



NEW JERSEY STATE MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION



A STATE MOSQUITO SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM FOR NEW JERSEY

FINAL WEEKLY REPORT FOR 2003 – SPECIES SUMMARIES

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**new jersey
agricultural experiment station**

at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

NEW JERSEY STATE SURVEILLANCE

Final Weekly Report for 2003

Including data for Week 44, ending 31 October.

Submitted by Lisa Reed and Wayne Crans

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Purpose: Data from 84 New Jersey light traps contributed by county mosquito control agencies are used to calculate trends in mosquito populations for species of nuisance or health concerns.

Calculations are based on regional distributions, with emphasis on mosquito habitat and land use. Trends will allow a statewide evaluation of changing mosquito populations, in response to control and/or changes in habitat.

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Figure 1a: Map of ten regions selected for the New Jersey Surveillance Program overlaid with county boarders.

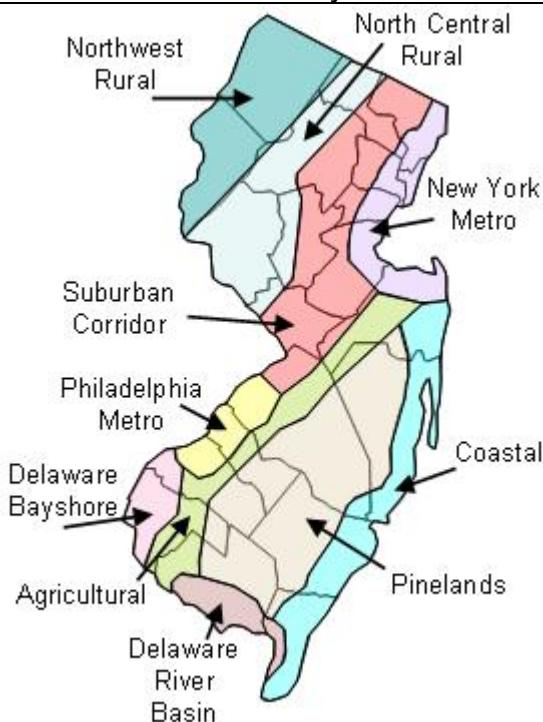
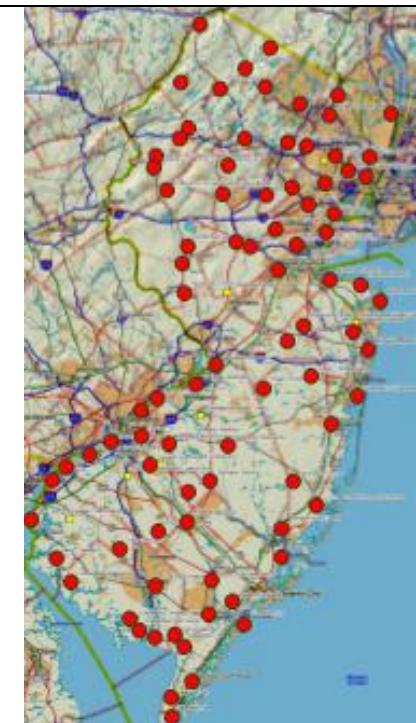


Figure 1b. Trap lat-long locations.



Summary table

		<i>Aedes vexans</i>		<i>Culex complex</i>		<i>Coquillettidia perturbans</i>		<i>Ochlerotatus sollicitans</i>	
Region	This Week	Average*	This Week	Average*	This Week	Average*	This Week	Average*	
Agricultural	0.24	0.36	0.33	1.34	0.00		0.00	0.04	
Coastal	1.86	0.05	1.05	0.85	0.00		0.05	0.05	
Delaware Bayshore	0.00		1.19		0.00		0.02		
Delaware River Basin	0.14	0.55	0.43	2.41	0.00		0.00	0.09	
New York Metro	0.00	0.02	0.46	0.94	0.00		0.00	0.00	
North Central Rural	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		
Northwest Rural	0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		
Philadelphia Metro	0.37		0.31		0.00		0.00		
Pinelands	0.43	0.00	0.38	0.10	0.00		0.00		
Suburban Corridor	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.10	0.00		0.00		

- Complete data not yet available.

Please Note: Historical data is being entered and not yet complete. These values and graphics will change as more data is entered.

The State Surveillance Program Overview

This program relies on the cooperation and effort of county mosquito control agencies. These agencies use New Jersey light traps to monitor certain nuisance and health-risk mosquito species. Agencies have many years worth of experience in the placement, use, and interpretation of light traps and their data as monitoring mosquito populations is an essential part of an integrated pest management approach. But county agencies are limited to county data, and a landscape-wide view of changing mosquito trends is not available. The purpose of this program is to cover that gap and provide information of nuisance and health-risk mosquito populations on a regional level.

Although 83 traps are involved in the state surveillance system, one trap did not go into effect the entire year. We expect this trap will go online next year and will participate. Most agencies provided data in a timely manner. However, we found that most agencies were at times pressed to get the data to Headlee Labs. Therefore, interpretation of the data is more robust at the previous weeks' report than during the current week. This is not a consideration if people are aware that care must be taken with the interpretation of the most current week's data.

This year's data showed that 41 species of mosquitoes were caught in the light traps throughout New Jersey. As represented by more than 316,000 mosquitoes. Ranges in the number of mosquitoes trapped per region vary from as few as 19 in the Northwest Rural to as high as 36 in the Suburban region. This likely represents the variability in the habitats (less in the Northwest regions, more in the Suburban region) as well as the number of traps in the region.

Region	Number of Traps	Number of Species
Agricultural	6	31
Coastal	9	33
Delaware Bayshore	6	21
Delaware River Basin	4	22
New York Metro	10	26
North Central Rural	8	22
Northwestern Rural	6	19
Philadelphia Metro	6	24
Pinelands	11	31
Suburban	17	36
Total	83	41

Historical data was entered for 6 counties, as represented, when available, by solid red lines.

Mosquito Species Collected during the 2003 Season

The mosquitoes collected in county operated light traps belong to a series of very different life cycle types: Early Season Species, Fresh Floodwater Species, Salt Marsh Floodwater Species, Multivoltine Culex Species, Multivoltine Anopheles Species, Container Breeding Aedines and a Miscellaneous Group. Each of these mosquito life cycle types has a seasonal distribution that reflects a biological strategy.

Early Season Species: Members that belong to this group overwinter as eggs and have a single generation in early spring. The eggs hatch when water temperatures are still quite cold and the adults are usually on the wing during the month of May. In most species, the eggs laid in May and June enter diapause and do not hatch until they are flooded the following year. Some of the members in this group have a generation that reappears in the fall. Most biologists feel

that these are eggs that did not hatch during the spring flooding and were left behind as survival insurance. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: *Oc. stimulans*, *Oc. canadensis*, *Oc. sticticus* & *Oc. cinereus*.

Fresh Floodwater Species: Members of this group also overwinter as eggs but do not hatch until later in the season when water temperatures rise to ideal levels. These mosquitoes have multiple generations during the summer months that are regulated by flooding patterns. Each period of excessive rainfall produces a major brood. Minor floodings can generate overlapping broods that are usually localized. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: *Ae. vexans*, *Oc. trivittatus*, *Ps. ferox*, *Ps. columbiae*, *Ps. ciliata*

Salt Marsh Floodwater Species: Members that belong to this group overwinter as eggs but lay them on tidal marshes where lunar tides provide a method to inundate the eggs. There are multiple generations during the summer months with as many as 2 broods each month from May to October. Rainfall can produce egg hatch which complicates the picture. As a result, the distinct broods seen in fresh floodwater areas become muddled and biting populations can include mosquitoes of mixed age. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: *Oc. sollicitans* & *Oc. cantator*.

