

Greater Moncton Pest Control Commission
Summary of Mosquito Larviciding Program
from May 1 to June 30, 2009

Overview of 2009 program

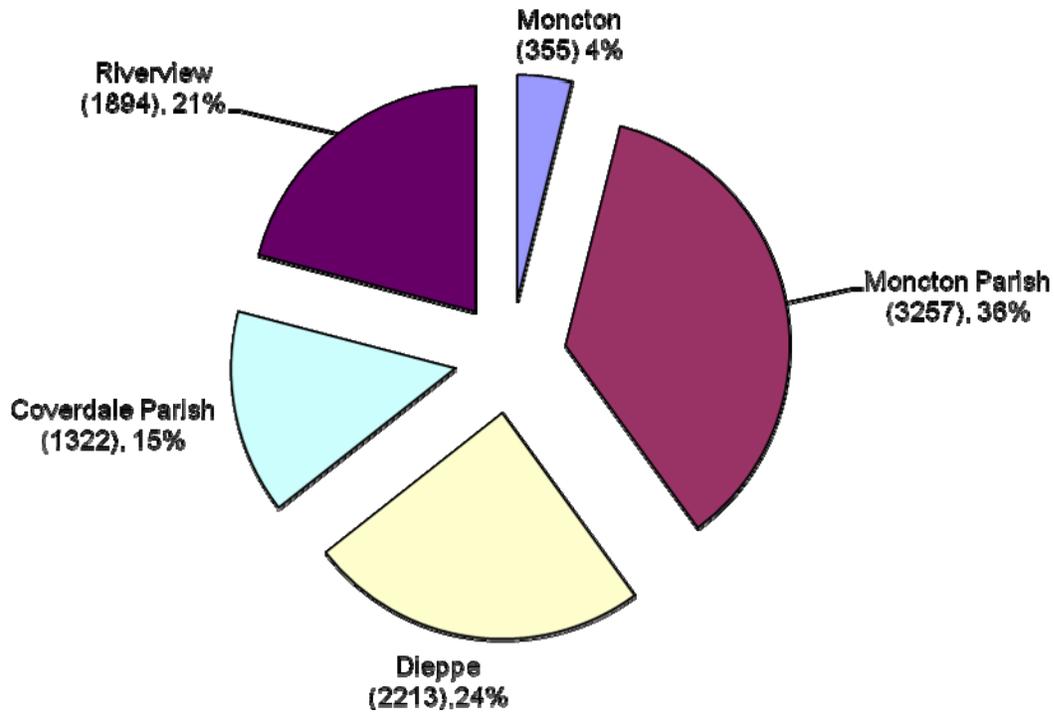
The GMPCC initiated the 2009 field season operations on the 5th of May. The emergence of the initial larvae appeared during the end of April; however, the first major hatching occurred around the 20th of May. The spring snow melt provided numerous larvae hatching habitat within the marshes and low drainage areas. The larvae counts in mid May were extremely high once the water temperature rose above 5 and 8 degrees. The Dieppe/ St Anselme and the Riverview marshes were both heavily loaded with larvae.

A total of 583 bags of larviciding agent were applied to the marshes during the months of May and June. This represents a 14% increase over the past year. Three hundred additional bags arrived on the 22nd of June and most of this supply has already been allocated to the marshes. We have ordered an additional 300 bags which we hope will last till the end of the season. The wet weather we have experienced during the past years has forced us to increase our larviciding applications and as a consequence we will have to increase our supply of larviciding agent in the coming years. Funds to purchase the required larvicide were achieved by cutting budgeted program spending.

Distribution of larviciding agents within the communities

The chart below provides information on the amount of larviciding product which was applied within each municipality during the past two months. The number in brackets represents the amount in kilograms applied while the percent represent the total of all larviciding products used so far this year.

Larvicide use Per Municipality in kg's



The early program start was a challenge again this year as Mike LeBlanc the newly acquired Assistant General Manager needed to adjust to the workload; however, we did have a good complement of returning summer students; this helped ease the workload and ensured the transition for the new summer staff.

Mosquito populations increased after the beginning of June as Greater Moncton received above normal amounts of rainy days. This re-established the spring level standing bodies of water within the marshes and ensured the availability of a significant amount of mosquito breeding habitat. In addition to the high numbers of spring species mosquitoes, we observed record high number of larvae within the marsh areas in June. However following a rigorous application of larviciding agent, we can report that the mosquito larvae populations are currently on the decrease and the comfort levels of control has been restored.

Emphasis was placed on providing residents of the Greater Moncton with information on our program. This was accomplished by participating in the Moncton Kiwanis Lifestyle Show. It is hoped that we will be able to set up our information booth in Dieppe as well in the near future.

The annual bird nesting survey has been completed and the draft report has been prepared. We will be shortly commencing a new mosquito larvae habitat monitoring program to assess the impacts of the newly built dyke along Lake Petitcodiac. We will identify and classify wet areas along the dykes and categorize their potential for mosquito larvae breeding habitat. This information along with the stream data which was collected last year will enable us to determine the level of treatment which will need to be applied once the tidal flow is restored to the river.