

Pilot Assessment of Tires as Larval Habitat for Mosquitoes – Brent O’Dea (Fairfax County Health Dept)

- a) Reason for study
 - i) Limited tire studies in VA
 - ii) *Ae albopictus* a big nuisance in the area
 - iii) Previous sampling showed albopictus accounted for >50% of species found in tires
- b) Study
 - i) Tires tied upright and filled with 3 liters of water
 - ii) Added pin oak leaves
 - iii) Removed entire contents of tire each week
 - (1) Removed 3rd & 4th instars and pupae
 - (2) Everything else returned to tires
 - iv) Placed larvae and pupae into rearing chambers
- c) Results
 - i) Removed Tox larvae (n=118)
 - ii) Species found:
 - (1) *Oc triseriatus*
 - (2) *Oc japonicus*
 - (3) *Ae albopictus*
 - (4) *Cx pipiens*
 - (5) *Cx restuans*
 - iii) More *Oc japonicus* larvae found in tires than anything else
- d) Area adult trap counts showed more *Ae albopictus* than *Oc japonicus*
- e) Conclusions
 - i) Tires produce significant numbers of mosquitoes
 - ii) *Oc japonicus* appear to be under-represented in adult trap catches
- f) Plan to repeat and expand study in 2008
 - i) New sites
 - ii) Variety of containers