



BORDER HEALTH NEWSLETTER - February 2013

WELCOME!

Hello everyone. I hope you're enjoying this extended summer, long may it continue I say (I know some areas are having a drought and we're borderline on one here too) but I'm loving it!! I've noticed the mosquitoes around here seem to be enjoying it too, taking advantage of all the water pooling in my pot plant saucers as it's too hot and dry not to water at least every second day.

INCURSIONS/INTERCEPTIONS

There were six interception callouts during February, our busiest month for a while now. The first three occurred within three days (one each) on the 5,6 & 7th February. The first was *Culex pervigilans* adults (8F, 1M) found at an Auckland devanning site and the next two were both a single adult female *Culex quinquefasciatus* found at Auckland International Airport arrivals hall and then at a different Auckland devanning site. The fourth callout was from a third devanning site where 21F, 4M *Cx. quinquefasciatus* and 1F *Aedes notoscriptus* were found. The last two callouts were on the 24 and 28 February and were both a single male *Cx. quinquefasciatus* collected from Auckland International Airport, first the MPI laboratory area and the second the baggage screening area.

DATABASE RECORDING

A note to remind everyone that ALL sampling including negative samples, must be entered onto the online database. This data is used by the MoH to report on IHR requirements. When entered, sampling effort should be recorded as follows:

- Light traps as trap nights
- Larval surveillance - set traps - Ovi or Tyre (placed specifically for the purpose and removable). When surveyed are fully emptied and are either positive or negative. Effort is recorded as trap nights.
- Larval surveillance - habitat - any body of water that is not a set trap. When surveyed

they are dipped and the body of water is likely only sampled rather than fully emptied. Effort is recorded as dips.

If a "Set Trap" is not checked weekly in summer (at least fortnightly in winter), or it cannot be fully emptied and cleaned each visit, then it is not a trap but a habitat (if placed by the surveyor it may be considered a sentinel habitat).

For reporting purposes if a trap or habitat has no trap nights or dips recorded in the database, the effort is defaulted to one. Therefore effort will be under reported and you will appear to have done less than you may have.

SAMPLES

During February, 881 samples were collected by staff from 12 District Health Boards, with 207 positive. Sampling numbers and number of positive samples were up on last month and on this time last year. The specimens received were:

Species	Adults	Larvae
NZ Mozzies		
<i>Aedes antipodeus</i>	5	0
<i>Ae. australis</i>	0	21
<i>Ae. notoscriptus</i>	1417	1879
<i>Coquillettidia iracunda</i>	87	0
<i>Culex pervigilans</i>	14	2314
<i>Cx. quinquefasciatus</i>	91	1134
<i>Opifex fuscus</i>	0	22
Exotics	0	0
TOTAL MOSQUITOES	1614	5370

TRAP MAINTENANCE

Please ensure your set traps are maintained regularly. They need to be sampled, emptied and cleaned out during each sampling visit. Large numbers of larvae, particularly of later instars in a set trap, may indicate that trap maintenance is not carried out regularly enough or the trap needs more thorough cleaning.



NEW ZEALAND BIOSECURE

Entomology Laboratory



MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES

DENGUE CASES CONFIRMED IN PORT DOUGLAS

Source: The Cairns Post 21 February 2013

http://www.cairns.com.au/article/2013/02/21/239560_local-news.html

TWO Port Douglas residents have been diagnosed with dengue fever as the outbreak continues to spread across the Far North.

Queensland Health confirmed the two cases today and said there were a further three residents who were also suspected of having contracted it.

One of the cases is confirmed as Type 1 dengue and is highly likely to be linked to the Cairns outbreak of Type 1 dengue which began in December 2012.

The two separate Cairns dengue fever outbreaks (Type 1 and Type 3) started in December 2012 and there have now been 64 reported cases.

Port Douglas has joined Cairns North, Whitfield, Parramatta Park, Edge Hill, Manoora, Manunda, Mt Sheridan and Woree as a high risk dengue outbreak area.



Culprit: North Queensland is on alert for the spread of *Aedes aegypti*, a species of mosquito that can spread dengue fever.

Picture: Brian Cassey

Source: The Courier-Mail

DENGUE/DHF UPDATE - ASIA (THAILAND)

Source: National News Bureau of Thailand (NNT) [edited] 11 Feb 2013 reported on ProMED Mail 26 Feb 2013

http://thainews.prd.go.th/centerweb/newsen/NewsDetail?NT01_NewsID=WNSOC5602110010010

Public Health Ministry permanent secretary Dr Narong Sahamethapat revealed that the number of people with dengue fever exceeded 5700 people during [1 Jan-5 Feb 2013].

According to Dr Narong, the number of patients with dengue fever has increased 5 times compared to that reported during the same period last year [2012]. He said the number could rise to around 100 000 - 120 000 people.

According to the Permanent Secretary, people who are at risk of contracting the fever include adults, overweight people, and teens. He cautioned that 90 percent of the patients have mild fever while red rashes on their bodies are not visible which, to the doctor's 1st diagnosis, might not appear to be the symptoms of dengue fever.

However, if the symptoms have gone undetected, the lives of those who have it could be at great risk. 4 patients have reportedly succumbed to the disease so far this year [2013]. To prevent more deaths, public health provincial offices have been instructed to kill mosquito larvae before the rainy season arrives.

Thai people are also encouraged to keep all containers closed to prevent mosquitoes from using them as their breeding ground. A war room has been set up to devise a strategy to reduce the number of deaths and contain the outbreak.



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Dengue - Portugal: (Madeira)

Source: The Global Dispatch [edited] 14 Feb 2013 reported on ProMED Mail 15 Feb 2013

<http://www.theglobaldispatch.com/madeira-dengue-outbreak-still-ongoing-28-cases-reported-in-2013-2013/>

Although by all measures the dengue fever outbreak on the Portuguese island of Madeira, which began in early October 2012, has decreased significantly, the outbreak is still ongoing after the 1st month of the new year [2013], according to a European Centre of Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) Epidemiological Update of 14 Feb 2013.

As of 3 Feb 2013, the Portuguese Ministry of Health has reported 2164 cases of dengue infection from the Autonomous Region of Madeira since 3 Oct 2012. No deaths or cases of severe dengue have been reported. All reported cases refer to the resident population of the island.

There have been 28 cases reported since the beginning of 2013.

According to ECDC numbers, 78 patients have been diagnosed in European countries with dengue infection after returning from Madeira: 11 in mainland Portugal, 23 in the UK, 19 in Germany, 3 in France, 5 in Sweden, 7 in Finland, 2 in Denmark, 2 in Austria, and 2 in

Norway. Croatia, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland have all reported one case each. The latest case was reported on 1 Feb 2013 from Finland.

Photo of the Month



The Mosquito Powered Harness for a foot launched powered hang glider designed and produced by Swedish inventor Johan Åhling, of Swedish AeroSport.

Photo and info ex

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Powered_hang_glider