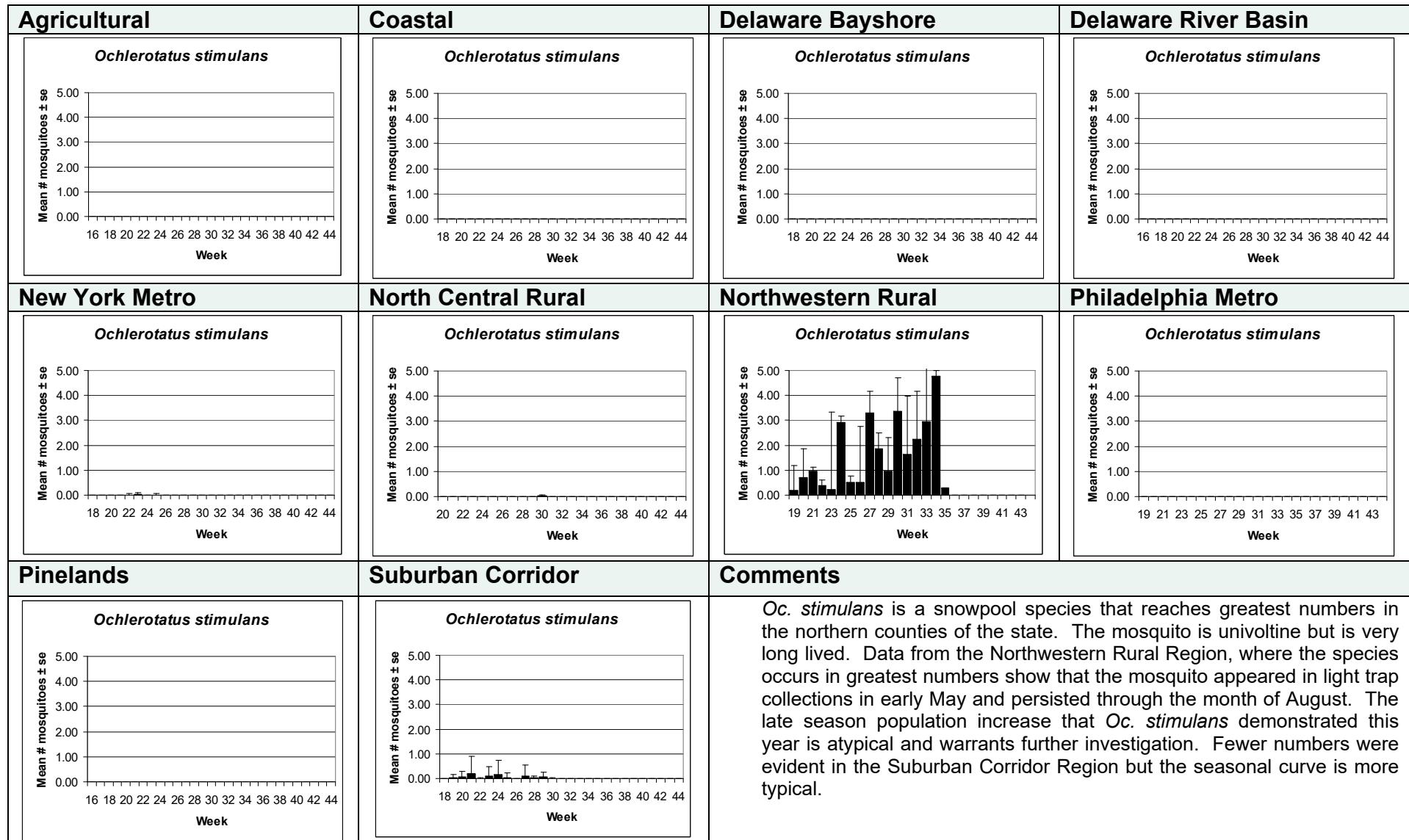
Multivoltine Culex Species: Members that belong to this group overwinter as mated females so the season distribution is very different from any of those listed above. Populations in early spring are represented by mosquitoes that survived the winter and the numbers are at relatively low levels. These mosquitoes cannot become active until night time temperatures enter the 60's, thus host seeking and oviposition is delayed until late May or June. The first generation of larvae take time to develop and populations do not build until mid-summer at the earliest. As soon as night time temperatures begin to cool down, the mosquitoes mate, seek winter hibernaculae, enter diapause and hibernate. Only the females survive in this group. Males will not appear until the eggs hatch very late the following spring. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: The *Culex* Complex, *Cx. territans* & *Cx. erraticus*.

Multivoltine Anopheles Species: Members that belong to this group have a life cycle strategy that is very similar to the Multivoltine *Culex*. They overwinter as mated females and build their populations over the course of the summer. They are included as a separate group because they represent an entire genus. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: *An. quadrimaculatus*, *An. punctipennis* & *An. bradleyi*.

Container Breeding Aedines: These mosquitoes glue their eggs to the sides of containers above the water line and rely on rains to raise the water level and hatch the eggs. Like other Aedines, they overwinter as eggs and reappear each Spring when water temperatures begin to rise. Most members of the group are active during the day and are enter light traps in very low numbers. Mosquito species collected in light traps that belong to this group include: *Oc. triseriatus* & *Oc. japonicus*.

Miscellaneous Group: The members in this group have little in common because each utilizes a unique life cycle strategy. The mosquito species collected in light traps that we have included in the group include: *Cq. perturbans*, *Cs. melanura* & *Ur. sapphirina*

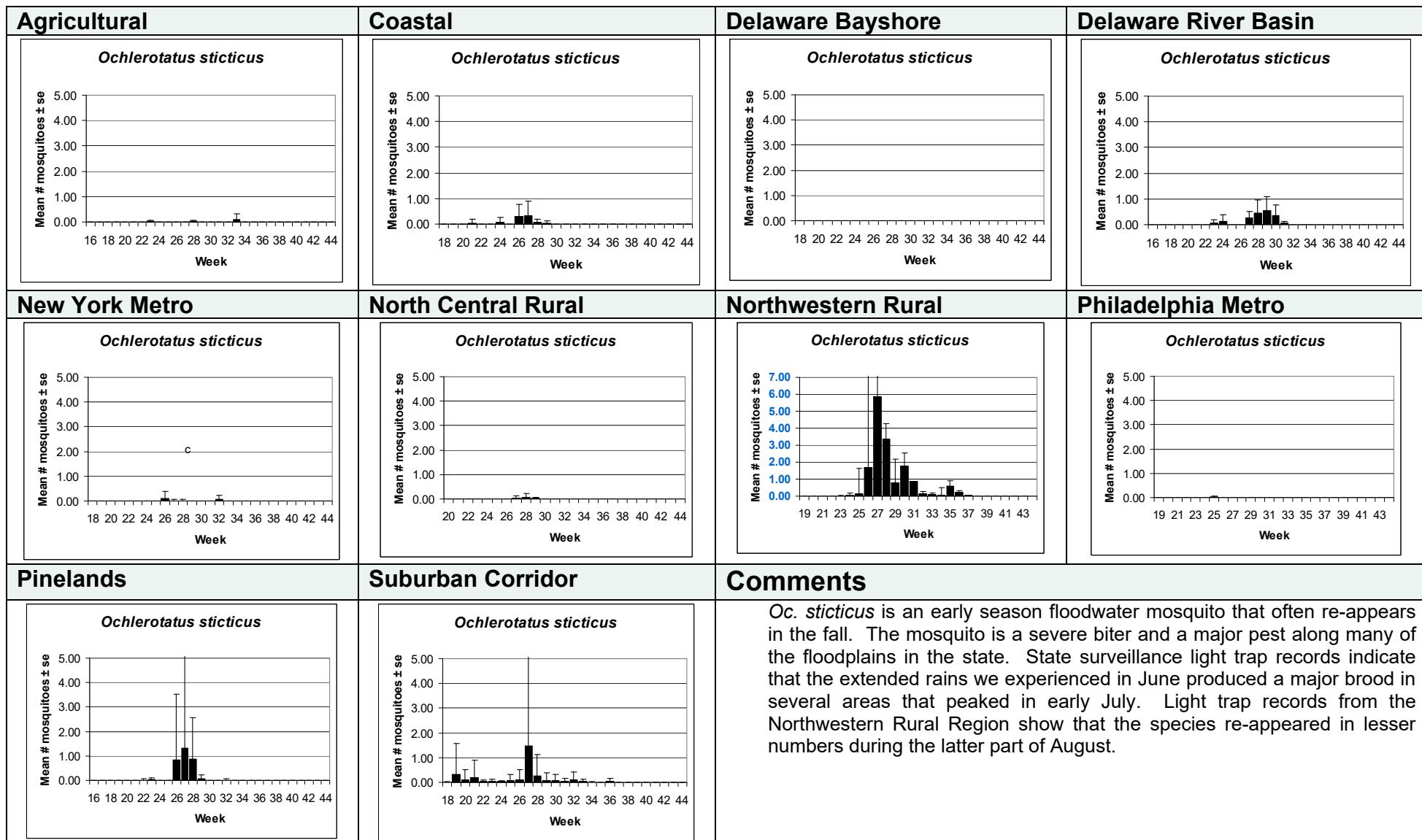
Ochlerotatus stimulans - Early Season Species



