

**Martha Salazar**

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**From:** Eddie Olivarez [eddie.olivarez@hchd.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 06, 2008 2:08 PM  
**To:** martha.salazar@co.hidalgo.tx.us  
**Subject:** FW: Supporting documentation  
**Attachments:** TX Dolly ARF Vectors.pdf; DSHS Mosquitoes on Letterhead 08-01-08.doc

FYI

**Eduardo Olivarez**  
**Hidalgo County Health & Human Services**  
**Chief Administrative Officer**  
**1304 South 25th Ave.**  
**Edinburg, Texas 78539**  
**956-383-8858 Office**  
**eddie.olivarez@hchd.org**

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Sosa, Dina [mailto:Dina.Sosa@dshs.state.tx.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 06, 2008 1:56 PM  
**To:** josie.escalante@hchd.org  
**Cc:** Eddie Olivarez  
**Subject:** FW: Supporting documentation

FYI.  
Dina

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**From:** Robinson, Laura  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 06, 2008 1:54 PM  
**To:** Sosa, Dina  
**Subject:** FW: Supporting documentation

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**From:** Robinson, Laura  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 02, 2008 12:36 PM  
**To:** Eduardo Olivarez; Yvette Salinas; Esmeralda Guajardo; Raquel Castillo  
**Subject:** Supporting documentation

Mr. Olivarez and Ms. Salinas,

Here is the supporting documentation for aerial spraying that I have access to so that you can be prepared to put together individual County requests if additional applications are needed at a later date. This would hopefully speed up the process for FEMA approval.

I have attached copies of the ARF and Dr. Valadez's letter of support, and Roger Nasci's email (below) discussing CDC's assessment. The GIS files will need slight modification to allow a 1 mile exclusion zone around the USFWS and TPWD protected areas. Your departments will need to continue to collect the landing count data to document the continued needs at the point in time.

I don't have the approval from USFWS in writing, or the other materials that FEMA rep was working on, but will send them if I receive them.

Thank you,  
LER

8/6/2008

-----Original Message-----

From: Nasci, Roger S. (CDC/CCID/NCZVED)  
Sent: Thursday, July 31, 2008 3:29 PM  
To: Cote, Mick (HHS)  
Cc: Savage, Harry M. (CDC/CCID/NCZVED); Mutebi, John-Paul (CDC/CCID/NCZVED)  
Subject: RE: Landing count data

Mick:  
Got the landing count data sheets. Comments follow.

I'm interpreting the data based on the assumption that the landing counts were made using standard procedures (i.e., count the number of mosquitoes landing on the front of the legs from waist to knee during a 1 minute time period) or something similar.

Data sheets show that landing counts were made in a variety of locations within Hidalgo County on 7/29-30/2008. Most appear to have been conducted during daylight hours from 0730 to 1200, with a few collections made in the afternoon or evening hours. There are approximately 90 landing counts recorded that come from a variety of zones within the county.

Though there are a few areas with low counts (0-10), most are very high (30 or more per minute). This is consistent with observations from similar situations. The heavy rains associated with Dolly have produced very large populations of floodwater mosquitoes across the affected area. Some of these species (the species being encountered were listed by Roy Burton on the conference call this morning) are quite mobile and can fly considerable distances from the larval habitats (floodplains, flooded pastures and fields, rice fields, standing water in woodlots) where they were produced.

Biting mosquito populations at this density are having a significant impact on outdoor activities and are likely entering houses that are not adequately protected by window screens and/or air conditioning. It is also likely that evening/night time landing counts are even higher than recorded in the daytime counts, since most of the species encountered have their blood-feeding activity peaks in the evening and early nighttime hours. These are mosquito densities that would not be tolerated by most communities, even in normal situations where the community was not in the middle of recovering from a hurricane and flooding rains.

