

The Rabies Reporter

MNR Publication 51709

Volume 19, Number 3

Fall 2008



Inside this issue:

Rabies in Ontario during the third quarter

I

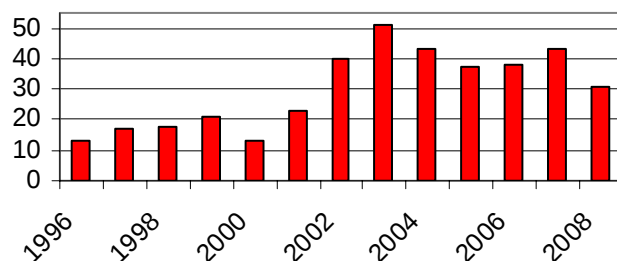
Rabies During the Third Quarter

There have been 66 positive rabies cases reported so far in 2008, compared to 86 in the same time period last year. As expected, the third quarter yielded more rabid animals than the previous quarter, owing to an increase in the number of bats submitted for testing.

There were 33 reported rabies cases in this quarter, which is more than twice the number reported in the previous quarter. Twenty-seven of these cases were bats, bringing the total number of bat cases for the year to 31. By this time last year there were 57 bat cases, which represents a decrease of 46%. Bat cases were spread throughout 17 counties of southern Ontario, including 3 eastern counties: Ottawa-Carleton (1), Renfrew (1) and Frontenac (1), 3 central counties: Durham (2), Toronto (1) and Simcoe (1), 4 western counties: Wellington (1), Waterloo (1), Perth (2) and Bruce (1), and 7 southern counties: Wentworth (3), Niagara (1), Elgin (2), Middlesex (6), Lambton (1), Kent (1) and Essex (1). Although there were fewer cases reported in this quarter compared to the last 6 years (see Figure 1), there is usually a spike in the number of bats submitted for testing in the summer and early fall. People are generally more active and spend more time outdoors, increasing their chances of an encounter. Also, at this time of year, young bats are learning to fly and may be more readily noticed or encountered than at other times of the year.

There were only 6 terrestrial rabies cases during the third quarter. Four of these were striped skunks. There were 9 rabid skunks in the previous quarter and 8 in the first quarter of 2008. By this time last year there were 19 rabid skunks. The total so far in 2008 is 21. Two of the 4 skunks were found in Wellington County; the other 2

Rabid Bats During the Third Quarter



were from Huron County. The number of counties with rabid skunks has dropped from 4 in the previous quarter to 2.

The two rabies cases in domestic animals (1 cat, 1 dog) occurred in Waterloo Region. This brings the total number of domestic animal cases to 5 so far this year which is up slightly from previous years.

There have been no rabies cases reported in northern Ontario for the last 6 months. The last time that northern Ontario saw more than 4 cases in a year was 2002.

September 23, 2008 marks the third year that Ontario has been free of mid-Atlantic raccoon strain rabies. For more details, refer to the previous issue of the Rabies Reporter.

Val von Zuben
RRDU
Peterborough, ON

HOW TO REACH US:

Rabies Research and Development Unit
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Trent University—DNA Building
2140 East Bank Drive
Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8
Canada

Office phone: 705-755-2272
Office fax: 705-755-1559
Email: beverly.stevenson@ontario.ca

The Rabies Reporter, a scientific newsletter about current issues in rabies research and control, is a joint effort of the Rabies Research Unit of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; the Rabies Laboratory at the Ottawa Laboratory (Fallowfield) of the Canadian Food Inspection Agency; and the Ontario Ministry of Health. Articles for future issues will be welcomed by the editor. The Rabies Reporter is not refereed, and should not be cited in papers intended for refereed journals. Send contributions, letters and inquiries to:

The Rabies Reporter
Rabies Research & Development Unit
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Trent University—DNA Bldg.
2140 East Bank Drive
Peterborough, ON K9J 7B8

Visit: www.gis.queensu.ca/RReporter/ or
rabies.mnr.gov.on.ca

ISSN (print): 1186-8961
ISSN (pdf): 1705-2106

Animal Rabies Report: July to September 2008

Animal Type	Fox			Raccoon			Skunk			Other Wildlife			Bat			Dog			Cat			Livestock			Totals			
County or Region	#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		
		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07	
Eastern																												
Stormont, Dundas & Glengarry																								0	0	0		
Prescott-Russell																								0	0	0		
Ottawa-Carleton												1	1	2											1	1	2	
Renfrew												1	1												1	1	0	
Lanark																									0	0	0	
Leeds and Grenville														3											0	0	3	
Frontenac												1	1	3											1	1	3	
Lennox & Addington														1											0	0	1	
Central																												
Hastings																									0	0	0	
Prince Edward																									0	0	0	
Northumberland																									0	0	0	
Victoria																									0	0	0	
Haliburton																									0	0	0	
Peterborough														5											0	0	5	
Durham												2	2	5									1		2	2	6	
York Region														1											0	0	1	
Toronto												1	2	2		1									1	3	2	
Simcoe								1				1	1	4											1	1	5	
Western																												
Peel								1						4												0	0	5
Halton																										0	0	0
Dufferin								2																		0	0	2
Wellington						2	5	4				1	1	2								1	1		3	7	7	
Waterloo							6	3				1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1			1	4		3	11	9	
Perth							6	5				2	3					1				5	1		2	15	6	
Grey							2	1								1										0	2	2
Bruce								1				1	1	1								1			1	2	2	
Huron						2	2							2									1		2	2	3	

Animal Rabies Report: July to September 2008

Animal Type	Fox			Raccoon			Skunk			Other Wildlife			Bat			Dog			Cat			Livestock			Totals		
County or Region	#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative		#	Cumulative	
		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07		08	07
Southern																											
Wentworth													3	5	4										3	5	4
Haldimand-Norfolk															2										0	0	2
Brant																									0	0	0
Niagara													1	1	6										1	1	6
Elgin													2	2											2	2	0
Oxford									1						1										0	0	2
Middlesex													6	6	2										6	6	2
Lambton													1	1	2										1	1	2
Kent													1	1	1										1	1	1
Essex													1	1											1	1	0
Northern																											
Muskoka														1											0	0	1
Parry Sound																									0	0	0
Nipissing																									0	0	0
Sudbury														1											0	0	1
Cochrane																									0	0	0
Timiskaming																									0	0	0
Algoma														1											0	0	1
Thunder Bay																									0	0	0
Rainy River																									0	0	0
Kenora		1																							0	1	0
Regional Totals																											
Eastern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	3	9
Central	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	4	5	17	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4	6	19
Western	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	21	17	0	0	0	5	6	10	1	2	2	1	2	0	0	8	7	11	39	36
Southern	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	15	17	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	17	19
Northern	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
Totals	0	1	0	0	0	0	4	21	19	0	0	0	27	31	57	1	3	2	1	2	0	0	8	8	33	66	86

Notes for this quarter:

The bats were all big brown bats except for a red-eared bat in Wellington, a little brown bat in Frontenac, and an eastern pipistrelle in Middlesex.

