

R E P O R T
O F T H E
N. J. MOSQUITO CONTROL STUDY COMMISSION
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R E P O R T
OF THE
MOSQUITO CONTROL STUDY COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

*To: THE HON. ROBERT B. MEYNER, Governor of the
State of New Jersey, and to the Legislature of
the State of New Jersey:*

Under the provisions of Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 26 of the State of New Jersey, introduced on August 29, 1955, by Senator Farley of Atlantic County and duly passed by the Legislature of the State of New Jersey, a Mosquito Control Study Commission was created for the purposes as more fully set forth in said concurrent resolution.

Those appointed to this Study Commission were as follows:

By the Governor:

MRS. ELEANORE MARTIN,
43 Point O'Woods Drive,
Toms River, New Jersey.

DR. WILLIAM A. LOORI,
549 Pavonia Avenue,
Jersey City, New Jersey.

By the President of the Senate:

MR. J. EDWIN SAMETH,
Hall of Records Building,
Room 554—High Street,
Newark, New Jersey.

MR. JESSE B. LESLIE,
210 Main Street,
Hackensack, New Jersey.

By the Speaker of the General Assembly:

MR. FRED A. REILEY,
5 South Virginia Avenue,
Atlantic City, New Jersey.

DR. BAILEY B. PEPPER,
New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station,
New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Notification of appointment was received by the members of the Commission on or about September 26, 1955.

The Mosquito Control Study Commission met at the State House in Trenton, New Jersey, on October 13, 1955, and organized, choosing Dr. Pepper as Chairman and Mr. Leslie as Secretary.

By-laws were duly adopted.

The Study Commission held further meetings on October 20, October 26, November 2, November 16, November 23, and November 30, 1955.

On November 9, 1955, a public hearing was held in the Senate Chamber, State House, Trenton, New Jersey, which hearing had been widely advertised in the newspapers of the State. At the other meetings of the Study Commission, representatives of County Mosquito Commissions, the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, the New Jersey State Mosquito Extermination Association, the Boards of Freeholders, Fish and Game Council, State Department of Health, United States Department of the Interior (Fish and Wild Life Service), Audubon Society, Fish and Game Council, Department of Navigation, Planning Section of Department of Conservation and Economic Development, Army and Navy, New Jersey Highway Authority, New Jersey Highway Department, New Jersey Federation of Women's Clubs, Department of Conservation and General Ecology, American Museum of Natural History; New Jersey Health Officers Association; New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs; Forestry, Parks and Historic Sites Bureau; Division of Shell Fisheries, and the Water Policy and Supply Council were requested to be present in person or present their views in writing so that the Study Commission could have the benefit of their thinking relative to mosquito control as now being conducted in the State of New Jersey and ways and means of improving mosquito control in the State.

The purpose of the Study Commission in seeking these personal interviews and written reports was to get first-hand information from those actively engaged in mosquito control work and work directly or indirectly related thereto. The response was excellent and the Study Commission from these sources obtained much factual data of importance which has been fully studied and carefully correlated.

The Study Commission also obtained copies of the laws under which mosquito control is being carried on in Florida, Virginia, Massachusetts, California, Delaware, New York, Utah, and Texas, and these have been studied and analyzed by the commission.

New Jersey is apparently the pioneer State in mosquito work. The original enabling act providing for State-wide mosquito control, through county mosquito extermination commissions, having passed in 1912 and being Chapter 104, P. L. 1912, is still the basic law and has endured through the years, the only substantial amendment being the transfer of the appointive power from the Justice of the Supreme Court presiding over the courts of the county to the Board of Chosen Freeholders of the county.

Under the basic law the approval of the county budgets and general supervision of the work as a whole lay in the Director of the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station.

Based on the studies that we have made, we believe that this system is fundamentally sound and should be continued. We feel that over the years tremendous progress has been made and that it is as practical as any that can be devised. However, we feel that certain changes can be made to advantage to strengthen and improve the work as now being conducted in this State; primarily that there would be greater central control, more and better research, and greater power of enforcement to compel the elimination of mosquito breeding, particularly where large breeding areas are involved. We also feel that a definite effort should be made to bring into mosquito work the counties of the State not now having mosquito commissions.