Conducting aggressive mosquito control and providing repellents to residents and recovery workers are appropriate responses to this situation. If mosquito adulticides are properly applied, at least short term relief from biting mosquitoes will be provided. To put this in perspective, I've attached a pdf file that shows landing counts in a zone in east Texas following hurricane Rita in 2005 that ranged up to 46/minute pre-treatment. The second image is the post-treatment (aerial application of 0.5 oz/acre Dibrom) landing counts that were 0/minute in most areas sampled (Data provided by the US Air Force Spray Flight). Depending on the size of the area treated, weather patterns, and the mosquito species involved, the mosquito populations may rebound following treatment and may require re-treatment if the recovery operation is still in progress and exposure to the mosquitoes is unavoidable.

Please let us know if you need any additional information.

8/6/2008

Regards

Roger

Roger S. Nasci, Ph.D.  
Chief, Arboviral Diseases Branch  
Division of Vector-Borne Infectious Diseases National Center for  
Zoonotic, Vector-Borne and Enteric Diseases Centers for Disease Control  
and Prevention 3150 Rampart Road Fort Collins, CO 80521 Phone  
970-221-6432 RNasci@cdc.gov

8/6/2008



## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES

DAVID L. LAKEY M.D.  
COMMISSIONER

1100 W. 49<sup>th</sup> Street • Austin, Texas 78756  
1-888-963-7111 • <http://www.dshs.state.tx.us>  
TDD: 512-458-7708

August 1, 2008

Jean Bennett, MSM, MSN, RN  
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response  
US Department of Health and Human Services Region VI

Lori LaFon  
Operations Branch Director  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
Department of Homeland Security

Dear Ms. Bennett and Ms. LaFon:

Texas' Cameron, Hidalgo and Willacy counties are experiencing severe problems with ever-increasing numbers of mosquitoes in the aftermath of Hurricane Dolly. There are power outages; extensive flooding; displaced populations in shelters and inadequate housing; and contamination of standing water with sewage. Children in shelters and in homes are affected with large numbers of bites which can become infected.

South Texas has the vectors and reservoirs for arboviral diseases, including West Nile virus and dengue, and the current conditions resulting from Hurricane Dolly/ increase the probability of disease transmission. The high numbers of biting mosquitoes are interfering with recovery efforts by emergency workers, public works employees, and the affected communities. Response workers at public health clinics, health department offices, and emergency shelters are reporting large numbers of mosquitoes interfering with community and emergency services, and there are health-related concerns due to overwhelming numbers of mosquito bites.

These mosquitoes represent a public health threat in this area of Texas. Your assistance in providing aerial spraying to relieve the problem is greatly appreciated. Please do not hesitate to contact me, Dr. Laura Robinson (956-444-3276), or Dr. Susan Penfield (512/750-1966), if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

*Adolfo M. Valadez M.D.*

Adolfo Valadez, M.D., M.P.H.  
Assistant Commissioner  
Prevention and Preparedness Division

Priority	<input type="checkbox"/> Lifesaving <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> High	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lifesaving Sustaining <input type="checkbox"/> Medium	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal	4. Date 7/31/08
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6. Site Point of Contact (POC) Dr. Laura Robinson, Regional Director	
7. 24 Hour Phone No. 956-423-0130/956-456-6828	8. N/ 10 7/

Signature

*[Handwritten Signature]*

**FORCING THE REQUEST - REVIEW/COORDINATION (Operations Section Only)**

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\_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

by: \_\_\_\_\_

- 2.  Donations
- Other (Explain)
- Requisitions
- Procurement
- Interagency Agreement
- Mission Agreement

Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	4. Date	5. Time Assigned
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ESF#	7. Assigned to
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**IV. STATEMENT OF WORK (Operations Section Only)**

	2. 24 Hour Phone No.	3.
	5. 24 Hour Phone No.	6.

Statement of Work  
 caused by Hurricane Dolly, a dramatic increase in the rates of illness carrying insects has been observed. The fact that there are still homes without electricity and many recovery workers are outside this region is the most effective way to control the insects that can spread disease to include West and South Texas region.

Date	9. Cost Estimate
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**V. ACTION TAKEN (Operations Section Only)**

Rejected  Accountable Property Coordinated with \_\_\_\_\_