

Weather and the West Nile Virus

If, in fact, we will see, among other things, an increase in public health pesticide use in our communities as a result of early global climate changes, the problem merits our attention. This diagram offers a possible explanation for how a warming trend and sequential weather extremes helped the West Nile virus to establish itself in the New York City area in 1999. Whether the virus entered the U.S. via mosquitoes, birds or people is unknown. But once it arrived, interactions between mosquitoes and birds amplified its proliferation.

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