

## **LOCKWOOD LECTURE**

### **“Using natural variation in tomato to understand and improve the plant immune system”**



#### **Dr. Gregory Martin**

Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research and Cornell University

**Monday, October 3, 2016**

Tea: 10:30 a.m., Lecture: 11:00 a.m.

**Jones Auditorium**

**The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT**

Dr. Martin's research focuses on the mechanisms that bacteria use to infect plants and, in turn, the mechanisms that plants have evolved to interfere with bacterial pathogens. The interaction of tomato with the bacterial speck pathogen *Pseudomonas syringae* has been the model system for this work, which has resulted in many landmark papers that helped pioneer our understanding of disease resistance gene mechanisms. Dr. Martin's group is now embarking on a large multistate project to explore the wild (tomato) frontier; that is, to look for new sources of disease resistance in the diverse wild relatives of tomato. The project aims to identify new immunity genes that can be bred into cultivated tomato, resulting in market varieties that can be grown in a more low-cost and sustainable manner.

Phone: (203) 974-8500

Toll Free: 1 (877) 855-2237

Fax: (203) 974-8502

[WWW.CT.GOV/CAES](http://WWW.CT.GOV/CAES)

*An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer*