Effects of Latitude and Longitude on the Population Structure of *Culex pipiens* s.l., Vectors of West Nile Virus in North America

Frances Edillo, Anthony Kiszewski, Justin Manjourides, Marcello Pagano, Michael Hutchinson, Andrew Kyle, Jorge Arias, David Gaines, Richard Lampman, Robert Novak, Ivo Foppa, Charles Lubelczyk, Robert Smith, Abielardo Moncayo, Andrew Spielman, and The *Culex pipiens* Working Group†

Former Address: Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts; Bentley College, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, Waltham, Massachusetts; Department of Biostatistics, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts; Department of Environmental Protection, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania; Fairfax Department of Health, Fairfax, Virginia; Virginia Department of Health, Office of Epidemiology, Richmond, Virginia; Division for Biodiversity and Ecological Entomology, Illinois Natural History Survey, Champaign, Illinois; W.C. Gorgas Center for Geographic Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, Alabama; Department of Epidemiology, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, Louisiana; Vector-borne Disease Laboratory, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, South Portland, Maine; Tennessee Department of Health Communicable and Environmental Disease Services, Nashville, Tennessee; Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, Massachusetts

Abstract. We assessed the structure and latitudinal selection that might result in sensitivities to critical day-lengths that trigger diapause between *Culex pipiens* populations distributed along North-South and East-West axes in eastern North America. Strong population structure between *Cx. p. pipiens* and *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* existed. Among *Cx. p. pipiens*, a 100-km increase in the latitudinal change resulted in an increased square root of *F*$_{ST}$ by 0.002. A 100-km increase in the longitudinal change caused an increased square root of *F*$_{ST}$ by 0.035. A lack of latitudinal influence on the structure between *Cx. p. pipiens* populations suggests a uniform signal using the 12 microsatellite markers, which might increase the risk of West Nile virus (WNV) transmission toward northern areas because of longer breeding season, extend host-seeking period, and larger population size. Northern *Cx. p. pipiens* may have undergone additional generations before diapause is triggered, magnifying population size when WNV amplification is peaking.

INTRODUCTION

The recent spread of West Nile virus (WNV) in North America has focused attention on the major mosquito vectors that transmit this infection among birds and humans, such as *Culex pipiens* Linnaeus (Northern house mosquito) and *Culex pipiens* quinquefasciatus Say (Southern house mosquito). These mosquitoes are allopatric in North America. *Cx. p. pipiens* enters diapause and is typically found north of 39° N latitude, whereas *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* does not undergo diapause and is restricted to areas south of 36° N latitude. Both nominal taxa and their intermediates exist between 36° and 39° N latitude. In these regions of overlap, the *Cx. p. pipiens* population peaks earlier in the summer season, whereas the *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* population does not achieve peak abundance until the end of summer.

The seasonality of WNV transmission corresponds closely to that of the abundance of anautogenous (i.e., requires a blood meal to reproduce) *Cx. p. pipiens*. Infection in birds becomes intense in the northeastern United States mainly during late August or September. Presumably, the force of WNV transmission among local birds is driven by the rising mid-summer abundance of these mosquitoes. Near the end of the breeding season, *Cx. p. pipiens* mosquitoes begin emerging as adults that will enter diapause and that will not seek hosts until spring. This diapause is triggered by a combination of short day length and low temperature perceived by the fourth larval instar and pupal stages.

Day length correlates with latitude, and the number of longer days increases with increasing latitude. At the latitude of Boston, MA (42.4° N), the abundance of anautogenous *Cx. p. pipiens* crests in early August, shortly after the local day-length has fallen to < 14.25 h/day. This critical diel falls earlier at southern latitudes than in the north. Thus, it may be that *Cx. p. pipiens* populations and the force of WNV transmission may increase as latitude increases and may wane at lower latitudes because of this disparity in the length of the breeding season.

