

Sommersemester / Summer Term 2012

BayCEER Kolloquium

 Vortragsreihe Ökologie und Umweltforschung
Lectures in Ecology and Environmental Research
Extratermin
Montag 17.06.2013, 18:00 Uhr, H6

PD Dr. Jonas Schmidt-Chanasit

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The German Mobovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Monitoring Program, 2009 - 2012

Human and animal diseases caused by mosquito-borne viruses (moboviruses) are of growing importance in many countries of Europe including Germany. Continuing eco-climatic changes and globalization create suitable conditions for the emergence of moboviruses in Germany. In 1968, Tahyna virus was isolated from mosquitoes that were trapped around Baunach in Bavaria. Since these early discoveries in the late 60s of the last century, mobovirus surveillance in mosquitoes, humans and animals was not performed regularly and therefore, longitudinal data sets are missing, especially from Germany. Thus, we initiated a program that compiles and analyses mobovirus and vector data collected over a number of successive years. This provided a solid base to determine the underlying causes of the seasonal fluctuations in mobovirus activity and the relative abundance of the mosquito vector species. This information can be used as a basis for vector control programs and might provide an early warning of the presence of moboviruses in Germany. So far, more than 150.000 mosquitoes were captured and assayed for the presence of moboviruses. In 2010, Usutu virus (USUV) was isolated from *Culex pipiens pipiens* mosquitoes trapped in the city of Weinheim. Since June 2011, considerable mortality in wild and captive bird species was observed in south-west Germany. The mortality of birds was shown to be associated with the emergence of USUV. The early discovery of USUV in mosquitoes followed by the recent epidemic proof the importance and predictive value of our mosquito based monitoring program for zoonotic moboviruses.

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