

Station News A PROGRESS REPORT for staff and Friends of America's first Agricultural Experiment Station



Dr. Sandra Anagnostakis gave a talk entitled "The chestnut story in America" at a chestnut conference in Mayford (Woking), England, and toured some of the old trees planted there. The above picture is of a chestnut tree planted in 1530 on the estate of Lord Cowdray in Sussex, England.

Departmental News

Administration

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI Spoke to the Experiment Station Associates Board members about West Nile encephalitis, formula funds, a new potential human pathogen, Farm/City Week, and Plant Science Day (September 1); participated in an Invasive Plants Council meeting in Hartford (September 6); was interviewed about beekeeping in Connecticut by Linda Lambeck (September 15); was interviewed about ticks by Leon Collins of Channel 3 TV, WFSB in Hartford (September 16); and Greeted Federated Garden Club members in Jones Auditorium and gave an update on Station programs (September 27).

Analytical Chemistry

DR. MARYJANE INCORVIA MATTINA and DRS. BRIAN EITZER AND DAVID STILWELL, along with WILLIAM IANNUCCI-BERGER, TERRI ARSENAULT, CRAIG MUSANTE, met with Diana Jones and told her about the projects underway in Analytical Chemistry. She also toured our laboratories (September 19).

DR. DAVID STILWELL attended a public science lecture on "Mercury pollution in Connecticut: from mad hatters to environmental policies" by Professor Johan C. Varekamp at Wesleyan University (September 29).

Entomology

ROSE BONITO presented an exhibit for the Station at "Celebrating Agriculture" held at the Woodstock Fairgrounds (September 17).

GALE RIDGE is working as an entomologist with the disaster medical assistance team, homeland security, and mobile field hospital in Louisiana advising on protection of the staff from Fire ants and other biting and stinging arthropods (September 19). Was interviewed by film crew on wildlife on New England about the rough neck root borer, after identification of photograph (September 22).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH participated in a steering committee meeting of the National Plant Pathogen Laboratory Accreditation Program held in Raleigh, NC (September 21-22).

Forestry and Horticulture

DR. JEFFREY WARD presided at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Board of Directors meeting in New Haven, CT (September 6); administered practical and oral examination to arborist candidates for the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board (September 7); spoke on "Tree Biology" for the Arboriculture 101 class sponsored by The Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Jones Auditorium (September 7); spoke on "Homeowner tree care" for the Spring Glen Garden Club in Hamden (September 12); invited guest on WTIC AM-1080 radio talk show "Garden talk" to offer advice on tree management. (September 17); participated in the Connecticut Urban Forest Council meeting in New London. (September 20); participated in Connecticut Forestlands Committee meeting in Middlefield (September 20); participated in the Organic Options in Tree Care workshop in Burlington (September 22); gave a class on "Outdoor identification of woody plants" to the Federated Garden Clubs Garden Study School held in Jones Auditorium. (September 28); participated in Connecticut session of the Northeast Carbon Feasibility Project in Hartford (September 29); advised Christy Haas and Doreen Larson-Oboyski of the City of New Haven on using urban tree inventories (September 30).

DR. MARTIN GENT attended an open house at Sunny Borders Nursery, Kensington CT, sponsored by the CT Greenhouse Growers Association (August 31); gave a class on "Growing plants under lights" to the Federated Garden Clubs Garden Study School held in Jones Auditorium. (September 28).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD judged fruits and vegetables at the North Haven Fair (September 8); visited Hindingers Farm in Hamden (September 17); toured Lockwood Farm and discussed Station research to the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten classes from Hamden Hall Country Day School (September 26).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL visited Richard, Brenda, and Allen Ruggerio at Paradise Hills Vineyard and Winery in Wallingford (September 9); helped staff the Connecticut Farm Wine Council booth at The Big E in West Springfield, MA (September 21); evaluated a potential vineyard site in New Haven County with Charlie Rosabianca (September 23); visited Larry McCulloch at Chamard Vineyards in Clinton to discuss the harvest and inspect the vineyard (September 28).

Plant Pathology and Ecology

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS was visited by William Adamsen from the Connecticut chapter of The American Chestnut Foundation and gave him a tour of the chestnut trees planted at Lockwood Farm (Sept. 19); gave a talk entitled "The chestnut story in America" at a chestnut conference in Mayford (Woking), England, and toured some of the old trees planted there (see attached picture of a chestnut tree planted in 1530 on the estate of Lord Cowdray in Sussex) (Sept. 23-27).

