

***Culex pipiens/restuans* Oviposition Study: Determining Nocturnal Flight Activity
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- a) Paper from Massachusetts - optimum flight activity 2 hours after sunset
- b) Needed to repeat study for PA
- c) 2007 study
 - i) Design
 - (1) Establish trapping sites
 - (2) Gravid traps
 - (3) Total mosquitoes, not species
 - (4) Record temp and wind speed
 - (5) Collected between June and September
 - (6) Collect once an hour
 - ii) Results
 - (1) Peak activity soon after sunset
 - (2) Morning peak also occurred
 - (3) Main activity at around 9 PM with a second smaller peak at 6 AM
 - (4) More data needed
- d) 2008 study
 - i) Some variability - a few sites had pre-sunset peak
 - ii) Most activity between 8 and 11 PM
- e) 2009 study
 - i) Questions
 - (1) How small is the window?
 - (2) Is collecting causing a disturbance?
 - (3) Did setting the trap draw in mosquitoes?
 - (4) Could the starting time and study length be changed?
 - ii) Protocol
 - (1) Set trap before sunset
 - (2) Start collecting one hour before sunset
 - (3) Collect every 15 minutes
 - (4) Collect for 3 hours after sunset
 - (5) Change entire trap at each collection
 - (6) Establish trap sites where high numbers of *Culex* spp were found
 - (7) Collect between July 27th and Aug 24th
 - (8) Broaden study area
 - iii) Results
 - (1) Everything except one *Oc triseriatus* were collected just after sunset or later
 - (2) Most collected within one hour after sunset
 - (3) 10 species caught
 - (4) 98% were *Culex* spp
 - iv) Conclusions
 - (1) Activity limited at 2 hours after sunset
 - (2) Sunset correlates strongly with flight/oviposition activity
 - (3) *Cx pipiens* were collected earlier than *Cx restuans*
 - (4) Bottom line

- (a) Start treating at sunset
 - (b) Treat a shorter time period of time
- f) Questions for the future
 - i) What happens as the days get cooler?
 - ii) What is going on with *Cx pipiens* and *Cx restuans*?