

Ochlerotatus trivittatus (Coquillett)

OVERWINTERING STAGE: Egg.

PHENOLOGY: Multivoltine.

LARVAL HABITAT:

Larvae can be found in floodwater pools in woodlands, marshes, open pools and meadows. They prefer temporary water situations and large broods will emerge from flooded areas after summer rains.

HOST PREFERENCES:

Females prefer to bite in the evening, but will bite during the day when their habitat is disturbed. They are aggressive human biters and the bite is particularly painful. Their preferred hosts in urban areas are dogs, rabbits and cats; while in rural and suburban areas they prefer deer, horses and raccoons. However, they are opportunistic and will occasionally feed on birds, reptiles, and amphibians if these hosts are readily available.

VIRUS TESTING RESULTS:

Virus	# specimens tested	# pools tested	# positive pools	MIR
WNV	491,859*	9,747	27	0.06
EEE	1,953	53	0	0
La Crosse	22	5	0	0

* 92% were from host-seeking traps; 8% were from gravid traps.

COMMENTS:

Females are among the most aggressive and persistent human biters of any Pennsylvania mosquito species. They are typically the most abundant and significant pest species in the state following heavy rains that flood their larval habitats.