Studies on the population structure of *Cx. pipiens* complex in North America are very important to potentially enable the development of new strategies for controlling the diseases transmitted by these mosquitoes. Such knowledge improves our understanding of how these populations interact with each other geographically, and whether developmental cues, such as day length, may select for subpopulations that respond differently to changes in day-length. Such changes, if they occur, would tend to be expressed genetically as greater structuring along a latitudinal rather than longitudinal gradient. Previous studies with the use of microsatellite markers and through enzyme electrophoresis have not shown the presence or absence of such a pattern.

In this study, we analyze the effects of latitude and longitude on the population structure of *Culex pipiens* s.l. mosquitoes based on variation at 12 microsatellite loci among populations along the North-South (N-S) and East-West (E-W) axes in eastern North America during the breeding season in 2004 and 2005. We explore the possibility that these mosquito populations may be structured more distinctly on a N-S than an E-W axis in eastern North America.
MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study sites and field collections. We collected egg rafts of *Cx. pipiens* s.l. by placing black polyethylene dishes partially filled with a bacterial hay infusion overnight in sheltered outdoor locations near homes.\(^{17}\) We conducted this sampling monthly from July to September 2004 and 2005 whenever weather permitted. We chose collection sites (Figure 1) to represent a broad range of latitudes and longitudes across eastern North America, so that we could compare groups along the N-S and E-W axes. Along the N-S axis, collection sites in 2004 included those at Portland, ME (ME; 43.41° N, 70.18° W); Cambridge, MA (MA; 42.2° N, 71.05° W); Lehigh County, PA (PAL; 40.5° N, 75.42° W); Fairfax County, VA (FVA; 38.51° N, 77.19° W); Richmond, VA (RVA; 37.34° N, 77.27° W), Norfolk, VA (NVA; 36.54° N, 76.18° W), and Columbia, SC (SC; 34° N, 81° W). In 2005, we established collection sites at Montreal, Québec, Canada (QUE; 45.30° N, 73.27° W) in lieu of Portland, ME, and at the zone of introgression, i.e., Memphis, TN (MTN; 35.1° N, 90° W) and Nashville, TN (NTN; 36.1° N, 86.5° W). Along the E-W axis, collection sites in 2004 included Urbana-Champaign, IL (IL; 40.07° N, 88.14° W); Columbus, OH (OH; 39.59° N, 83.03° W); Central Pennsylvania in Harrisburg and York (PAC; 40.18° N, 76.49° W); and Lehigh, PA. In 2005, we retained all sites comprising the E-W axis except for the one in Ohio.

We isolated individual egg rafts from each collection in plastic petri dishes and allowed them to hatch. We examined first-instar larvae from each family of mosquitoes under a compound microscope to morphologically differentiate *Cx. pipiens* s.l. from *Cx. restuans*\(^{24}\) because they both share similar larval breeding habitats. We randomly selected 10 cohorts of first-instar *Cx. pipiens* s.l. larvae from each collection site per month, and we shipped them to Harvard School of Public Health Laboratory. We reared the larvae further until they emerged as adults (F\(^0\) generation) under standard insectary conditions (28–30°C). We froze male and female adult specimens at −20°C and processed them for microsatellite DNA analysis; however, we included 12 microsatellite genotypes of one sibling per family only from each population in all data analyses, except for temporal differentiation to resolve sample bias as explained below. We used the adult mosquito DNA extract of *Cx. pipiens* s.l. (1 μL ≈ 5 μg) as a template in the PCR reaction volume of 20 μL, which contained 2 μL of 10x PCR buffer, 0.25 μL of 10 mmol/L dNTP (premixed, 10 mmol/L each), 0.12 μL of labeled forward primer, 0.12 μL of unlabeled reverse primer, 0.1 μL of *Taq* DNA polymerase (5 U/μL), and 2 μL of 5x *Taq* enhancer (Eppendorf, Westbury, NY). We amplified microsatellite fragments for desired loci using 12 loci-specific primers. We used nine microsatellite loci that we developed\(^ {18} \) and three loci (CxpGT4, CxpGT9, CxpGT46) from Keyghobadi and others.\(^ {14} \) The procedure for amplifying these microsatellite loci has been described by Edillo and others.\(^ {15} \)