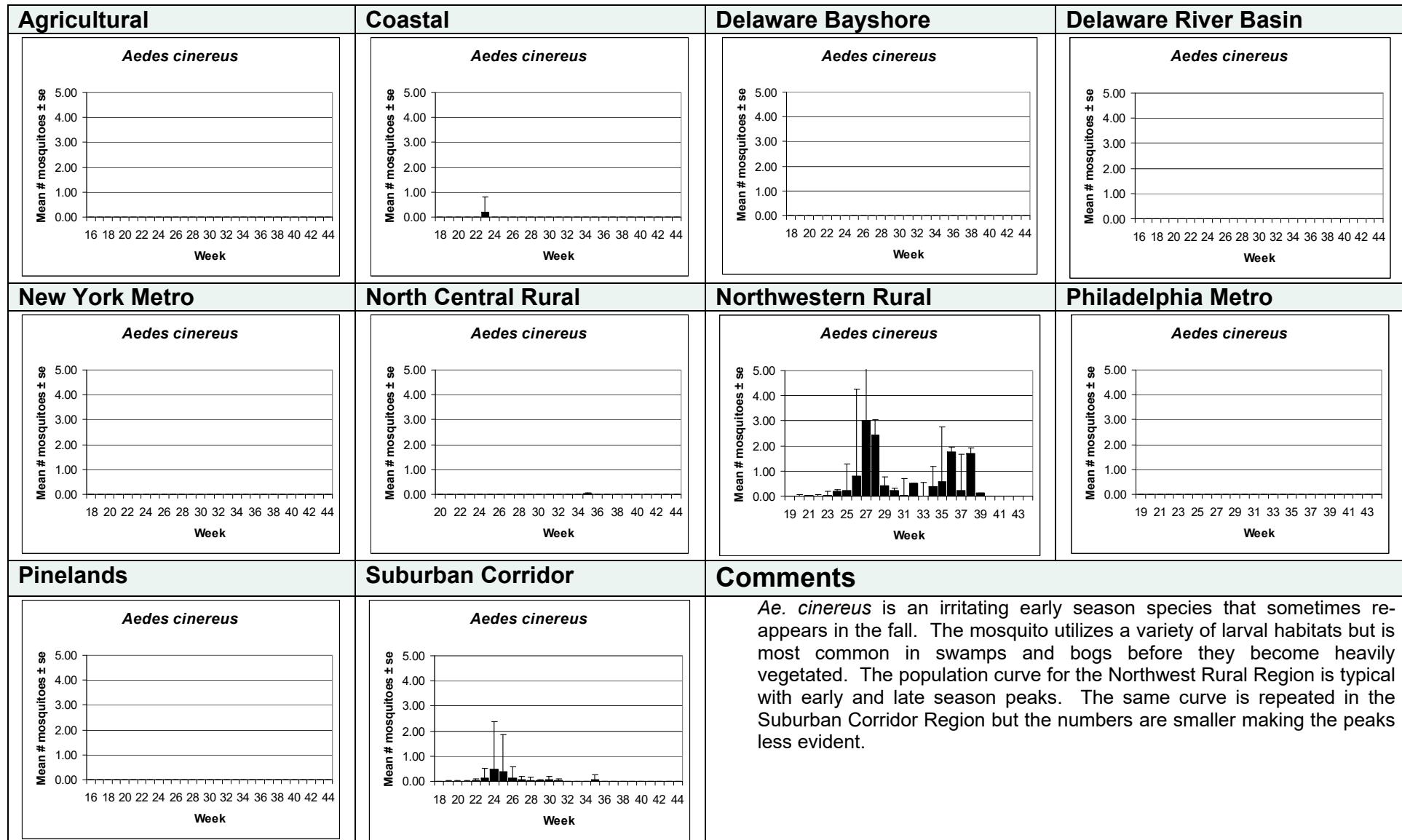
Ochlerotatus canadensis - Early Season Species

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Ochlerotatus canadensis</i></p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus canadensis</i></p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus canadensis</i></p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus canadensis</i></p>
<p>New York Metro</p>	<p>North Central Rural</p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p>
<p>Pinelands</p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Oc. canadensis</i> is New Jersey's most common univoltine mosquito. The species has an extended generation in early spring and occasionally reappears late in the season. The late season appearance of this species probably comes from eggs that failed to hatch in the Spring. The mosquito is not attracted to light, thus, light trap collections are not a good indicator of actual numbers. This year's State Surveillance data show that nuisance levels were present from mid-May through early July with highest populations in the Pine Barrens Region. The species did re-appear in low numbers during August and September but this year's fall populations appear to be quite low.</p>	

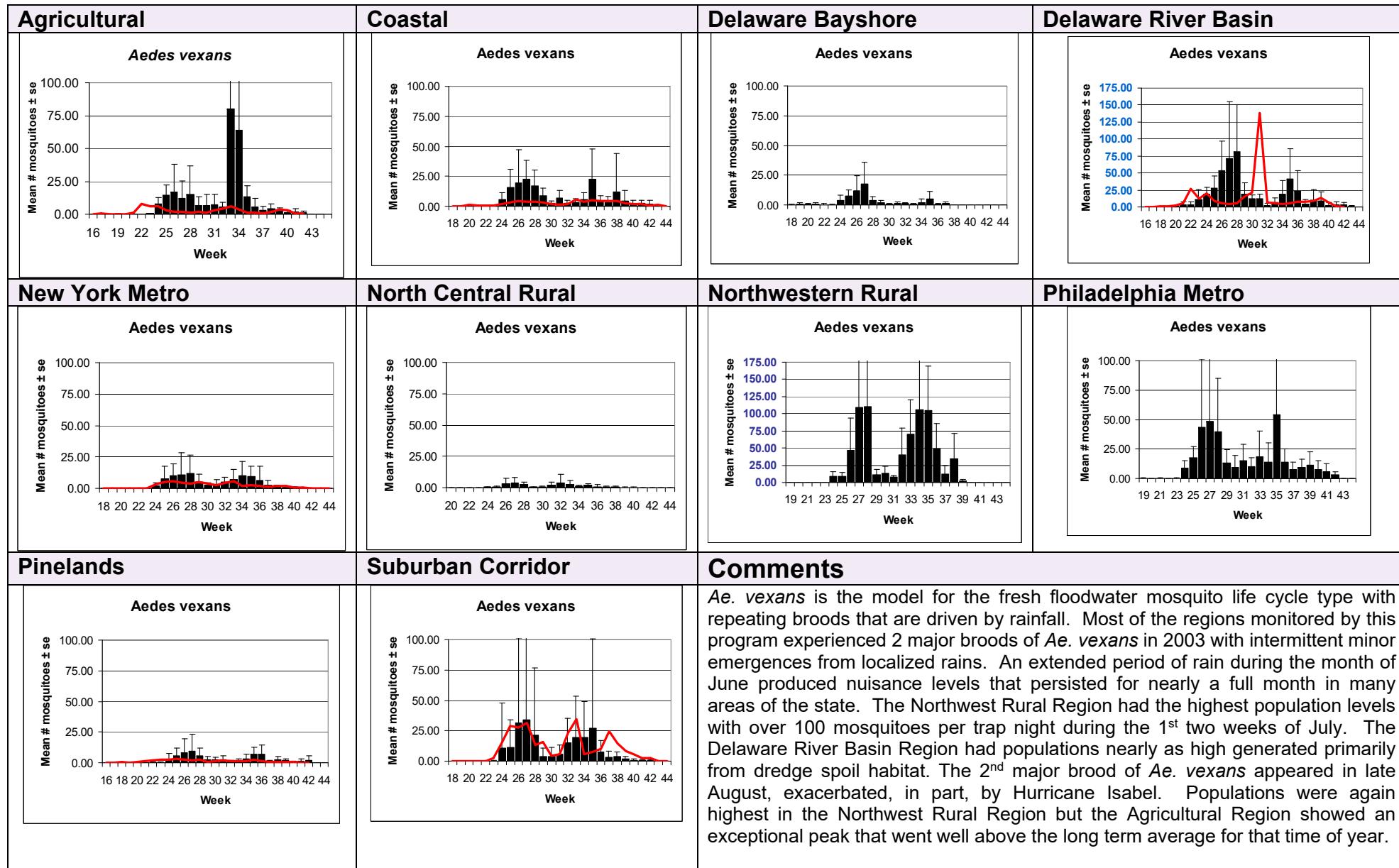
Ochlerotatus sticticus - Early Season Species



