The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is a state-supported scientific research institution dedicated to improving the food, health, environment and well-being of Connecticut's residents since 1875.

Visit the CAES in 2015

Join us at our 2015 events
Associates Annual Meeting—
Wednesday, April 8, 7 p.m.,
Jones Auditorium, New Haven, CT
Plant Science Day—
Wednesday, August 5, 10 a.m.,
Lockwood Farm, Hamden, CT

Visit outdoor exhibit gardens
Nursery growers' gardens (plants discovered by Connecticut growers) in:
• New Haven
• Windsor
• Lockwood Farm
in Hamden
Nursery growers' Plant Identification Garden at the:
• Valley Laboratory in Windsor
Bird and Butterfly Garden at:
• Lockwood Farm in Hamden

Research Farm
The Experiment Station's 75-acre research farm in Hamden, called Lockwood Farm, is open to the public during normal business hours. Parking is available inside the gate. Free admission.

Experiment Station Associates
P.O. Box 3560, Amity Station
New Haven, CT 06525
The ESA is a proactive, volunteer group of Station supporters who assist in promoting the research work carried out at the CAES. All interested persons are welcome to join. Benefits include participation in field trips to Connecticut's leading agricultural businesses and publications highlighting the latest research developments at the Station. For more information, visit the Station web site and click on the Experiment Station Associates.

Printing of this leaflet was funded by the Experiment Station Associates

Learn More About the CAES

www.ct.gov/caes
The Experiment Station's web page features an extensive electronic Plant Pest Handbook, arranged by plant name, which covers diseases, insects, and cultural and nematode problems of plants grown in Connecticut. During 2014, there were 190,397 visits for the entire web site.

Hours
Residents may call or visit the Experiment Station during normal business hours, 8:30am-4:30pm, Monday through Friday, except state holidays.

Telephone Numbers
New Haven area:
Plants: (203) 974-8601
Insects: (203) 974-8600
Soils: (203) 974-8521
Other Inquiries: (203) 974-8500
Hartford area:
All inquiries: (860) 683-4977
Statewide:
Toll-free: (877) 855-2237

Locations
Main Laboratories (203) 974-8500
123 Huntington St., New Haven, CT 06511-2016
Valley Laboratory (860) 683-4977
153 Cook Hill Road, Windsor, CT 06095-0248
Lockwood Farm (203) 974-8618
890 Evergreen Avenue, Hamden, CT 06518-2361
Griswold Research Center (860) 376-0365
190 Sheldon Road, Griswold, CT 06351-3627

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station
Putting Science to Work for Society since 1875

2015

CAES

Protecting Agriculture, Public Health, and the Environment
Agriculture

Did You Know?

Did you know that the only testing of food in the state of Connecticut for pesticides, heavy metals, toxins and poisons, is conducted by the CAES Department of Analytical Chemistry?

CAES scientists are evaluating new specialty crops and conducting variety trials on common vegetables to determine those best suited for Connecticut's soil and climate. Over 64 fruits and vegetables have been studied in the New Crops Program including beach and Japanese plums, globe artichoke, heirloom tomatoes, radicchio, vegetable amaranth, sweet potato, okra, tomatillo, broccoli, corn, and lettuce.

CAES scientists play vital roles in state consumer food safety programs and federal emergency response to potential terrorist events involving the food supply, by analyzing fresh and manufactured foods from domestic and international sources for pesticides, heavy metals, toxins, and poisons.

Fire blight is a devastating disease of apple and pear, especially for many popular apple varieties such as 'Gala' and 'Fuj'. Station scientists are studying the disease mechanisms to develop novel control approaches as possible alternatives to applications of the antibiotic streptomycin, which is currently the most effective management option.

Health

Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses continue to be major public health concerns in Connecticut. Station scientists are conducting tick management studies to evaluate a combination of methods to reduce tick abundance and the risk of tick-borne diseases using a biological control agent (fungus) within a rodent bait box that treats mice and kills feeding ticks on mice and a new rodent-targeted oral Lyme disease vaccine.

Station scientists at the Center for Vector Biology & Zoonotic Diseases monitor mosquito-borne viruses that cause human and animal disease including eastern equine encephalitis and West Nile virus throughout the state every year from June through October. Over 190,000 mosquitoes are tested weekly. They are also investigating the impact of global warming and climate change on the ecology of these viruses and their mosquito hosts.

Molds develop in indoor environments following water damage and dampness and exposure can trigger allergies, cause infection, or aggravate existing medical conditions. Research is being conducted to determine the concentration of airborne molds in Connecticut and the incidence and distribution of indoor species. This research is assisting medical professionals in the diagnosis and evaluation of mold-related health risks in public school buildings and aided professionals in the mitigation of indoor mold problems.

Environment

Salt marshes are the most productive ecosystems on the planet, producing 40% more biomass than tropical rainforests. Productivity of coastal marshes of Connecticut and the Eastern seaboard is being threatened by Sudden Vegetation Dieback (SVD), the sudden loss of salt marsh grass, mainly Spartina alterniflora. Station scientists are investigating the factors contributing to SVD, from drought to pest pressure from herbivores and disease.

Station scientists are researching the behavior of organic chemicals in the environment and developing novel methods to remediate toxic organic pollutants in contaminated soil and water.

Did You Know?

Did you know that the emerald ash borer, first detected in CT in 2012 by CAES scientists, is the most destructive invasive forest pest in US history, having already killed over 60 million trees nationwide?

Public Service

Testing soil samples for fertility and recommending methods for growing better plants are a continuing no cost service for citizens of Connecticut. Testing is available at our laboratories in New Haven and Windsor and provides direct economic and environmental benefit by reducing unnecessary fertilizer treatments to lawns, plants, shrubs and gardens reducing nitrogen runoff into soil and water.

Station Inspectors work to safeguard agriculture and forests in Connecticut by inspecting and certifying agricultural products leaving and entering the state and for plants, insects, and soil from CT residents. Station staff are available in our New Haven and Windsor facilities to answer public inquiries and diagnose insect and plant disease problems for homeowners, businesses and pest control professionals. CAES inquiry offices annually answer more than 30,000 questions about plants, insects, and soil from CT residents. Staff also provide outreach programs throughout the state through workshops, exhibits, lectures and seminars.

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