

Mosquito BEACONS Meeting 4

Meeting Minutes for 28 February 2022



Call to Order

The annual year-end meeting of the Mosquito Beacons working group was called to order at 3:00 PM EST on February 28, 2022 in Jacksonville, FL at the 88th Annual Meeting of the American Mosquito Control Association.

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Bryan Giordano, Michael Riles, Brian Bryd, Daniel Killingsworth, Lindsay Campbell, Jessica Ber, Yasmin Tavares, Amely Bauer, Valerie Nguyen, Ryan Carney, Rebecca Heinig, Elmer Gray, Jay Kiser (virtual), Karen Akaratovic (virtual), Teahna Ratliff, Darrin Dunwald, Michael Turell, Cindy Mulla

Updates

Beacons 2021/2022

- Welcome by Bryan followed by introductions of members
- 2021/2022 Activities were summarized for the group
 - Priorities in Research and Extension

- Extension
 - Social media
 - Webinars
 - Invasive species symposia
- Research
 - Novel and improved surveillance methods
 - Interactions
 - Metagenomics
- o Surveillance Capacity Survey
 - Sent out to over 300 programs
 - Received 106 surveys with 90 completed responses total
 - Demonstrated stakeholder interest in invasive species
 - Data
 - Percentage of phone calls by invasive species, tropical arbovirus, and service requests
 - People want to know more about invasive species
 - Rank important invasive species
 - *Aedes albopictus*, *Ae. aegypti*, and *Culex coronator* are top priority species
 - Port Authority Mosquito Surveillance
 - Only one program reported sharing data with port authority that provides surveillance
- o BEACONS Workshop on invasive species bionomics and data management and visualization (hosted by Beach Mosquito Control District, Panama City Beach, FL Jan 2022)
 - 23 attendees total
 - AL MS LA GA SC
 - CEU Credits awarded
- BEACONS visibility and accessibility for the public
 - o Meeting minutes available on IFAS website
 - o Mosquito BEACONS data submission tab is live
 - Will flow into dashboard in the future
 - o Blogs by Brian on BEACONS IFAS website
 - o Twitter @mosquitobeacons
- BEACONS Awarded Friends of IPM Awards 2022: 2022 Pulling Together Award
 - o Will be presented at FMCA Annual Meeting Fall 2022
- Funding approved for 2022/2023!!!

- **Presentation *Culex nigripalpus* Range Expansion**
 - o Karen Akaratovic and Jay Kieser from Suffolk, VA Mosquito Control (pre-recorded)
 - Suffolk mosquito control – local city government program in VA.
 - *Cx. nigripalpus* is a competent vector species
 - Project origination: collected 4 adult females in October 2017
 - In 2005, the distribution was more south
 - NC and VA distribution
 - Widespread throughout NC and potentially moving northwards as temps continue to rise
- **South Walton County *Aedes aegypti* - Teahana Ratliff**
 - o Discovery
 - *Ae. aegypti* problems
 - Service request 7.30.2020, CDC trap caught 7.31.2020
 - One beat up sample, so they surveyed for larvae
 - o Surveillance
 - Container breeding surveillance
 - BG sentinel traps and larval sweeps caught
 - Moved out through radius
 - Following adulticide mission in Sept, *Ae. aegypti* found within 1000 ft radius, nothing within 2000 ft radius
 - o Limitation
 - Denied access to certain areas and needed to monitor those areas
 - o Subsequent group discussion:
 - How many containers did they sample? Missing denominator
 - RV campground likely point of introduction (equipment, plant pots, etc.)
 - Human activities and anthropogenic landscape change moving mosquitoes across the landscape are serious problems
 - Identification and surveillance of entry points?
 - Creation of new suitable habitats?
- **Group Discussion – upcoming year**
 - o Meeting/Workshop will be combined for 2023

- o location ideas
 - Mobile, AL
 - New Orleans
 - Generally need to keep transportation in mind when choosing locations
- o Ideas for workshop agenda/topics
 - Alabama requires pesticide topic to give CEU credits for training
 - Public health credits are in another category
 - Look at workshops offered by mosquito control districts offered in the participating states
 - Identify gaps
 - Try to avoid conflict of interest with other workshops/workshop organizers in the field
 - Initiate expansion of areas where they may offer?
 - Collaboration?
- o BEACONS proposed to be included within FMEL CDC Centers of Excellence
 - Increases funding options
- o TREAD program – Mosquito management program
 - Tire, removal, education, alteration, disposal
 - Public health nuisance for tires
 - Next step: get funding for pilot project in Florida, focused on the panhandle. Then expand project into southeastern region
- o UPCOMING: Federal Pesticide Coordinating Committee
 - BEACONS invited to present
 - focus on survey results – lack of surveillance and communication with port authorities
 - Contact People for input:
 - Amy Trim
 - Bobby Mollis
 - Ben Allen: try contact port authorities and find out what they think would need to be done to facilitate improvement.
 - Mosquito Control programs don't know how to contact the port authorities.
 - Mosquito surveillance is likely not a priority for port authorities



- Prepare guidelines for Mosquito Control Districts of what to expect when working on/around ports and with port authorities
- Identify and familiarize with local emergency management systems to use that into a way into (contact with) ports?