Statistical analyses. We measured population genetic diversity by the number of alleles and heterozygosities at each locus within populations using GENEPOP 3.4.\(^ {22,23} \) We tested each locus separately for goodness-of-fit for Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) using the probability test and inbreeding coefficient (F\(_{IS}\) ).\(^ {22,24} \) We performed Fisher exact test in GENEPOP 3.4 to detect linkage disequilibrium for pairwise loci in each population. We examined the population structure by using the F-statistics, F\(_{ST}\),\(^ {25,26} \) calculated by using GENEPOP 3.4.\(^ {24} \) For purposes of this study, F\(_{ST}\) is a better measure of genetic differentiation than R\(_{ST}\) in which differentiation is primarily influenced by drift.\(^ {25} \) We tested the significance of F\(_{ST}\) by using a log-likelihood (G) based exact test.\(^ {27} \) We determined the temporal differentiation of F\(_{ST}\) between months in each of the breeding seasons and for each population by taking the average of F\(_{ST}\) estimates calculated from each of the five data sets randomly derived via a Monte Carlo bootstrapping method to resolve sample size bias. Each of the five data sets was composed of 10 adult mosquitoes for each month in a breeding season and for each population (i.e., N = 30 per data set with 12 microsatellite genotypes per individual) randomly and repeatedly derived via a Monte Carlo bootstrapping method from each array of siblings processed per family (F\(_{0}\) generation) by using custom software code written in J version 6.01 (J Software, Iverson Software Inc., Toronto, ON, Canada).

To determine the effects of the differences in latitude and longitude, controlling for year-to-year difference, on F\(_{ST}\) estimates...
between population pairs, we estimated the asymptotic variance-covariance matrix and the weighted least squares algorithm with the following model: \( \nu F_{ST} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \Delta \text{latitude} + \beta_2 \times \Delta \text{longitude} + \beta_3 \times \text{year} \), in which \( \Delta \text{latitude is the N-S distance and \( \Delta \text{longitude is the E-W distance. We used the square root transformation of} \ F_{ST} \text{ estimates to normalize them. The non-independence of both the} \ F_{ST} \text{ estimates between population pairs, and the N-S and E-W distances required the use of this model instead of simple linear regression techniques (D. Graham, unpublished data).}

We determined gene flow (\( N_m \)) from \( F_{ST} \) estimates to provide the corrected multilocus estimates of the effective number of migrants per population pairs.\(^3\) To determine the effects of the differences in latitude and longitude, controlling for year-to-year differences, on gene flow between population pairs, we used the same model: \( \nu \nu Nm = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \Delta \text{latitude} + \beta_2 \times \Delta \text{longitude} + \beta_3 \times \text{year} \).

RESULTS

Classification of mosquitoes. We identified the mosquitoes to subspecies based on the average DV/D ratio of six sibling males taken from every family that was subjected to microsatellite analysis. All sites north of the zone of introgression had \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \), whereas south of the zone of introgression in SC had \( Cx. p. q. quinquefasciatus \) in both years. We found both \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) and intermediates between \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) and \( Cx. p. q. quinquefasciatus \) in sites within the zone of introgression, although we collected two intermediate specimens from IL, suggesting a slight expansion of the hybrid zone at this 40.07° latitude.

Genetic diversity and HWE. We measured population genetic diversity by the number of alleles and heterozygosity. The number of alleles per locus varied from 3 to 25 in 2004 (Supplemental Table 1, available online at www.ajtmh.org) and from 4 to 28 in 2005 (Supplemental Table 2, available online at www.ajtmh.org). The average observed heterozygosities for all loci within each of the populations were consistently high; in 2004, they ranged from 0.68 to 0.76, whereas those in 2005 ranged from 0.68 to 0.83.