We have consulted and conferred with all those actively engaged in mosquito work as now being conducted in this State and the United States Department of Agriculture, and also the United States Public Health Service. We have also examined existing publications pertaining to mosquito control in all parts of the world, and have come to the conclusion that the logical methods of mosquito control are now being generally used in the State of New Jersey, namely:

1. Permanent water management in all its phases.
2. Destruction of larvae.
3. Fogging, misting and spraying for adult control.

Our studies and investigations have indicated the following to be the chief problems confronting the State of New Jersey today:

1. There is no effective master plan for co-ordinated mosquito control in the State of New Jersey.
2. The failure of some counties to appoint mosquito extermination commissions has adversely affected the work being done in neighboring counties with active mosquito commissions.
3. Lack of funds for
 - (a) Research.
 - (b) Adequate control.

As a result of our studies and investigations, we make the following recommendations:

1. That the County Mosquito Control Commissions be retained as the core of mosquito control activities in the State of New Jersey.
2. That Mosquito Commissions be appointed in the counties that do not have them.
3. That all vacancies on County Mosquito Commissions be filled within 60 days.
4. That wherever possible in making appointments to Mosquito Commissions, consideration be given to those having special training in engineering, biology or health work.
5. That specific power to enter property to inspect for mosquito breeding nuisances be granted to County Mosquito Commissions and that they be given the right to bring an action in the local Magistrate's Court where mosquito breeding has been found and is not being abated.

6. That the mills per dollar of assessed valuations formula on which local county appropriations are based be revised so that appropriations will be permissible, commensurate with work to be done.

7. That where supplemental appropriations are requested from the Boards of Freeholders for mosquito work, it be required that they be submitted for review and approval as are the main budgets.

8. That an adequate appropriation be made to the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station to provide equipment, facilities and personnel for basic research in all phases of mosquito control.

That this research department shall be made available to the local County Mosquito Commission personnel and shall work in close co-operation with the county commissions in an endeavor to develop better and more effective control measures. This commission recommends that such appropriation be not less than \$75,000.00 a year for the above purposes, exclusive of providing of facilities.

9. That an adequate appropriation be made to the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station for the purpose of survey and inspection.

This would be for the purpose of determining where large breeding areas exist and whether proper steps are being taken to control them.

This commission recommends that such appropriation be not less than \$25,000.00 a year.

10. That a permanent State Mosquito Control Commission be appointed.

- (a) That this commission be comprised of seven members to be appointed by the Governor, one of whom shall be the Director of the New Jersey State Agricultural Experiment Station, three of whom shall be appointed upon the recommendation of the New Jersey State Mosquito Extermination Association and three of whom shall be from the State-at-large.

(b) The duties of this commission shall be:

1. To determine the amount of money necessary each year to be expended by the State for mosquito control purposes; to recommend to the Legislature that such appropriations be made; to allocate these funds for disbursement through the State Agricultural Experiment Station.
 2. To act in any case where a recommendation made by the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station to abate mosquito breeding in any particular area of the State is being disregarded.
 3. To recommend from time to time changes in legislation to enforce and carry out mosquito control work throughout the State.
 4. To act in an advisory capacity in all matters pertaining to mosquito control.
 5. To function in any and all matters relating to mosquito control or tending to strengthen this work in the State of New Jersey.
11. That a State Fund be established to provide matching funds to supplement county work and/or to provide for emergency relief, such program to be administered by the State Agricultural Experiment Station upon recommendation and approval of the State Mosquito Control Commission.
 12. That the State appropriations for airplane spraying in the seashore counties of the State be continued.
 13. That steps be taken to secure co-operative effort on the part of those in control of State-operated and Federal lands to eliminate all mosquito breeding thereon.

14. That the Governor of the State ask the co-operation of the Governors of neighboring States in the solution of mutual problems of mosquito control.
15. That effective legislation be introduced to implement these recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

BAILEY B. PEPPER, *Chairman*,
ELEANOR MARTIN,
WILLIAM A. LOORI,
J. EDWIN SAMETH,
FRED A. REILEY,
JESSE B. LESLIE, *Secretary*.