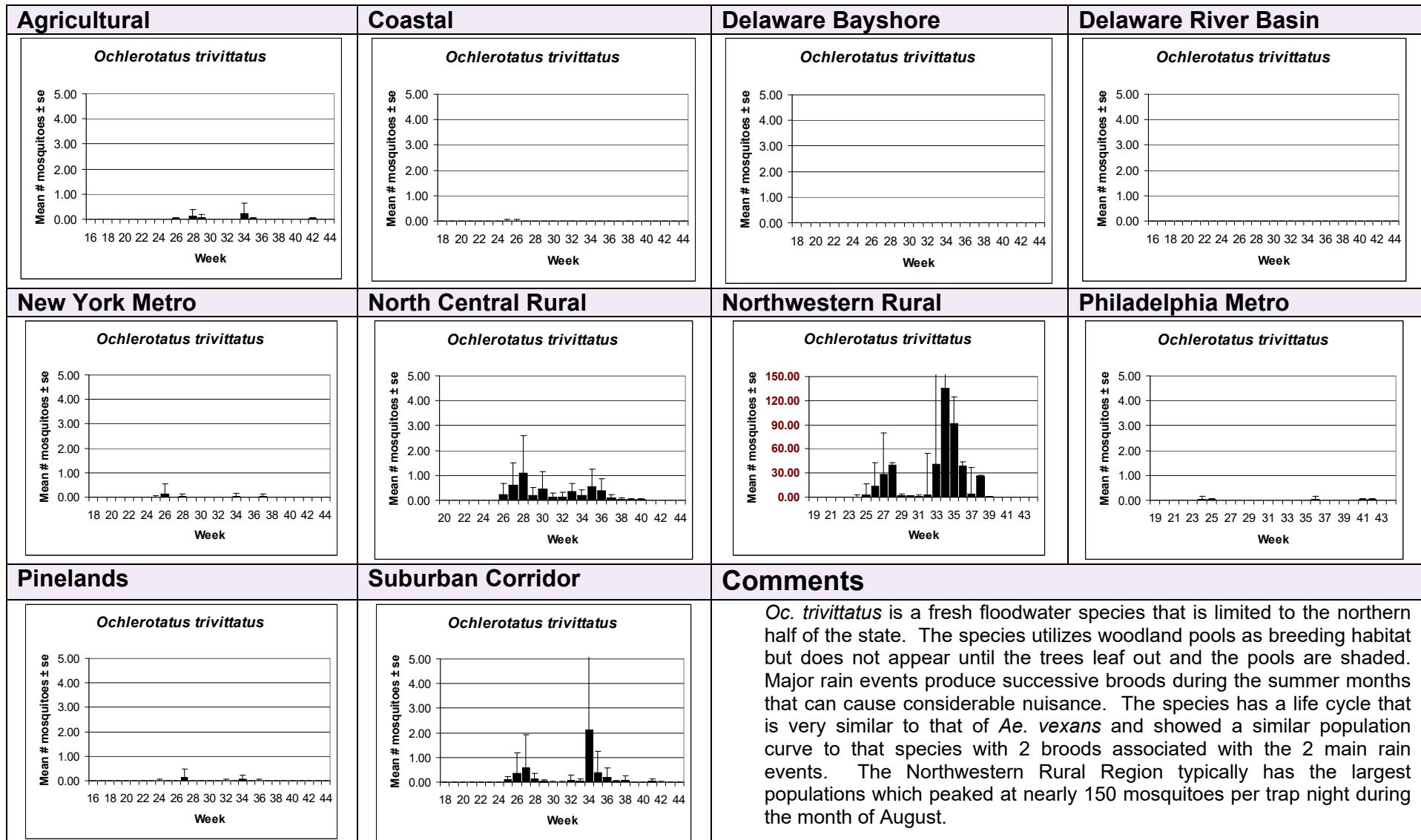
Aedes cinereus - Early Season Species



Aedes vexans - Fresh Floodwater Species



Ochlerotatus trivittatus - Fresh Floodwater Species



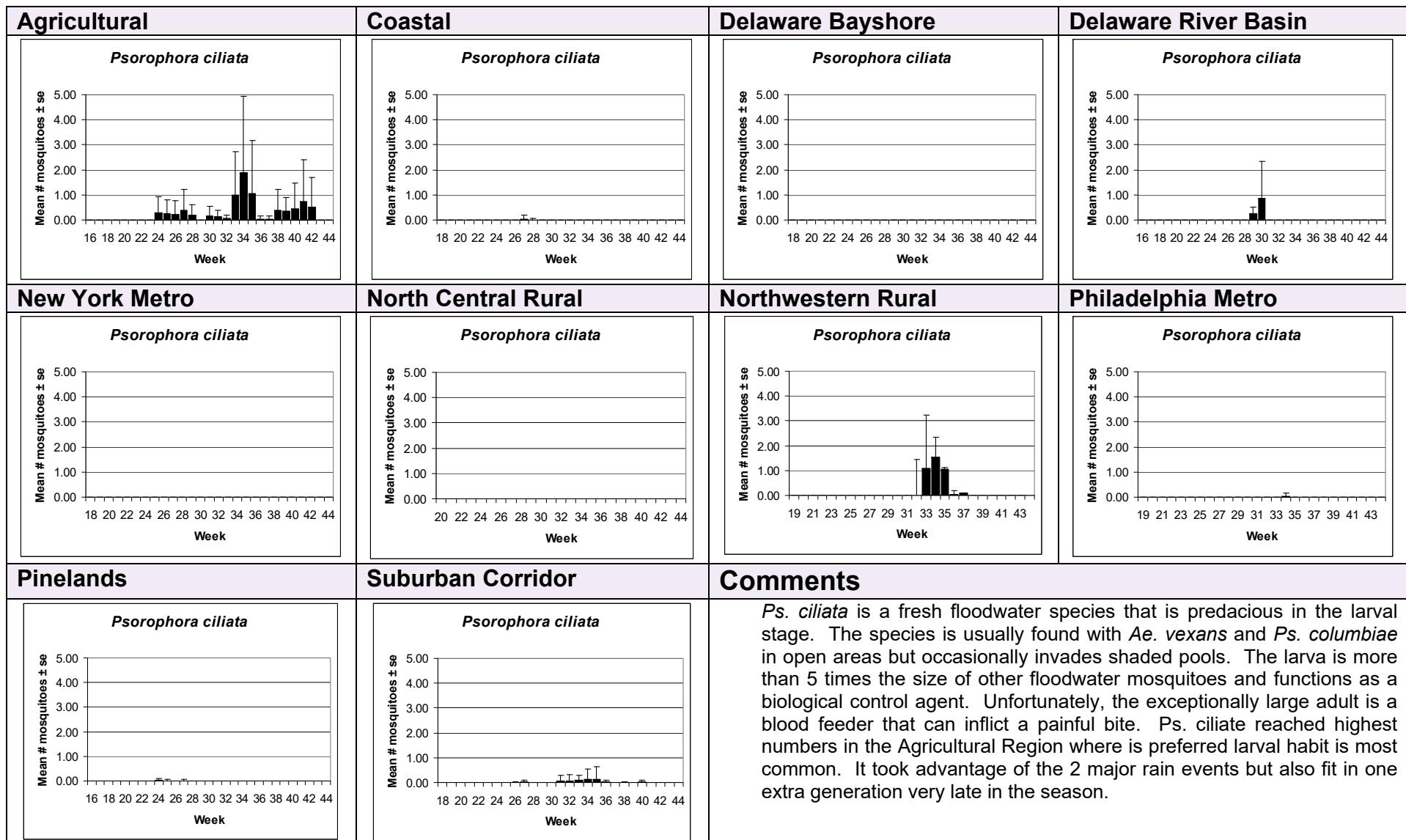
Psorophora ferox - Fresh Floodwater Species

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<i>Psorophora ferox</i> 	<i>Psorophora ferox</i> 	<i>Psorophora ferox</i> 	<i>Psorophora ferox</i>
New York Metro 	North Central Rural 	Northwestern Rural 	Philadelphia Metro
Pinelands 	Suburban Corridor 	Comments <p><i>Ps. ferox</i> is a fresh floodwater species that prefers shaded woodland pools and, therefore, often shares habitat with <i>Oc. trivittatus</i>. The species was not abundant in 2003 but appeared in low numbers in several regions after this year's major rain events. The Northwest Rural Region had the highest numbers but the species has a statewide distribution. Combining <i>Oc. trivittatus</i> with <i>Ps. ferox</i> causes nuisance levels that demand control.</p>	

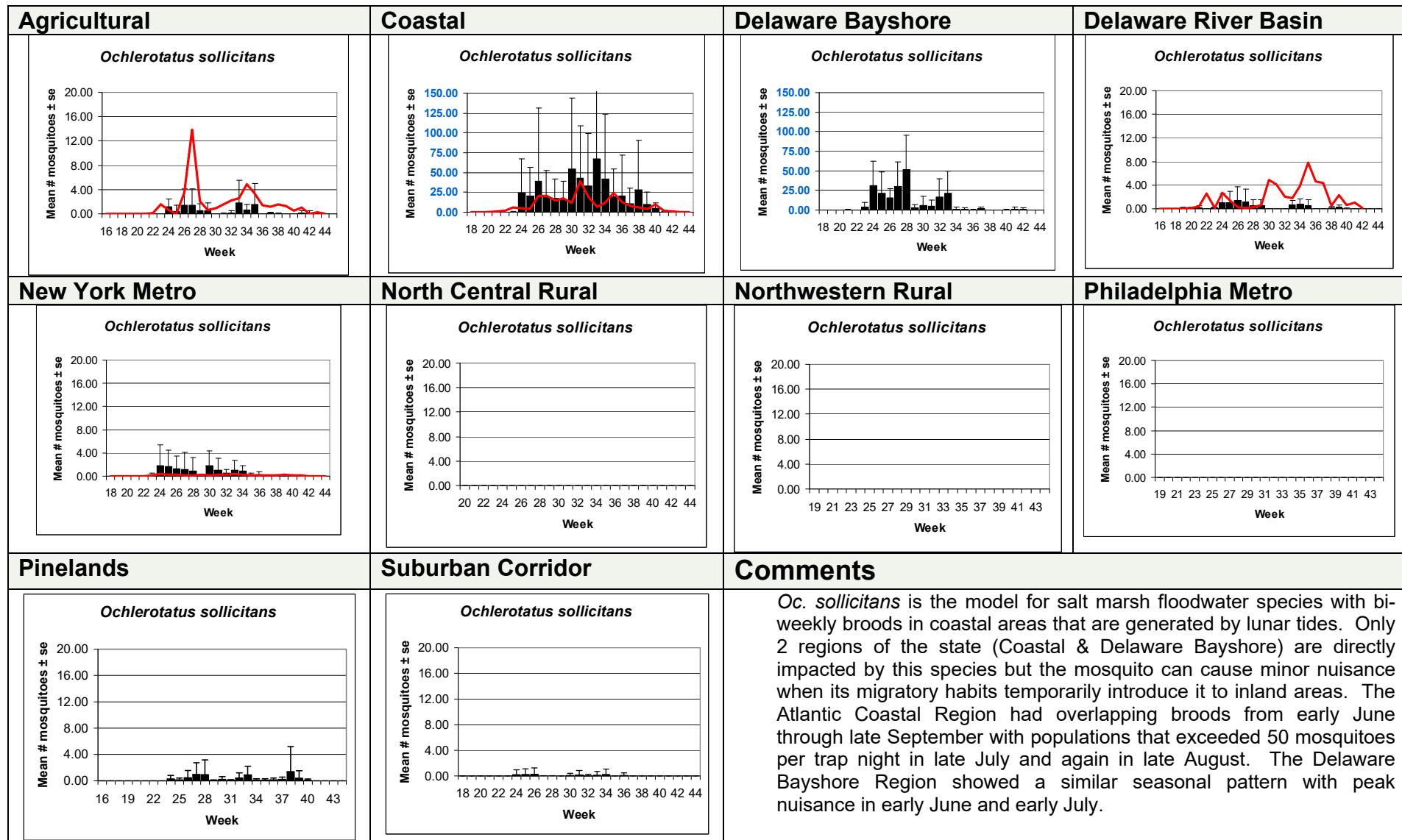
Psorophora columbiae – Fresh Floodwater Species

