



Alabama Vector Management Society

www.alabamavms.org

VOLUME 15, NO. 4

February 2006

Seventeenth Annual Meeting March 14-16, 2006

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the Alabama Vector Management Society will be held at the Bryant Conference Center, Tuscaloosa, Alabama.

A block of rooms has been reserved for AVMS members. The deadline for reserving these rooms has been extended until February 12, 2006 at the following hotels:

The Four Points by Sheraton Tuscaloosa Capstone, Tuscaloosa's

only full service hotel, is conveniently situated on the University of Alabama's beautiful campus and located adjacent to the Bryant Conference Center. For reservations at a reduced rate of \$91 per night, please call (888) 627-7070.

The Hampton Inn Tuscaloosa/University

At the Hampton Inns of Tuscaloosa, you will find clean, fresh and comfortable rooms just 3 miles from the Bryant Conference Center on Harper Lee Drive. For reservations at a reduced rate of \$80 per

night, please call 205-553-9880

Do not forget to tell them that you are with AVMS!

To register and become a member of AVMS, please fill out the form located on the back of our news letter or visit our website and click on membership.

www.alabamavms.org

We look forward to seeing you there!

Officer and Board Member Elections to be Held At Annual Meeting in Tuscaloosa

Please be aware that during the AVMS Annual Meeting, we will be electing the Officers and Board for the upcoming year. The President Elect and two Directors positions need to be filled. If you would like to serve, please contact Gary Mullen at 334-844-2554 or any of the current AVMS Directors. Nominations will be accepted from the floor during the business meeting as well. Remember, this is your society... Come and play an active part! The following nominations have been accepted thus far: Rachel Jennings - President Elect, Paula Pratt - Secretary Treasure, Matthew Smith - Director, Lynn Scott -Director

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Dates To Remember

- Feb. 26-Mar. 2, 2006 AMCA 72nd Annual Meeting Detroit Michigan
- February 12, Reserve room for the AVMS meeting in Tuscaloosa
- March 14-16, 2006 AVMS Annual Meeting Tuscaloosa, Alabama

**Board of Directors
2005-2006**

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CDC Reports West Nile Cases Up

West Nile virus cases in the U.S. rose more than 16 percent this year, with a marked increase, as feared, along the hurricane-ravaged Gulf Coast, the government reported Thursday.

Health officials had worried that standing water left by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita would allow mosquito populations to explode and the virus to proliferate.

The number of human cases in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama and Texas increased by about 24 percent from 2004, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

However, health officials were most concerned about West Nile cases that resulted in serious neurological diseases like encephalitis and meningitis. And the number of those along the Gulf Coast rose only 17 percent, compared with 27 percent nationally.

A large-scale evacuation, aggressive **pesticide** spraying and other post-hurricane efforts may have played a role, said Lora Davis, a CDC epidemiologist.

West Nile virus is most commonly spread to humans by mosquitoes. It was first re-

ported in the United States in New York in 1999 and has spread steadily westward since then.

Most infected people never get sick, but about 20 percent suffer flu-like symptoms. Fewer than 1 percent become severely ill, some with potentially fatal inflammation of the brain or spinal cord.

A total of 2,744 cases in humans were reported from Jan. 1 to Dec. 1, up from 2,359 reported in the same period of 2004, according to the CDC.

The worst year for **West Nile virus** was 2003, with 9,862 reported U.S. cases and 264 deaths.

So far this year, 1,365 people have been hospitalized with meningitis, encephalitis, fever or other West Nile-caused illnesses. There have been 98 deaths. Most of the cases occurred in the summer, when mosquitoes are most active.

For the same period last year, 1,027 were hospitalized and 83 died.

In the four Gulf Coast states, the total number of cases went from 287 in the first 11 months of 2004 to 376 during the same period this year. Those numbers include neurological cases, which went from 212 to 256.



CODE OF ETHICS FOR MEMBERS OF THE ALABAMA VECTOR MANAGEMENT SOCIETY



Preamble: The purpose of the Alabama Vector Management Society is to promote the management of public health pests and arthropod vectors of disease, provide for the educational and scientific advancement of members, encourage scientific research in vector management and public health pests, promote an exchange of information among members, and to extend and develop public awareness and interest in the discipline.

Public health pest and vector management provides services that are extremely important to the health, welfare and progress of society. Those employed in the public health pest and vector management profession have the responsibility to render effective and professional service to humanity, in keeping with high standards of ethical conduct. Therefore, in striving to advance and maintain the honor and dignity of the profession, the Alabama

Vector Management Society (AVMS) has established the following code to define the conduct and ethics due the profession. This code is binding on the membership of the AVMS.

- AVMS members will use their knowledge and skill for the betterment of human welfare.
- Members will, at all times, strive to maintain the public trust, and advance the standards and principles established by the AVMS.
- Members will cooperate in the exchange of information and technology for the growth and progress of the public health and vector management profession and the AVMS.
- Members will not cause dishonor to the Society through their actions while representing the AVMS.
- Members will comply with all laws and regulations that apply to our science and profession.
- Members will promote solidarity, harmony and support among members and fellow workers. They will not undermine, vilify, berate or otherwise intentionally injure the work, accomplishments, efforts or professional reputation of another.
- Members will not conduct or in any way participate in a fallacious review of the work of a fellow worker or other member.

Send us your interesting articles, comments or suggestions to:

Jeff Beck –Editor AVMS
 P.O. Box 2974
 Gulf Shores, Alabama 36547
admin@alabamavms.org

We are in the process of making the Newsletter available electronically and hope to speed delivery of the Newsletter and eventually reduce printing and mailing costs. Please let us know if you would like to receive the electronic version or not by sending us your e-mail. admin@alabamavms.org

The AVMS is grateful to have the support and sponsorship from industries. Below is a list of sustaining members.

Adapco Inc. 1-888-400-9085	Bell Laboratories 608-241-0202
Bradshaw Consulting 803-641-0960	Forshaw Distribution 256-453-2250
Clarke Mosquito Control Products 770-716-6540	Univar 1-800-888-4897
Valent Biosciences 813-805-2321	Wellmark International 256-536-3134

ALABAMA VECTOR MANAGEMENT SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING REGISTRATION FORM

NAME: _____

AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

E-MAIL _____

Mail to: Paula Pratt
Montgomery CHD
3060 Mobile Highway
Montgomery, AL 36108

- PRE- REGISTRATION (BEFORE MARCH 1 1006) \$60.00
 REGISTRATION (AFTER MARCH 1, 1006 OR ON SITE) \$75.00
 STUDENT REGISTRATION \$25.00
AMOUNT ENCLOSED _____

For Vender Information Contact:

Drew Lockhart...Vender Liaison 4904
Preakness Circle
Brownsboro, Ala. 35741
256-536-3134
drew.lockhart@wellmarkint.com

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:

Alabama Vector Management Society

I UNDERSTAND THAT, AS A MEMBER OF THE AVMS, I AM EXPECTED TO ADHERE TO THE AVMS CODE OF ETHICS.

*Registration/Membership dues are for AVMS membership year 2006.ALABAMA VECTOR MANAGEMENT SOCIETY



Alabama Vector Management Society

C/o Jeff Beck, Editor

P.O. Box 2974

Gulf Shores, AL 36547