

# Greater Moncton Pest Control Commission

## Interim Program Report – July 17, 2006

### Program Discussion

The Annual mosquito control program has been underway for three months as of the day of this report. Due to the early spring temperatures and early snow melt the mosquito control program started on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The startup date was a full 20 days earlier than in 2005.

The early program start was a challenge as most summer staff members are not available until university final exams have been completed. Members started work as soon as they became available and a satisfactory control level was established prior to the first week of May.

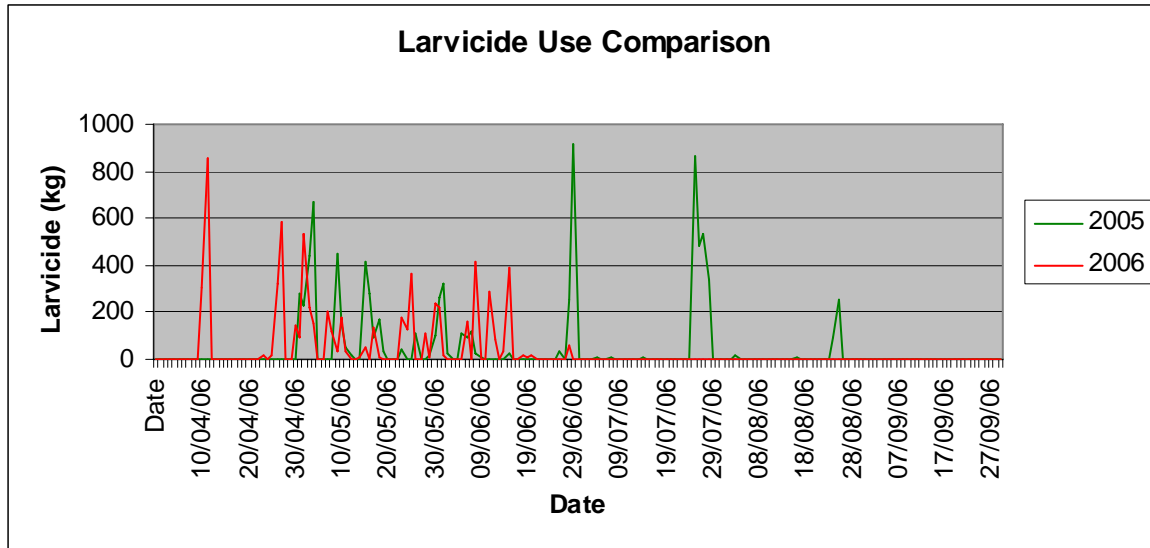
Mosquito populations increased after the beginning of June as Greater Moncton received significantly above normal amounts of rain. This reestablished standing bodies of water within the marshes. In addition to the recurrence of flood type mosquitoes, we saw the resurgence of a species from the cattail marshes that are not able to be controlled by our program. Populations are currently on the decrease again and control levels have been restored.

Due to the early spring and precipitation levels, larvicide use is increased for 2006. Before summer even officially began, we used the same amount of larvicide as used in the entire 2005 season. This sets new records for larvicide use but mosquito levels have been very good due mostly to being able to establish adequate control early in the season. Funds to purchase the required larvicide were achieved by cutting budgeted program spending.

