Dr. Cynthia Lord and Dr. Phil Kaufman. For her dissertation, Yuexun studies brown dog tick resistance, and modeling. Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_YuexunTian



Helen Wagner Coello is a PhD student in Biology at Florida International University in the DeGennaro Lab, led by Dr. Matt DeGennaro. She researches the genetics, circadian rhythm behavior, and environmental factors affecting *Aedes aegypti*. Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_HelenWagnerCoello

“Meet Our Team” Partner Team Interviews

We have been interviewing [Partners of SECVBD](#) as well! By reading these interviews you will be able to learn more about different vector biologists and the projects they are working on. Are you an SECVBD partner interested in being interviewed? Contact Lexi at alexis.white@ufl.edu



Dr. Joshua Benoit is an Associate Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at University of Cincinnati, who studies the physiology of insects and ticks!

Learn More: bit.ly/SECVBD_JoshuaBenoit



Dr. Jonathan Rayner is an Associate Professor in Microbiology & Immunology and the Director of the Laboratory of Infectious Diseases at the University of South Alabama.

Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_JonathanRayner



Anna Pasternak is a Masters student at the University of Kentucky advised by Dr. Palli. Her research focuses on the surveillance of ticks in Kentucky.

Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_AnnaPasternak



Dr. Rosmarie Kelly and Dr. Tiffany Nguyen are entomologists at the Georgia Department of Health, who focus on vector surveillance and outreach.

Learn more: bit.ly/SECVBD_GDPH

Featured Training Opportunities & Webinars

EPA Integrated Pest Management Webinars

The EPA Center for Integrated Pest Management hosts webinars that feature experts from across the country. These webinars focus on educational and practical strategies for building and building upon integrated pest management programs. Visit this [link](#) to view previous webinars and other resources for IPM.



UF|IFAS Extension Webinar and In-service Training

UF|IFAS is hosting a free webinar on Monday, October 26th at 1:30 PM EST. The webinar will focus on how to communicate with the public about genetically modified mosquitoes. This webinar is being offered for 1 PH Pest Control CEU (pending FDACS approval). See [flyer](#) for more details. [Register here](#)

Virtual Vector Biology Seminar Series

Join us for the Virtual Vector Biology Seminar Series on Fridays at 11am CST (12pm ET) from Sept. 25 to Nov. 20. This seminar series is organized by Dr. Katie Reif (Kansas State) and Dr. Ryan Smith (Iowa State). There is a great line-up of speakers representing several arthropod vectors and disciplines! [Register here](#)

An Introduction to Transmission and Pathogenesis of Tick-Borne Flaviviruses

This webinar is sponsored by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and is held in collaboration with SUNY Upstate Medical University, October 28, 2020, 11:00 AM-1:00 pm USA EST. Webinar description: "Tick-borne flaviviruses continue to emerge and re-emerge and are a significant public health threat due to the geographical expansion of their tick vectors, the severe disease and fatality resulting from infections, and the long-term sequelae in survivors. NIAID in collaboration with the SUNY Center for Vector-Borne Diseases, SUNY Upstate Medical University, will convene a 2-hour virtual meeting to discuss recent advances in pathogenesis and transmission of tick-borne flaviviruses with a focus on Powassan virus. The purpose of the meeting is to highlight the need for more research on this group of pathogens and to identify scientific and translational gaps in the field." [Register here](#)

Tick IPM Special Session

The IPM Institute of North America's Tick IPM Working Group, in collaboration with the TickEncounter Resource Center and One Health Lessons, will be hosting a virtual Tick IPM Special Session Thursday, December 10 from 1:00-2:30pm CDT. [Learn more and register here](#)

Mosquito Training Course for Pest Managers by IFAS and SECVBD

Our Center of Excellence, along with partners in the University of Florida's Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, have an online course in mosquito training for pest managers.

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. CEUs have been approved for successful course completion by FL, SC, AL, and CO at this time. If your state is not listed, and you would still like CEUs for this training, please contact Kaci McCoy prior to enrolling at kd.mccoy@ufl.edu. To learn more, visit:

bit.ly/SECVBD_MosquitoCourse

For more training opportunities, please visit our website: bit.ly/SECVBD_Training

Featured Job Opportunities

Biologist, Field Supervisor, Mosquito Extermination, Morris County, NJ

The Morris County Department of Public Works, Mosquito Control Division, is seeking a Biologist to become part the mosquito control staff. They are looking for a candidate to supervise inspection staff, perform field work requiring the application of biological and closely related principles and techniques, and carry out other related duties as required. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).

Associate Professor, Arbovirologist at Tulane University: School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine: Tropical Medicine

The Department of Tropical Medicine at the Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine is seeking a prominent investigator in arboviral research to develop a Center of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases. The candidate should have a well-developed program in molecular epidemiology, immunology, molecular biology, pathogenesis or pathogen-vector interactions for one or several arboviruses. Resources will be provided for relocation and recruitment of additional faculty positions. Candidates should have evidence of sustained scientific productivity and may have external funding for research. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).

Epidemiologist III, Environmental Epidemiology Program Manager, Fairfax, VA

As part of the Division of Epidemiology and Population Health, and working with the Division of Environmental Health Services, this Epidemiologist III position with the Fairfax County, Virginia Department of Health oversees the planning and implementation of complex environmental epidemiologic surveillance and investigation of vector-borne diseases, zoonotic diseases, and toxic substance exposures. Apply by November 6. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).

Aerial Field Inspector, Lee County Mosquito Control

Lee County Mosquito Control is seeking applicants for an Aerial Field Inspector position. This position will perform and manage a variety of mosquito control activities in a variety of vehicles, including truck and helicopter. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).



Postdoctoral Research Position, Insecticide Resistance and Control of Disease Vectors, Cornell University and NEVBD

The Department of Entomology at Cornell University is seeking to fill a postdoctoral research associate position focused on pesticide resistance monitoring of mosquito and tick populations in the northeastern United States. The selected candidate will focus on determining the status and extent of resistance in the region through the Northeast Regional Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases pesticide resistance monitoring program. In addition, the successful candidate may be involved in the evaluation of new insecticides and efficacy trials for the control of regional disease vectors. To learn more, please visit our [website](#).

For more career opportunities, please visit our website: bit.ly/SECVBD JobBoard

To advertise VBD-related opportunities, please email us at flvbdcoe@gmail.com.

Want to join our mailing list? Subscribe here: bit.ly/SECVBD Newsletter Signup
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