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>
<p>New York Metro</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p>North Central Rural</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>
<p>Pinelands</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p> <p><i>Psorophora columbiae</i></p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Ps. columbiae</i> is a fresh floodwater species that does not normally hatch in numbers until ambient temperatures reach 80° F. The species utilizes a variety of floodwater habitats in open areas exposed to the sun and is often found with <i>Ae. vexans</i>. <i>Ps. columbiae</i> took advantage of the same rain events as other floodwater species but showed a somewhat different population curve. Egg hatch was minimal during the early season because ambient temperatures were probably less than ideal. The second brood was considerably larger, particularly in the Agricultural Region where open pools exposed to direct sun are most common.</p>	

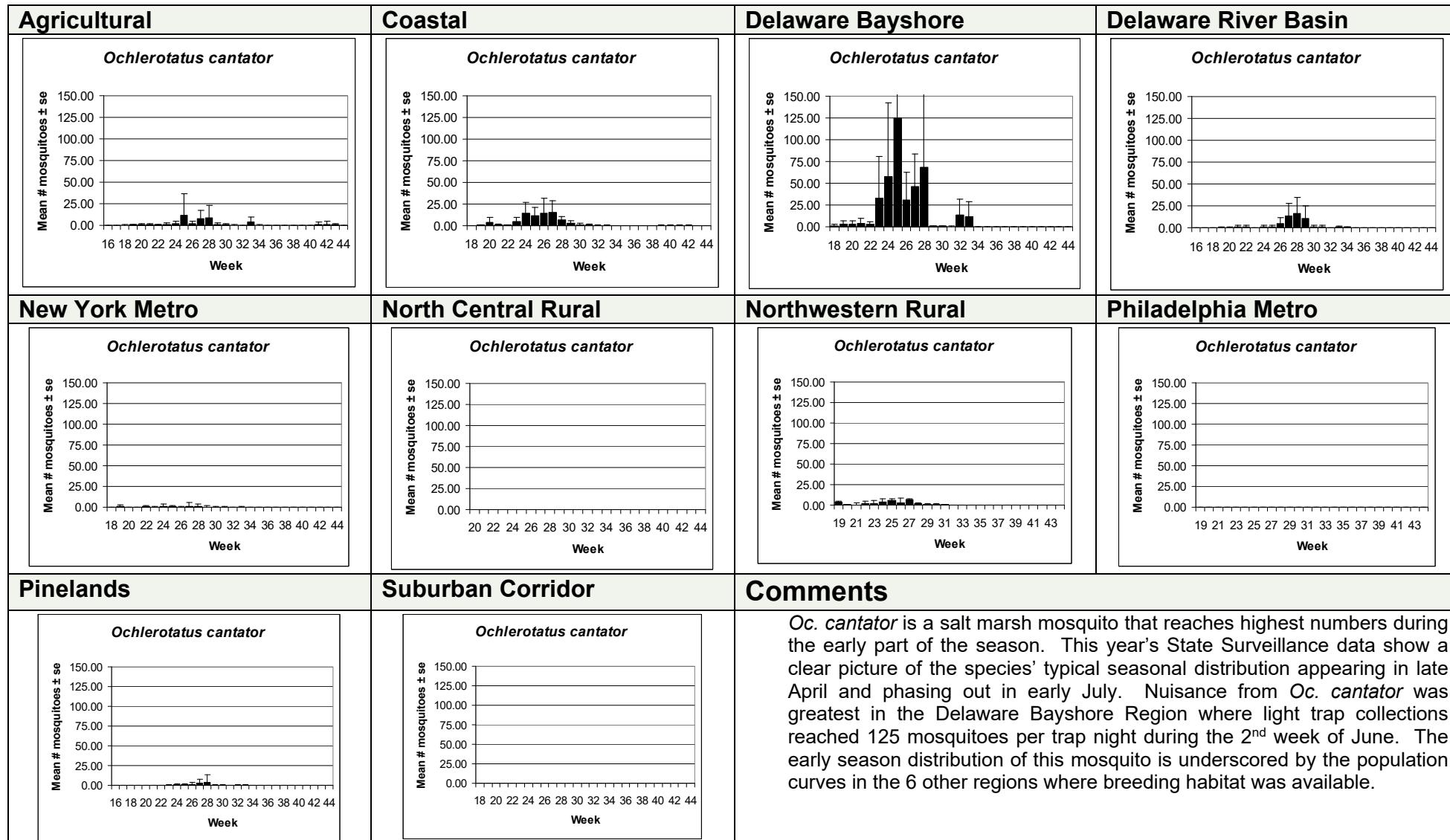
Psorophora ciliata - Fresh Floodwater Species



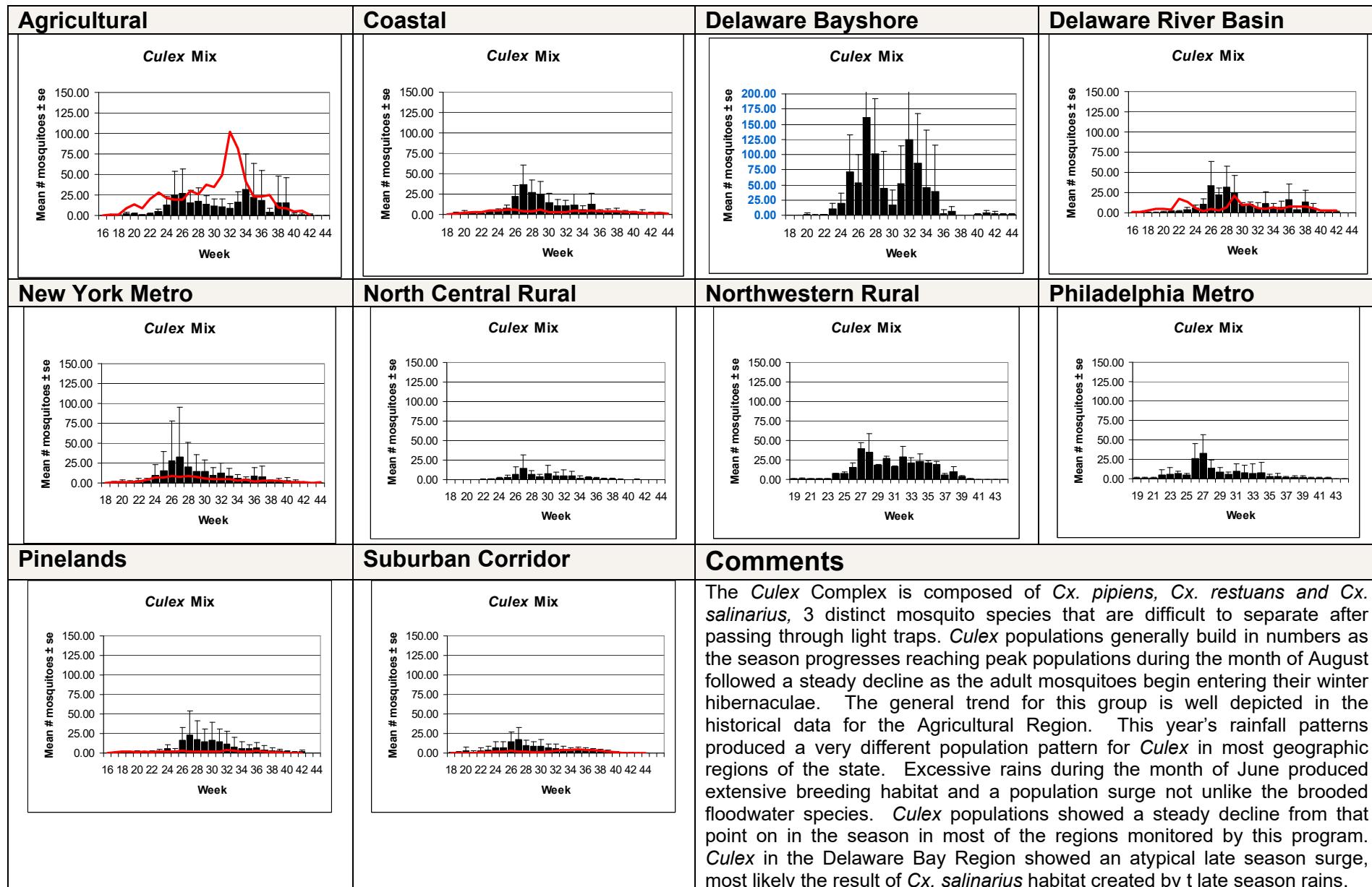
Ochlerotatus sollicitans - Salt Marsh Floodwater Species