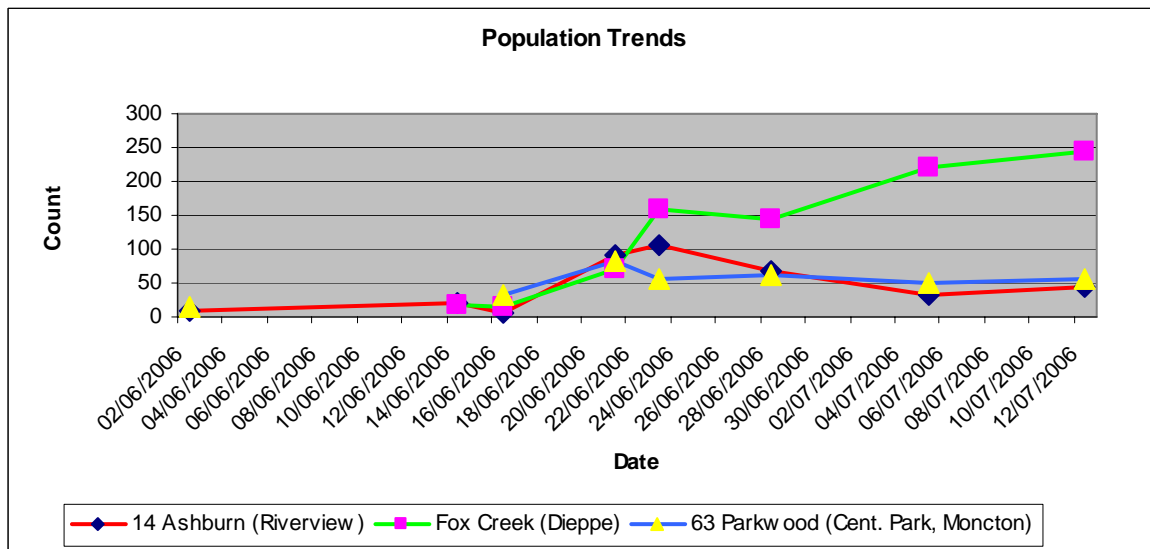
Emphasis was placed on providing residents of Greater Moncton with information on our program. This was accomplished by participating in the Kiwanis Lifestyles Show, school tours in Moncton during Public Works week and Town of Riverview, Canada Day celebrations. It is hoped that we will be able to set 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 commencing a new stream mapping project on the Petitcodiac River head pond. We will map drainage points along the shores of the head pond and categorize the level of water flow. This will assist in determining potential mosquito breeding areas should the tidal flow be reestablished upstream of the causeway.

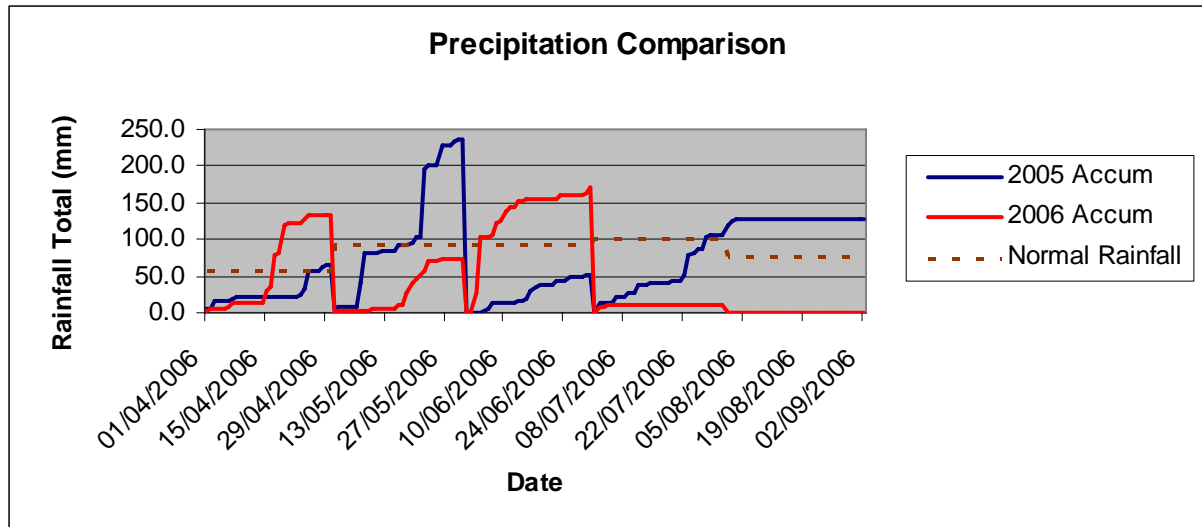
## Program Statistics



**Figure 1 - This chart reveals that despite an early start, the initial larvicide use pattern was similar to 2005. The beginning of May is where the pattern breaks from an initial spring program and starts to reflect the unique demands of the 2006 rainfall pattern.**



**Figure 2 - Early in the season, mosquito populations were relatively consistent across sites in Greater Moncton. Following a period of above normal rainfall in June, populations rose but disproportionately in Dieppe. Anecdotal evidence does not match trap counts in Dieppe. It is possible that many of these mosquitoes are non-human biters.**



**Figure 3 - The above normal rainfall for April was followed by below normal levels for May. This allowed adequate mosquito control to be established. We received significant rainfall early in June which reestablished breeding areas and placed extra demand on larvicide requirements.**

### Conclusion

Staff have risen to the challenge of mosquito control this year. Despite challenges presented to us, we have been able to establish comfort levels that have exceeded recent years.

Should there be any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact Jeff Scott, Assistant General Director of the GMPCC at 859-2605 or email at [jeff.scott@moncton.ca](mailto:jeff.scott@moncton.ca).