

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

Photo of the Month...



Gregory Bugbee and Jason White showing aquatic invasive weeds in Pickerel Lake to Elyse Gittleman, Office of Legislative Management.

Departmental News

Administration

DR. JOHN F. ANDERSON served on a CDC panel discussing West Nile Virus in Atlanta, GA (August 1-2); hosted Plant Science Day (August 3); participated in a meeting of the Natural Resources Council in New Haven (August 18); Jason White and Gregory Bugbee, gave a tour of treated invasive weeds in Bashin Lake and untreated weeds in Pickerel Lake with Allison Dodge Congressional Aide—Rosa DeLauro and Elyse Gittleman of the Office of Legislative Management (August 19); interviewed by Rich Weizel of the New Haven Register on West Nile virus (August 26).

Analytical Chemistry

Dr. BRIAN EITZER attended the 228th American Chemical Society National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA (August 22-25).

Biochemistry and Genetics

Entomology

ROSE BONITO was interviewed by Kathleen Greenleaf of the Hamden Chronicle about the Bird and Butterfly Garden at Lockwood Farm (August 16).

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI was interviewed by Kathleen Greenleaf of the Hamden Chronicle about Lockwood Farm (August 13); participated in a Wine Council meeting in Colchester (August 27).

DR. CHRIS T. MAIER was interviewed about cicada biology by Jeff Yates of the Wilton Bulletin (August 9).

DR. CLAIRE RUTLEDGE attended the International Congress of Entomology XXII in Brisbane, Australia; presented a talk entitled "Plant waxes, insect attachment & aphid predators" coauthored with Dr. Sanford Eigenbrode of the University of Idaho in a symposium entitled "Influence of plant architectural & structural features on insects"; presented a poster entitled "Life history of soybean aphid *Aphis glycines* Matsumura in Indiana, USA" coauthored with Dr. Robert O'Neil and Dr. Ho Jung Yoo of Purdue University, Dr. David Voegtlin of the Illinois Natural History Survey and Dr. William Graves of Iowa State University in the Insect Invasions section (August 15-21).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH met with Jack Kozuchowski, Environmental Health Coordinator for the City of Danbury, at a mercury contamination remediation site in Danbury (August 11), met with Anne Spelletich, Monsanto Corporation in Mystic, to certify their facility for working with recombinant plants (August 12), was interviewed by Bob Miller, Danbury News-Times, about Sudden Oak Death in the Northeast (August 13) and participated in Export Certification Training, held at New York State Agriculture and Marketing Headquarters in Albany, NY (August 23-27)

Forestry and Horticulture

DR. JEFFREY WARD Presided at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Board of Directors meeting in New Haven (August 3); spoke on "Diameter growth of northern red oak following crop-tree release and thinning" to University of Connecticut faculty and graduate students in West Hartford (August 18); interviewed about forest preservation and management by Brook Pielli of Connecticut Life Magazine (August 23).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL visited Jamie Jones at the Jones Family Farm, Shelton, discussed crop load and thinning strategies on several varieties (August 5); met with Joe Gouveia at the (soon to be opened) Gouveia Vineyards in Wallingford, discussed management strategies, and suggested alternative pruning, weed control, and fertilization strategies for 2005 (August 11); met with Gregory Bollard of Maywood Associates at Maywood Gardens in Bridgewater, , suggested options for pest management, dormant pruning, and overall vineyard management for the 2005 growing season, when the first crop should be harvested (August 17); participated in a meeting of the New England Wine Grape Growers at Newport Vineyards in Middletown, RI. (August 19); presented a talk on current perspectives of wine grape research in Connecticut at a meeting of the Connecticut Vineyard and Wine Association at Sharpe Hill Vineyard, Pomfret (August 21); visited a potential vineyard site in North Branford with Charlie Rosebianca (August 25); participated in a meeting of the Farm Wine Council with Drs. John Anderson and Louis Magnarelli at Priam Vineyards, Colchester. US Congress Representative Rob Simmons and staff were also in attendance (August 27).

Lockwood Farm

Plant Pathology and Ecology

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS presented two papers entitled "Update on Sudden Oak Death" (co-authored by Sharon Douglas) and "Nut grafting for chestnuts" at the Annual Meeting of the Northern Nut Growers Association, and attended the Board Meeting at which she was elected President of the Association in Columbia, MO (August 14-20).

DR. DONALD E. AYLOR presented a paper entitled "Quantifying aerial dispersal of pollen in relation to outcrossing in maize" at the American Meteorological Society's 26th Conference on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada (August 25).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS was interviewed about late blight of tomato outbreaks in New England and its status in Connecticut by Mark Sims of the Connecticut Radio Network and about late blight and other tomato diseases in Connecticut by a reporter from Channel 30 News (August 9); was interviewed about late blight of tomato and other fungal diseases of vegetables in Connecticut this season by Bob Miller of the Danbury News-Times (August 11); participated in a round-table discussion of instructors of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association's Arboriculture 101 course regarding ways to improve the course (August 17); was interviewed about an unusual phenomenon reported as growth of a tomato out of a fig tree by Ann Zucker of the Connecticut Post (August 19); was interviewed about late blight and other diseases of tomato, weather-related delays in ripening, and the quality of this year's crop by Christine McCluskey of the Journal Inquirer (August 27).

MS. MARY K. INMAN gave a talk on "General care of houseplants" to members of the Partnerships Center for Adult Day Care in Hamden (August 25).

