

Culex erraticus (Dyar and Knab)

OVERWINTERING STAGE: Adult female.

PHENOLOGY: Multivoltine

LARVAL HABITAT:

Larvae prefer ponds, wetlands and the edges of lakes and streams. They appear to have a particular affinity for pond habitats, especially those with a large number of root mats and partially submerged stumps.

HOST PREFERENCES:

Females exhibit opportunistic feeding preferences. Mammals appear to be slightly preferred over birds with occasional feeding on amphibians and reptiles.

VIRUS TESTING RESULTS:

| Virus | # specimens tested | # pools tested | # positive pools | MIR |
|-----------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|-----|
| WNV | 13,214 | 583 | 0 | 0 |
| EEE | 275 | 10 | 0 | 0 |
| La Crosse | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

COMMENTS:

Larvae have been infrequently collected in Pennsylvania, with ponds being the most productive habitat. Adults are moderately common in the southeastern counties, but are rarely collected in most other parts of the state. Roughly 63% of PA specimens were collected from Philadelphia and Bucks counties alone. Adult females were collected from overwintering sites in PA on several occasions, but not in great numbers. The opportunistic feeding behavior along with detection of positive EEE and WNV pools in North America make this species a concern as a potential bridge vector of those diseases.

Distribution