Ochlerotatus cantator - Salt Marsh Floodwater Species



Culex Complex - Multivoltine Culex Species



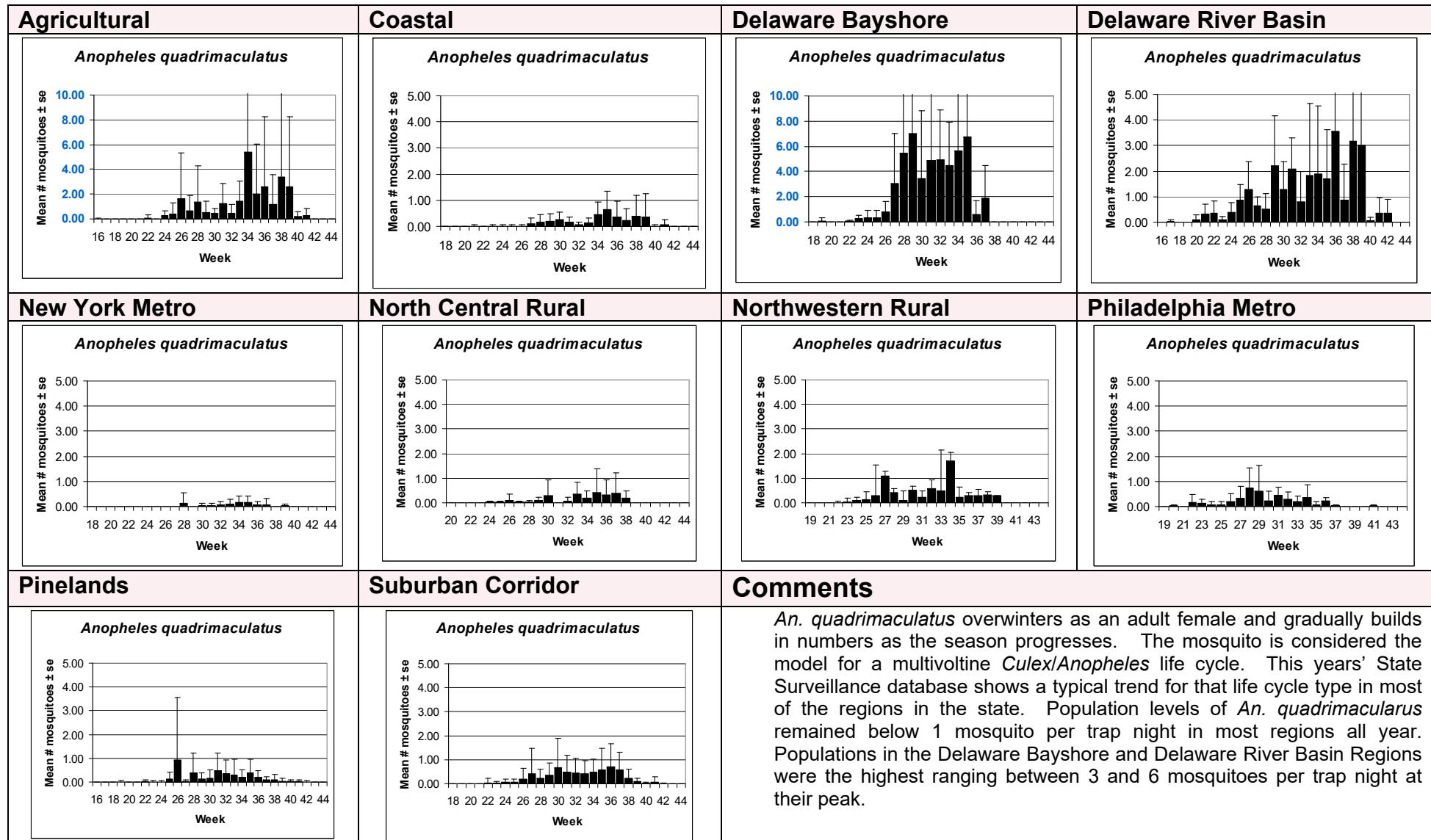
Culex territans - Multivoltine Culex Species

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p><i>Culex territans</i></p>
<p>New York Metro</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p>North Central Rural</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>
<p>Pinelands</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p> <p><i>Culex territans</i></p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Cx. territans</i> is a frog feeding species that is recognized primarily as a scientific curiosity. The unique banding patterns found on this mosquito allow it to be reliably separated from other members of the <i>Culex</i> complex. The mosquito appears earlier in the season than any other mosquito that overwinters as an adult. The species remains on the wing well into the Fall and larvae can be collected well into the month of October. State light trap records give a good depiction of the seasonal distribution with collections that begin in May and extend through the month of October. Populations were highest in the Pine Barrens Region where both breeding habitat and pond dwelling frog populations are readily available.</p>	

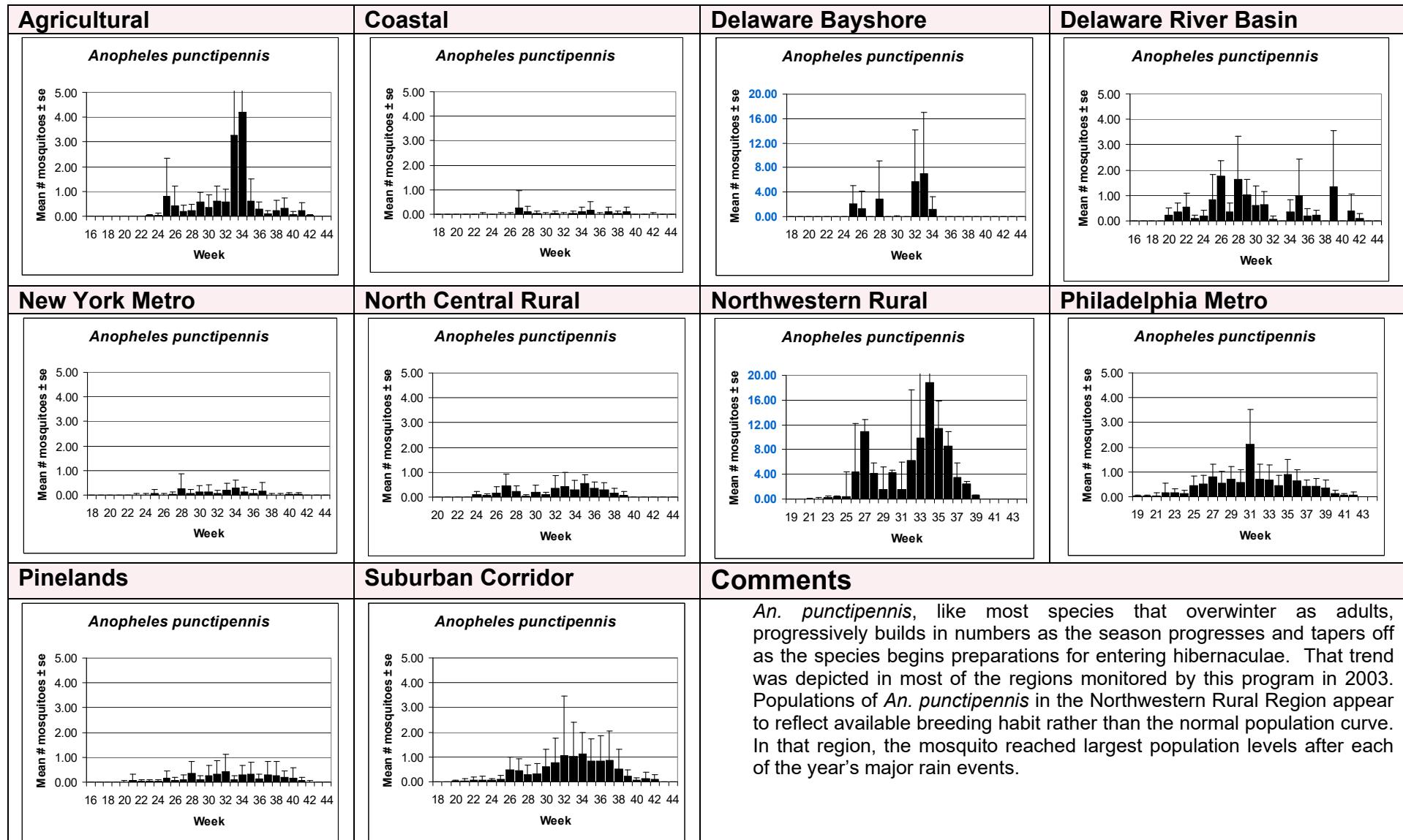
Culex erraticus - Multivoltine Culex Species

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>
<p>New York Metro</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p>North Central Rural</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>
<p>Pinelands</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p> <p><i>Culex erraticus</i></p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Cx. erraticus</i> is a mosquito species that is regarded as rare. The adult was collected in New Jersey 1970 and the larvae were not located until 1988. The mosquito sometimes appears in resting box collections but not until very late in the season and from relatively few areas in the state. Like <i>Cx. territans</i>, this mosquito has diagnostic characters that allow it to be easily separated from other members of the <i>Culex</i> complex. This year's State Surveillance data indicate that the species is quite widespread. Although numbers are low, light traps detected <i>Cx. erraticus</i> in the Agricultural, Delaware River Basin, Philadelphia Metro, Pinelands and Suburban Corridor Regions. The data also show an unexpected seasonal data. <i>Cx. erraticus</i> began entering light traps in early spring and was collected well into October.</p>	