Within each population, we calculated locus-specific departures from HWE in 2004 (Supplemental Table 1) and in 2005 (Supplemental Table 2), and we applied sequential Bonferroni procedure. In 2004, 33 of 108 tests (30.56%) for all populations (excluding the separate analysis at the zone of introgression) deviated from HWE, whereas in 2005, it was slightly lower, 29 of 108 tests (26.85%). All populations had relatively similar number of loci that departed from HWE from year-to-year, except those from SC and IL. One locus from SC population departed from HWE in 2004, and it increased to seven loci in 2005. Six loci from IL population were away from HWE in 2004, and it decreased to one locus in 2005.

Deviations from HWE generally are attributed to differential selection and non-random mating.\(^29\) We observed that the CxqCAG5 locus deviated from HWE across seven or eight populations (excluding the separate analysis in the zone of introgression) in 2004 and in 2005, respectively, and showed consistently large positive \( F_{IS} \) (Supplemental Tables 1 and 2). Separate analysis of \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) and the intermediates in the zone of introgression for both years resulted into a consistent deviation from HWE at CxqCAG5 locus, apparently indicating the presence of null alleles.

Linkage disequilibrium analysis. Alleles of different loci are not randomly associated if they occur together in individuals with a probability higher than would be expected by chance alone. There were 66 independent comparisons for \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) population, so we would expect one pair of loci (0.66%) to be significant at the 0.01 level by chance alone. After incorporating a sequential Bonferroni correction, mosquito samples from PAL and IL had all loci in linkage equilibrium in both years. One pair of loci showed linkage disequilibrium from each of the populations (\( P < 0.001 \)) in 2004 from ME (CxqGT2 and CxpGT9), MA (CxqATG9 and CxpGT9), PAC (CqxCA9 and CqxCA115), and FVA (CqxCA9 and CqxCA115), and in 2005 from QUE (CxqGT108 and CxpGT46), VA (CqxATG9 and CxpGT4 for pooled samples of \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) and intermediates; CxqATG9 and CqxCA9 for \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) samples only), and SC (CxxCTG10 and CxqCAG5) populations. These suggest that independent segregation of these loci in each population was within what should be expected by chance alone.

Effects of latitude and longitude. We found that differences in latitude (N-S distance) and longitude (E-W distance) were significant predictors for increases in the square root of \( F_{ST} \) estimates between \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) populations at the 0.05 level. A 100-km increase in the latitudinal change resulted in an increase in the square root of \( F_{ST} \) by 0.002 (Figure 2A), and a 100-km increase in the longitudinal change resulted in an increase in the square root of \( F_{ST} \) by 0.035 (Figure 2B). We found greater genetic structuring between \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) and \( Cx. p. q. quinquefasciatus \) populations in both years (Figure 2C). In 2004, the \( F_{ST} \) estimate between these populations at the N-S extremes of our samples was 0.108, greatly exceeding 0.012, which represented the E-W extremes (Table 1). Likewise in 2005, the \( F_{ST} \) estimate between these populations at the N-S extremes was 0.075, exceeding 0.05, which represented the E-W extremes (Table 1). We found a significant difference of \( F_{ST} \) estimates between different population pairs in 2004 and 2005 (\( P < 0.01 \); Figure 2D). In the hybrid zone, we found little genetic differentiation between those neighboring populations of \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) from FVA and the intermediates from VA in both years (\( F_{ST} = 0.016 \) in 2004, \( F_{ST} = 0.019 \) in 2005; \( P < 0.01 \)) and those intermediates from VA and TN (\( F_{ST} = 0.047 ; P < 0.01 \)) in 2005 (Table 1). Genetic differentiation became moderate as geographic distance increased between those populations of \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) from FVA and the intermediates from TN (\( F_{ST} = 0.061 , P < 0.01 \)) in 2005 (Table 1).