Soil and Water

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS presented a talk "Learning to Live with West Nile Virus" at Plant Science Day, Hamden, CT (August 4); interviewed about West Nile virus and the Mosquito Trapping and Testing Program by Jeremy Esposito, Darien Times; Bill Hathaway, Hartford Courant (August 9); interviewed about West Nile virus by Marc Sims CT Public radio (August 10); interviewed about the outbreak of Eastern Equine encephalitis in southeastern Massachusetts by Marian Gail Brown, Connecticut Post (August 13); interviewed about the impact of weather and rainfall on mosquitoes and West Nile virus in the region by Kathleen Marple, WNLK radio NY (August 18); interviewed about the lower levels of West Nile virus activity in birds and humans in the northeastern US in 2004 by Dawn Fallik-Philadelphia Inquirer, and Steve Kotchko, CT Public Radio (August 24); interviewed about the detection of Eastern Equine encephalitis in mosquitoes collected in southeastern Connecticut by Marian Gail Brown, Connecticut Post (August 25).

DR. JASON WHITE met with Catherine Ribeiro, Katy McNulty, and Krystyn Ledoux of Senator Joseph Lieberman's office to discuss funding for US-based program where graduate students from Middle Eastern Universities could train/study (August 2); participated in a conference call with US EPA and other steering committee members for the planning of an International Phytotechnologies Conference next April. August 12. Visited a GE-owned site that is contaminated with dieldrin. Met with consultants from Leggette, Brashear, and Graham to discuss phytoremediation field trials at the site (August 10); visited Bashan and Pickeral lakes with a representative from DAS and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro's office and gave detailed presentation of the Invasive Weed Project at CAES (Greg Bugbee and Dr. John Anderson attended as well) (August 19).

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO attended and presented an invited keynote talk and was co-author of three other talks in a Symposium on Advances in Environmental Reaction Kinetics and Thermodynamics: Long-Term Fate of Anthropogenic Contaminants; Environmental Chemistry Division, 228th American Chemical Society National Meeting; Philadelphia, PA: "Elucidating the causes of irreversible sorption of organic compounds to natural organic matter"; "Sorption of apolar aromatic compounds to charcoals prepared under varied thermochemical conditions" presented by Seokjoon Kwon; "Conditioning-relaxation studies to assess irreversibility of organic compound sorption to organic matter solids" presented by Michael Sander; and "Novel isotope dilution technique to assess mechanisms of sorption hysteresis" presented by Michael Sander (August 22-26).

Valley Laboratory

TIMOTHY ABBEY presented "Bugs are Nice" as part of the children's program series at the University of Connecticut Co-Op in Storrs (July 10); presented "An Introduction to IPM" to the Farm Bureau in New Haven (July 12); and "Pest Management Update" at the CAES Valley Laboratory Tour in Windsor (July 20); attended the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Summer Meeting at Hollandia Nursery

in Bethel (July 14), and helped staff the CAES display at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association Summer Meeting in Farmington (July 25).

DR. CAROLE CHEAH was interviewed by Trudy Tyman, of the Associated Press, Springfield on winter mortality of hemlock woolly adelgid and hemlock recovery in Connecticut (August 6).

DR. RICHARD COWLES presented "Chemical control of hemlock woolly adelgid," at Plant Science Day, Hamden (August 4); participated with WTIC radio's Len and Lisa Gardening Show (August 7); met with an ecology class field trip from Asnuntuck Community College and discussed "Exotic pests and management of hemlock woolly adelgids," at the Shenipsit State Forest in Somers (August 8).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH presented a display of weeds and wild plants at a meeting of the Sharon Garden Club (August 2).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA was interviewed about research and services at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Valley Laboratory and tobacco disease research by Christine McCluskey and Jessica Hill of the Journal Inquirer (August 24); and was interviewed by Duncan Allison about the importance of nematode diseases on ornamentals for a crop protection report (August 28).

Micellaneous Station Happenings...

Mary Kay Frost and husband David are the proud parents of Owen Michael Frost
6 pounds 12 ounces 20 1/2 inches born August 16, 2004

Dr. Martin Gent's daughter Alison married Jeremy Dobbins at his house in Cheshire and moved to Green, Ohio on August 28, 2004.

On Plant Science Day 2004, Jeff Fengler was busy recording butterflies and moths visiting the Bird & Butterfly Garden. There were 12 butterflies and one moth on Plant Science Day. On Plant Science Day 2003, Jeff recorded 15 butterflies and 2 moths.

Butterfly

1. Eastern Tiger Swallowtail
2. Spicebush Swallowtail
3. Cabbage White
4. Northern Broken Dash
5. Pearl Crescent
6. Monarch
7. Peck's Skipper
8. Tawny Edge Skipper
9. Dun Skipper
10. Black Swallowtail
11. Summer Azure
12. Orange Sulfur

Moth

1. Hummingbird Clearwing

Journal Articles Approved August 2004

- Gent, Martin P. N., Z. Parrish, J. C. White. Exudation of Citric Acid and Nutrient Uptake Among Subspecies of Cucurbita. Crop Sciences
- Mattina, Mary Jane Incorvia, W. Iannucci-Berger, B. D. Eitzer, J. C. White. Rhizotron Study of Cucurbitaceae: Transport of Soil-Bound Chlordane & Heavy Metal Contaminants Differ with Genera. Environmental Chemistry
- Sander, Michael, Y. Lu, J. J. Pignatello. A Thermodynamically Based Method to Quantify True Sorption Hysteresis. Journal of Environmental Quality

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