From:	Barmakian, Nancy
To:	Norcross, Jeffrey
Subject:	FW: Ticks
Date:	Tuesday, January 07, 2020 1:37:17 PM
Attachments:	EPA Four Poster RARE_journal article_Parasites and Vectors. 07-01-292_2014.pdf

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From: Szylvian, Andrea M. <Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, November 14, 2019 9:44 AM
To: Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Ticks

The CDC has a center for vector diseases at the ct ag experiment station—they work on ticks & mosquitoes

https://neregionalvectorcenter.com/

From: Koethe, Robert <Koethe.Robert@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 2:39 PM
To: Barmakian, Nancy <Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Ticks

Nancy,

I am happy to learn there is still interest by EPA in ticks. EPA has roles in tick control because, under FIFRA, EPA registers pesticides used for tick control and repellency. The Agency also supports IPM and pesticide education.

Regarding my RARE report, I have attached the journal article we published on our findings. This paper is frequently viewed and cited by the scientific community. Our data is also used by Cooperative Extension and others across the country but especially on Cape Cod. This multi-year study involved evaluating the usefulness of animal host targeted pesticide applications through use of 4-poster deer feeding stations as a way to reduce blacklegged tick (deer tick) populations, the vector of Lyme disease in New England. Our study found the 4-posters did reduce tick populations but that the reductions, while significant, were small. Our study indicated that 4-posters alone would not likely reduce tick populations enough to be suitable as a stand-alone strategy tick control.

Regarding follow-up on ticks and vectors, EPA ORD had an initiative on human health and biodiversity around the time we conducted our 4-poster study. ORD ended its program a while ago. More recently the EPA IPM Center, which previously supported the Strategic Ag Initiative, has Vector Management as a core area for program support. As part of its educational program the Center sponsors periodic webinars.

Regarding things happening in the NE states additional to what Andrea may provide, I still track

vector management issues and am asked to provide support on vector issues to the states and others from time-to-time. NH partnered with its state public health agency to conduct outreach on ticks (I think to schools). David Rousseau did a number of sessions. The grant, which was a state grant, was reported to EPA on the state P&C list. I was assigned to track P&C list activities, including for this public health initiative which ended in 2019.

In addition to LD all the NE states have problems with new invasive ticks such as the Lone Star Tick. Also, all of northern NE has problems with winter tick (moose tick) which is decimating moose populations. It is believed the most important reason for increased survival of winter ticks, and subsequent impacts on moose survival, is related to lack of snow cover at critical times in the winter and spring.

Regarding Maine, the Maine Medical Center has a Lyme and vector- borne disease testing laboratory (http://mmcri.org/ns/?page_id=15685). The lab has increased its visibility and likely has upgraded its programs. Because of threats from ticks and mosquitoes all NE states are focusing on emerging public health concerns.

In summary EPA has important roles for tick and other vector management issues, mostly through the pesticide program but, seems to defer to CDC on most research, education, outreach and targeted financial support.

Please let me know if you would like additional information.

Rob

From: Barmakian, Nancy Barmakian.Nancy@epa.gov
Sent: Tuesday, November 12, 2019 1:05 PM
To: Koethe, Robert <Koethe.Robert@epa.gov>; Szylvian, Andrea M. <Szylvian.Andrea@epa.gov>
Subject: Ticks

At the end of our OD meeting today Dennis asked me what we are doing about ticks. Rob-I know you did a Rare multi-year tick study. Can I see a copy of the final report? And are there any recommendations from the study? To who? Any follow-up? Does EPA have any role with ticks/lyme disease?
Andrea-do any of our states have $ to address this issue? Dennis mentioned that Maine had mentioned issues with ticks to him. Thanks so much.
Nancy