Because the CxqCAG5 locus exhibited the highest heterozygote deficits, and null alleles were likely present that might have caused a biased estimate, we excluded this locus and reanalyzed \( F_{ST} \) estimates Patterns of population differentiation did not differ when the CxqCAG5 locus was excluded from the re-analysis of \( F_{ST} \) estimates The mean of \( F_{ST} \) estimates in 2004 (Table 1) was 0.028, whereas the mean of the adjusted \( F_{ST} \) estimates was 0.027. Likewise, the mean \( F_{ST} \) estimate in 2005 (Table 1) was 0.037, whereas that of the reanalyzed \( F_{ST} \) estimates was 0.036.

Gene flow estimates \( (Nm) \). We calculated the multilocus estimates of the effective number of migrants per generation between population pairs indirectly from \( F_{ST} \) estimates (Table 1). Estimates of gene flow were lower between \( Cx. p. q. quinquefasciatus \) and \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) populations (mean ± SE: 2.78 ± 0.25 in 2004 and 2.63 ± 0.12 in 2005) than between population pairs of \( Cx. p. p. pipiens \) (mean ± SE: 4.20 ± 0.15...
in 2004 and 3.12 ± 0.10 in 2005), indicating the existence of greater genetic structuring between sibling species.

Between *Cx. p. pipiens* population pairs, we found that the latitudinal and the longitudinal changes between collection sites remained significant predictors for gene flow at the 0.05 level. A 100-km increase in the N-S distance resulted in a decrease in the square root of $N_m$ by 0.179, and a 100-km increase in the E-W distance resulted in a decrease in the square root of $N_m$ by 0.007. The difference in gene flow across years remained significant ($P < 0.01$).

**Temporal differentiation of $F_{ST}$ estimates.** We determined whether there was temporal differentiation of $F_{ST}$ estimates between months of the breeding season. This was performed by taking the average of $F_{ST}$ estimates calculated from each of the five data sets derived by Monte Carlo bootstrapping repeated sampling method taken from two siblings per family of 10 in each month for each population (Table 2). Six of the eight *Cx. p. pipiens* populations sampled in July 2004 were moderately different from those sampled in September 2004; this trend was not apparent in 2005. *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* population in SC did not generally differ between months of each year’s breeding season.

**DISCUSSION**

In this study, we found that when *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* population from SC was included in the pairwise comparisons with *Cx. p. pipiens* populations from each of the collection sites, as expected a much greater distinction of $F_{ST}$ estimates was observed between latitudinal pairs rather than longitudi-
nal pairs in both 2004 and 2005. The greater gradient observed in $F_{ST}$ estimates may result from introgression northward from the hybrid zone and into the mid-Atlantic and New England regions. Flight of *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* was documented as far as 12.6 km. 31 Dispersal of *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* at distances greater than their average flight may be associated with human activity, such as long distance transport by commercial trucks.32,33 Concordant with our $F_{ST}$ analyses, estimates of gene flow between these mosquito populations also showed the existence of greater genetic structuring. Barriers to gene

![Figure 2](image-url)