DR. WADE H. ELMER attended an Evening at the Greenhouse at Sunny Border Nurseries in Kensington (Sept. 13); attended a Connecticut Greenhouse Growers planning meeting at Michael's Greenhouses in Cheshire (Sept. 20).

Soil and Water

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS was interviewed about the cluster of human cases of Eastern equine encephalitis virus in southeastern MA by Chris Francis WTIC Radio (September 6); was interviewed about the first human cases of West Nile virus for 2005 in the state by Jane Tillman Irving WCBS radio NY; and Bill Hathaway, Hartford Courant (September 8); was interviewed about the first human cases of West Nile virus for 2005 in the state by Michael Julian, Darien News Times (September 9); was interviewed about the first human cases of West Nile virus for 2005 in the state by Patrick Lindsey of The Hour Newspaper (September 10); and was interviewed about the Station's research and surveillance programs on mosquitoes and West Nile virus by Jane Gorden NY Times (September 20).

DR. ROBERT CAPERS along with GREGORY BUGBEE and ROSLYN SELSKY attended the New England Invasive Plant Summit in Framingham, MA and presented a poster on their aquatic plant surveys (September 16).

DR. JASON WHITE presented an invited seminar at the University of Texas El Paso entitled *Bioavailability of weathered persistent organic pollutants in soil: Is phytoremediation possible* (September 28) and was interviewed about phytoremediation on Texas Public Radio by Dr. Keith Pennel for a program entitled "Science Studio." (September 29).

Valley Laboratory

TIMOTHY ABBEY presented "Ornamental Plant Pest Management with an Organic Focus" to the North Stonington Garden Club (September 20); presented a presentation entitled "NOFA Approved Organic Insecticides" at the CTPA Organic Tree Care Workshop in Burlington, CT (September 27); and designed the display "Native Ornamental Plants" that was present in the New England Center building at the Big E from (September 16-October 2).

DR. CAROLE CHEAH participated in a conference call (August 2) with program managers, Brad Onken and Dr. Richard Reardon from the USDA Forest Service, Dr. Hugh Conway of Clemson University and Dr. Wayne Berisford of the University of Georgia to discuss and plan for a joint study on sleeve cage assessments of hemlock woolly adelgid predators in 2006; together with JAMES PRESTE, met with Ted Church, Kenwood Tree Services, and Melanie and Michael Johnston in Colebrook to inspect and treat for balsam woolly adelgid and elongate hemlock scale on Fraser firs (September 1 & 7); met with USDA Forest Service scientists at the Northeastern Research Station, Hamden, to discuss research progress (September 12 & 19); together with JAMES PRESTE, met with Marty Tunis in Washington, to discuss biological control options for hemlock woolly adelgid (September 21); together with JAMES PRESTE, met with Alan Snow, Forest Health Supervisor, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management at Southbridge, MA, to discuss cooperation in a winter study of predator survival on hemlock woolly adelgid (September 22); and was interviewed by Claire Pelletier, undergraduate wildlife ecology student at Saint Joseph College on work experiences as a biologist (September 22).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA examined candidates for the Connecticut arborist license and participated in the quarterly meeting of the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board in New Haven (September 7).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH presented a poster with co-author David Gumbart of The Nature Conservancy on "Control of Oriental bittersweet, pale swallowwort and phragmites at Bluff Point Coastal Reserve in Connecticut" at the New England Invasive Plant Summit in Framingham, MA (September 16-17); and, with DOROTHY REISS, delivered ~1600 lbs. of pumpkins harvested in an experiment at the Valley Laboratory to Northwest Park in Windsor for use at their annual Country Fair (September 24).

Journal Articles Approved September 2005

- Andreadis, Theodore G. Microsporidian Parasites of Mosquitoes. Biorational Control of Mosquitoes. American Mosquito Control Association.
- Eitzer, Brian D., MaryJane Incorvia Mattina, William Iannucci-Berger, Mehmet Isely, and Jason C. White. Impact of Low Molecular Weight Organic Acids Exuded Iron Cucurbitacen Roots on the Release of Soil Sequestered Contaminants. Environmental Science and Technology.
- Mervosh, Todd and David Gumbart. Control of Oriental Bittersweet, Pale Swallowwort and Phragmites at Bluff Point Coastal Reserve in Connecticut. Proceedings of the 2nd New England Invasive Plant Summit.
- Pignatello, Joseph J., Yuefeng Lu, Eugene J. LeBoeuf, Weilin Huang, Jianzhong Song, and Baoshan Xing. Nonlinear and Competitive Sorption of Apolar Compounds in Black Carbon-Free Natural Organic Materials. Journal of Environmental Quality.

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