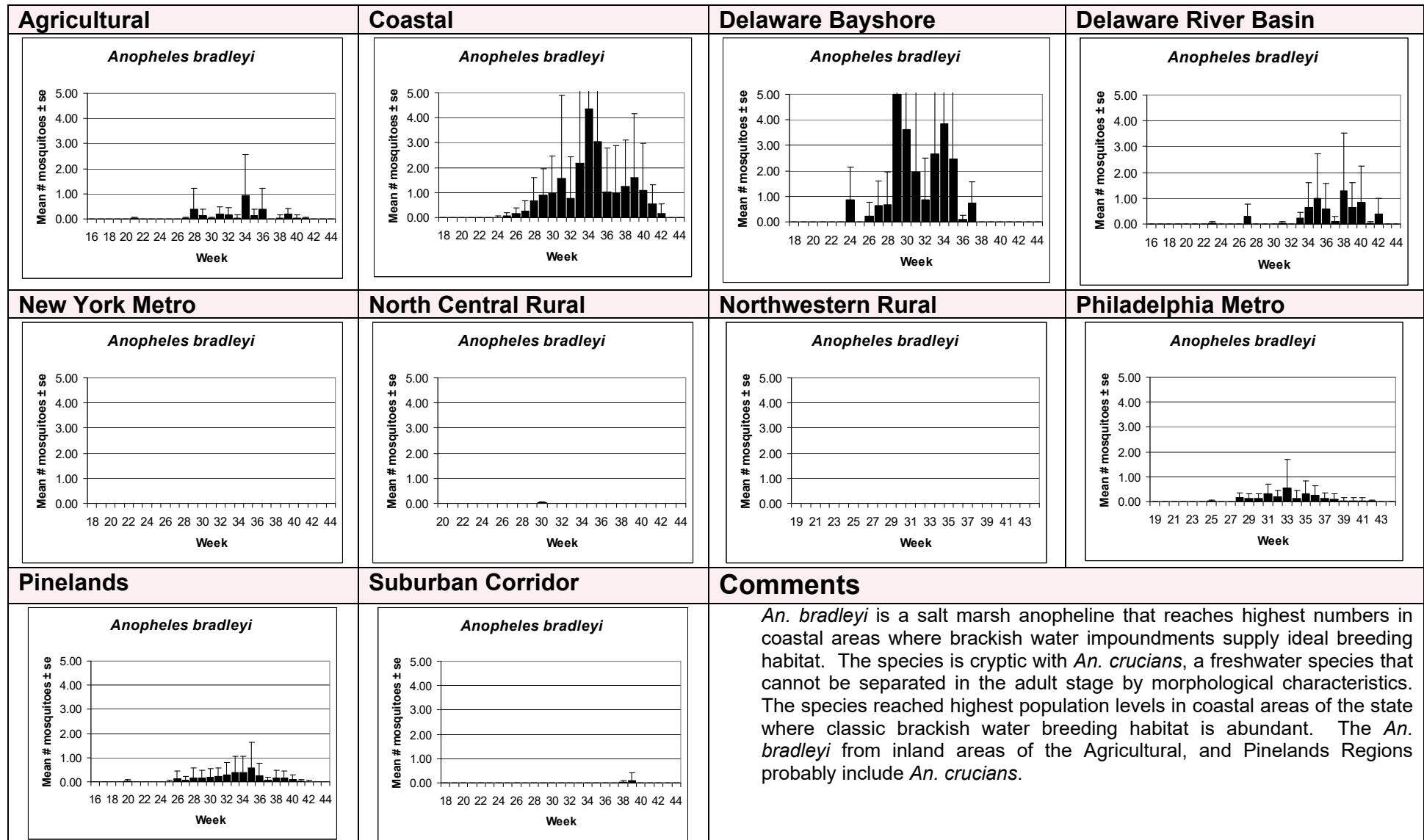
Anopheles quadrimaculatus - Multivoltine Anopheles Species



Anopheles punctipennis - Multivoltine Anopheles Species



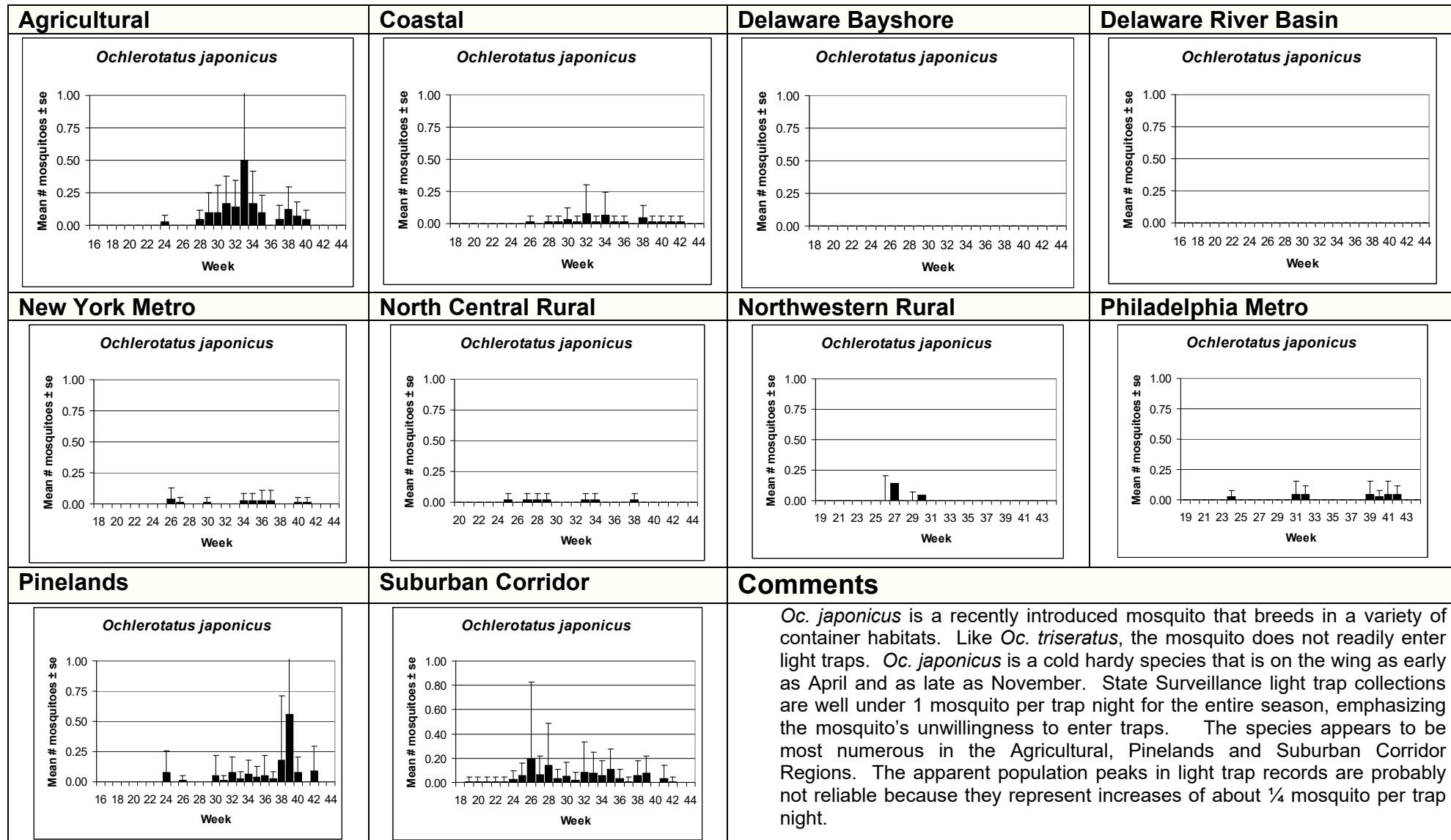
Anopheles bradleyi - Multivoltine Anopheles Species



