



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

123 HUNTINGTON STREET BOX 1106 NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06504

Founded 1875

Putting science to work for society

SPRING 2009—OPEN HOUSE

THURSDAY, APRIL 23RD, 2009, 1:00 PM

REFRESHMENTS (1:00PM-1:15PM)

SIGN-IN FOR PESTICIDE CREDITS (1:00PM-1:15PM)

WELCOME (1:15PM-1:30PM)

Dr. Louis A. Magnarelli, Director

SHORT TALKS (1:30PM-3:00PM)

1:30pm-2:00pm

Dr. Wade H. Elmer. *Environmentally Safe Methods for Vegetable Disease Control.* Many common diseases of vegetables can be suppressed with simple practices that are environmentally safe and do not require the use of chemical pesticides. Strategies that use rotation, cover cropping, and organic mulches to improve soil quality, increase the number of earthworms, and suppress soil-borne diseases will be discussed. In addition, data from research using harmless solutions of milk and water to suppress powdery mildews will be presented along with a discussion of several biological products that are available for environmentally sound disease control in the garden.

2:00pm-2:30pm

Dr. Abigail A. Maynard. *Unusual Vegetables to Grow in Your Garden.* Belgian endive, globe artichokes, calabaza, jilo, and sweet potatoes are all vegetables commonly grown in other parts of the country and worldwide, but they are usually not found in gardens in Connecticut. This presentation will cover the results of our ongoing *New Crops Research Program* that has identified techniques that will allow these vegetables to be successfully grown in our state. Add some variety to your garden this year and learn how to grow these unusual tasty vegetables.

2:30pm-3:00pm

Dr. Todd L. Mervosh. *Identification and Managing Weeds in the Garden.* What makes a weed a "weed?" What weeds are common in gardens? What can you do to reduce weeds in your garden? These are some of the questions that will be addressed in this presentation. In addition, this presentation will include photos of several weeds that thrive in Connecticut gardens and landscape beds, and will cover the common name, scientific name, life cycle, and basic biology of each weed. A variety of weed management strategies will also be presented.

GUIDED TOURS (3:00PM-4:06PM)

3:00pm-3:22pm

- 1. Dr. Martin P.N. Gent.** *Starting Vegetable Transplants for the Garden.* Greenhouses are used to start vegetable plants from seed to set out in the field when the weather is warm enough. Temperature, light, and soil moisture are all important for seed germination and early growth of plants. Pot size is also a consideration that depends on the nature of the crop and the time before transplant.
Location: Forestry/Horticulture greenhouse.

3:22pm-3:44pm

- 2. Dr. Douglas W. Dingman.** *Honeybee Colony Health and American Foulbrood.* Recent news reports on problems with honeybees have drawn attention to honeybee colony health. Many diseases afflict honeybees and compromise the overall health of beehives. American foulbrood, a highly contagious disease of honeybee larvae caused by the bacterium *Paenibacillus larvae*, is being studied to determine the prevalence, severity, and geographic distribution of the disease in Connecticut.
Location: Johnson-Horsfall Building, Conference Room 1 (Room # 101).

3:44pm-4:06pm

- 3. Dr. MaryJane Incorvia Mattina and Staff.** *Food, Environment, and Product Safety Laboratory.* Attendees will have the opportunity to see the instruments in the Department of Analytical Chemistry's state-of-the-art laboratory and learn about some of the analyses that are conducted using these instruments. Chemists in the department will give an overview of our work on melamine in foods, agrochemicals in food, bee health, and heavy metal analysis of toys.
Location: Johnson-Horsfall building, Third Floor.

Phone: (203) 974-8500

Fax: (203) 974-8502

Toll Free: 1-(877) 855-2237

Web Page: www.ct.gov/caes

An Equal Opportunity Employer