**Figure 2.** Effects of latitude and longitude on the square root of $F_{ST}$ estimates of *Cx. pipiens* s.l. mosquito populations in eastern North America. A, Effects of latitudinal change (North-South distance). B, Effects of longitudinal change (East-West distance). C, $F_{ST}$ estimates between *Cx. p. pipiens* population pairs and between *Cx. p. pipiens* and *Cx. p. quinquefasciatus* populations. D, $F_{ST}$ estimates of *Cx. pipiens* s.l. populations by year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>July vs August</td>
<td>August vs September</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ME*Que†</td>
<td>−0.015</td>
<td>−0.012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MA</td>
<td>0.030‡</td>
<td>0.013‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAL</td>
<td>0.024‡</td>
<td>0.039‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAC</td>
<td>−0.004</td>
<td>0.103¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FVA</td>
<td>0.021¶</td>
<td>0.018¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA(p)‖</td>
<td>0.025¶</td>
<td>0.007¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VA(i)‖</td>
<td>0.029¶</td>
<td>0.019¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN(p)‖</td>
<td>−‡‡</td>
<td>−‡‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TN(i)‖</td>
<td>−‡‡</td>
<td>−‡‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC</td>
<td>−0.002</td>
<td>0.014‡</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IL</td>
<td>0.071¶</td>
<td>0.009¶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OH</td>
<td>0.034¶</td>
<td>0.134¶</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 2004
† 2005
§ Little genetic differentiation.
¶ NA = not applicable.
‖ Moderate genetic differentiation.
‖‖ p = *Cx. p. pipiens*.
‖‖‖ i = intermediate.
‖‖‖‡ No samples.

Mean $F_{ST}$ estimates ($<±0.01$) of *Cx. pipiens* s.l. sampled between months during the breeding season in 2004 and 2005 calculated from five monthly data sets derived by Monte Carlo bootstrapping repeated sampling method.
flow exist between Cx. p. p. p. quinquefasciatus because of their distinct latitudinal distribution.\(^3\) The inability of Cx. p. quinquefasciatus to hibernate seems to limit their northward expansion into the latitudinal range of Cx. p. p. p. where winters are severe.\(^34\)

The hypothesis that these Cx. p. p. p. p. populations may be structured more distinctly on a N-S than an E-W axis in eastern North America was not shown. If latitudinal selection for diel response was solely responsible for these differences, we would have expected distinct population structure between Cx. p. p. p. p. populations at varying latitudinal distributions. Our results apparently indicated that with the very minimal effect of latitudinal selection for diel response, one would expect northern populations of these mosquito vectors to have fewer restraints on their population growth because the environmental cue (14.25 hours of daylight) would be reached later in the breeding season at higher latitudes, allowing additional generations of host-seeking mosquitoes to be generated before fourth-instar larvae and pupae are triggered to enter an overwintering diapause in which they do not seek hosts, and a metabolic switch from blood feeding to sugar gluttony follows.\(^35\) The lack of a clear trend of latitudinal genetic structuring among Cx. p. p. p. p. populations lends support toward a uniform signal among North American Cx. p. p. p. p. mosquitoes, although we cannot assume that the 12 microsatellite markers used reflect the overall genome. Such an effect would increase risk of WNV transmission towards northern areas because of the longer breeding season, an extended period for host seeking, and the larger size of the maximum population of mosquitoes that would result from this combination of factors.

The latitudinal and the longitudinal changes between collection sites remained significant predictors for gene flow among Cx. p. p. p. p. mosquitoes. Barriers to gene flow in Cx. p. p. p. p. populations may include both by geographical distance and topography, especially in species with low vagility. Mountainous terrain (e.g., Appalachian Mountains, Notre Dame Mountains) and river (e.g., St. Lawrence River in Québec) are particularly important barriers; however, dispersal may occur in mosquitoes during wind storms or through transportation by humans.\(^32,33\)

Six of the eight Cx. p. p. p. p. populations sampled in the early and later period of the breeding season in 2004 showed moderate temporal differentiation of F\(_{ST}\) which may be associated with their ability to hibernate, but not in 2005 when temperature was warmer. Cx. p. quinquefasciatus population sampled in SC between months of each breeding season did not differ, which might be apparently consistent with its inability to hibernate. It may be that Cx. p. p. p. p. that were highly fit to hibernate (i.e., ability to respond to critical diel and temperature) were selected for and might have introduced a differential factor in the later part of the breeding season in 2004.