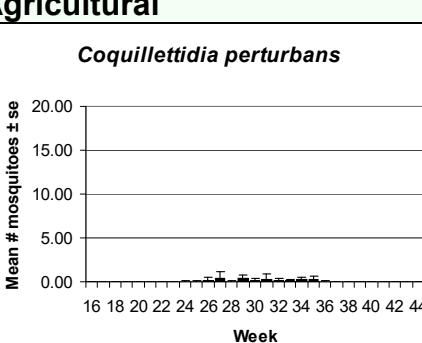
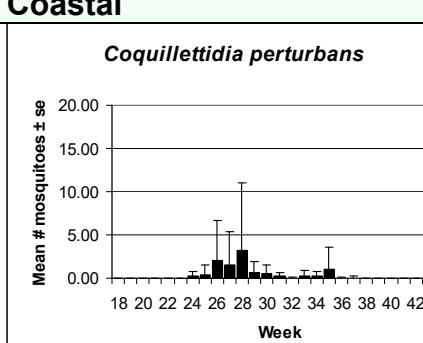
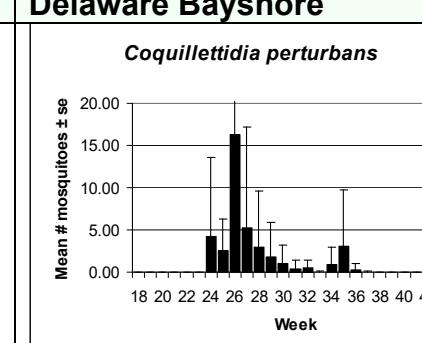
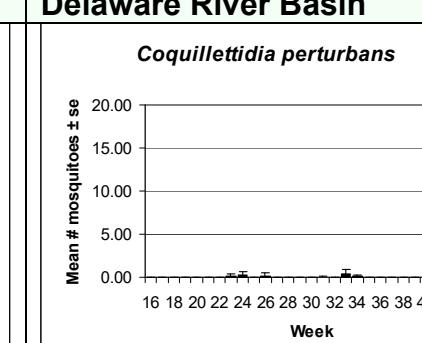
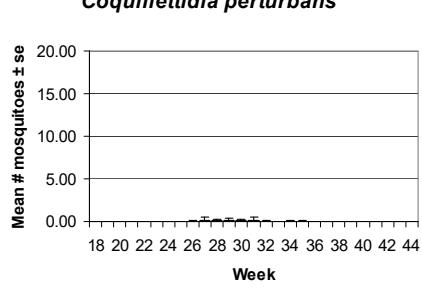
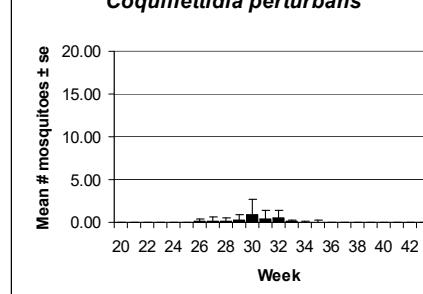
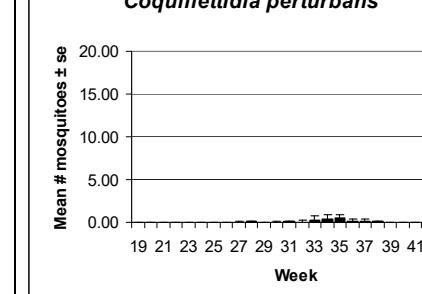
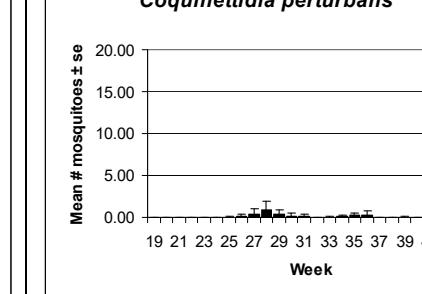
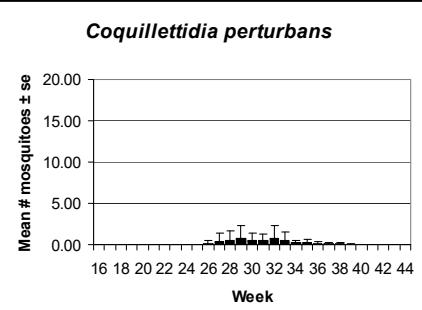
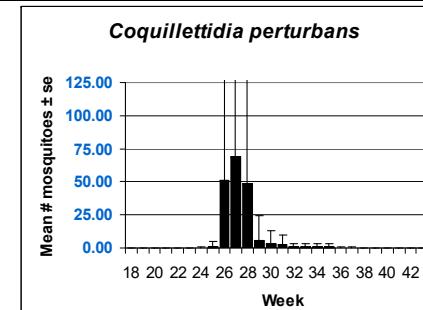
Ochlerotatus triseriatus - Container Breeding Aedines

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>
<p>New York Metro</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p>North Central Rural</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>
<p>Pinelands</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p> <p><i>Ochlerotatus triseriatus</i></p> <p>Mean # mosquitoes \pm se</p> <p>Week</p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Oc. triseriatus</i> is a treehole species that is not readily attracted to light. Like most natural container breeders, <i>Oc. triseriatus</i> readily accepts discarded tires and other leaf-lined artificial containers as breeding habitat. The appearance of <i>Oc. triseriatus</i> in light trap collections is often an indication that local breeding habitat is nearby. The low numbers in the State Surveillance database severely under-estimate this mosquito's importance as a nuisance species. Although the mosquito does not fly far from its breeding habitat, it feeds readily on individuals that enter its domain.</p>	

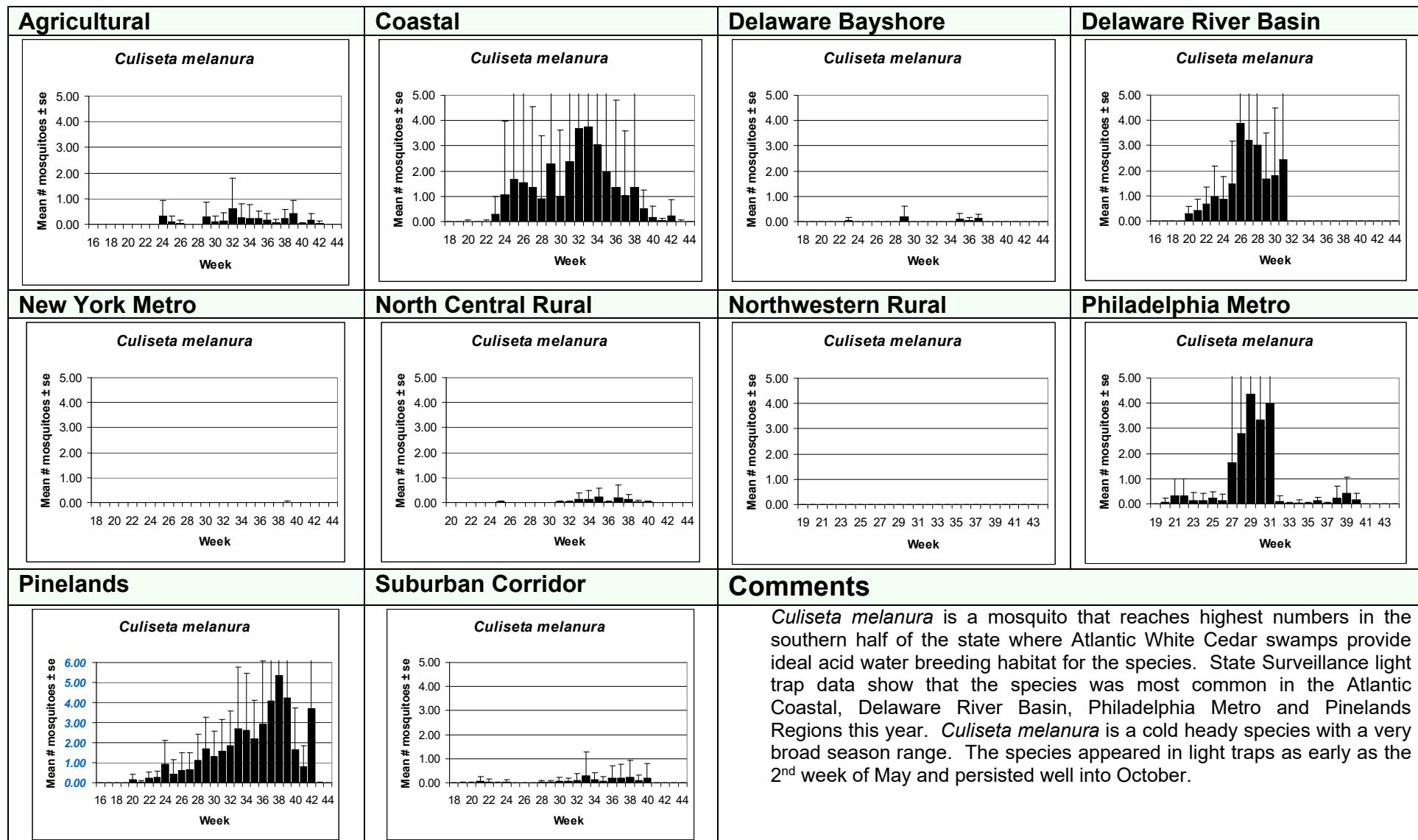
Ochlerotatus japonicus - Container Breeding Aedines



Coquillettidia perturbans - Miscellaneous Group

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
			
New York Metro	North Central Rural	Northwestern Rural	Philadelphia Metro
			
Pinelands	Suburban Corridor	Comments	
		<p><i>Cq. perturbans</i> is a species that shows up to 3 population peaks during the summer months as adults emerge from larvae that overwintered in three separate instars. Data from this year's State Mosquito Surveillance Program show only 2 population peaks for areas of the state where <i>Cq. perturbans</i> are numerous. The June emergence was, by far, the largest indicating that the species overwintered primarily as 4th instar larvae in most areas of the state. Populations were highest in the Suburban Corridor Region reaching nearly 75 mosquitoes per trap night. A minor emergence occurred during the month of August in some regions from larvae that overwintered in earlier instars. The late season emergence is most evident in the Delaware Bayshore Region but remained under 5 mosquitoes per trap night at its peak.</p>	

Culiseta melanura - Miscellaneous Group



Uranotaenia sapphirina - Miscellaneous Group

Agricultural	Coastal	Delaware Bayshore	Delaware River Basin
<p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>
<p>New York Metro</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p>North Central Rural</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p>Northwestern Rural</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p>Philadelphia Metro</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>
<p>Pinelands</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p>Suburban Corridor</p> <p><i>Uranotaenia sapphirina</i></p>	<p>Comments</p> <p><i>Ur. sapphirina</i> is a non-pest species with a statewide distribution. The species reaches highest population levels during the months of July and August of most years. The mosquito possesses metallic blue scales and is regarded primarily as a scientific curiosity. This year's State Surveillance data set indicates that populations peaked in early September in most regions.</p>	