Temperature records taken from the nearest weather stations of the collection sites showed that the mean (±SE) monthly temperature during our mosquito collections from July to September 2004 along the E-W transects was 21.4 ± 0.25°C, whereas along the N-S axis it was 23.05 ± 0.95°C. Mean (±SE) monthly temperature from July until September 2005 was higher than that in 2004; along the E-W sites, it was 23.52 ± 0.23°C, whereas along the N-S axis, it was 25 ± 0.99°C. Most likely, warmer temperatures may have influenced the genetic similarity of Cx. p. p. p. p. populations sampled between months of the breeding season in 2005. Previous reports\(^5,36\) showed that Cx. p. p. p. p. in the laboratory after feeding at short photoperiod (12 hours) and warmer temperatures (25°C) were able to terminate diapause, whereas cold temperatures (15°C) increased the incidence of diapause. Moreover, warmer temperature also limits the number of larval development sites that may act as important barrier to dispersal of these mosquitoes. The varying amount of shading caused by vegetation cover and tree canopy in our collection sites may have also influenced the exposure of mosquitoes to latitudinal day length.

In conclusion, Cx. p. p. p. p. and Cx. p. quinquefasciatus populations have strong population structure; however, Cx. p. p. p. p. populations are not structured more distinctly on a N-S than an E-W axis in the eastern North America, although latitudinal and longitudinal changes between their collection sites are significant predictors for gene flow. A lack of latitudinal effect on the structure between Cx. p. p. p. p. populations suggests a uniform signal considering the 12 microsatellite markers used. A latitude change may have exerted a stronger effect on the length of the breeding season. Thus, northern Cx. p. p. p. p. may have undergone additional generations before diapause is triggered, magnifying population size when WNV amplification is peaking, which may increase the risk of WNV transmission towards northern areas in eastern North America.

Received November 18, 2008. Accepted for publication July 15, 2009.

Note: Supplemental tables can be found online at www.ajtmh.org.

Acknowledgments. The authors thank N. Grefe, S. Hutter, M. Holman, R. Robich, M. Tabibi, N. Whitehurst, and M. Reddy for their help in obtaining and/or rearing mosquito samples.

Financial support: This research was supported by Grant RO1A1 52284 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases and funds provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention under Grant RO1A1 44064 from the National Institutes of Health to the late A.S. Statistical analyses of latitude and longitude were supported by Grant T32 AI007535 from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Disease to J.M. and Grant RO1 EB 006195 from the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering to M.P. This work is dedicated in memory of Andrew Spielman, a famous scientist and professor who died after completing the molecular work by F.E.E.

Authors’ addresses: Frances Edillo, Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Boston, MA 02115; Current: Department of Biology, University of San Carlos, 6000 Cebu City, Philippines. Anthony Kiszewski, Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Boston, MA 02115; Current: Bentley College, Department of Natural and Applied Sciences, Waltham MA 02454. Justin Manjourides and Marcello Pagano, Harvard School of Public Health, Department of Biostatistics, Boston, MA 02115. Michael Hutchinson and Andrew Kyle, Department of Environmental Protection, Harrisburg, PA 17105. Jorge Arias, Fairfax Department of Health, Fairfax, VA 22030. David Gaines, Virginia Department of Health, Office of Epidemiology, Richmond, VA 23218. Richard Lampman, Illinois Natural History Survey, Division for Biodiversity and Ecological Entomology, Champaign, IL 61820. Robert Novak, Division of Infectious Diseases, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Medicine, Birmingham, AL 35294. Ivo Foppa, Department of Epidemiology, Tulane School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, New Orleans, LA 70112. Charles Lubecky and Robert Smith, Maine Medical Center Research Institute, Vector-borne Disease Laboratory, South Portland, ME 04106. Abelardo Moncayo, Tennessee Department of Health Communicable and Environmental Disease Services, Vector-borne Disease Section, Nashville, TN 37216. Andrew Spielman, deceased.
REFERENCES


