



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

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*Putting Science to Work for Society
Protecting Agriculture, Public Health, and the Environment*

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The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Receives USDA Farm Bill Funding to Protect Connecticut Agriculture and Plants from Pests and Diseases

New Haven, CT - The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) announced today that it received \$293,179 in funding from U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) provided by the Agricultural Act of 2014 (the 2014 Farm Bill), to support Connecticut projects to prevent the introduction and spread of plant pests, diseases, and pathogens. This was part of the \$57.9 million in funding announced by USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack. The projects supported at CAES fall under the Farm Bill "Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Programs." Proposals from all states and many other organizations were evaluated by teams comprised of USDA experts, agricultural scientists, and industry representatives. The CAES projects focus on enhancing plant pest/disease analysis and survey, enhancing mitigation capabilities, and conducting outreach and education. Dr. Theodore G. Andreadis, CAES Director, reported "we are pleased to receive support from USDA for five key areas that include an important spectrum of Connecticut's commodities and forests." Funded CAES programs are:

- Grape Commodity Survey: to detect diseases and introduced pests of grapevine;
- Orchard Commodity Survey: to detect diseases and introduced pests of apples, peaches, and pears;
- National Honey Bee Pests and Diseases Survey: to detect diseases, pests, and viruses of honeybees;
- Forest Pest Outreach: to help inform the citizens of CT about introduced pests that may affect our forest resources;
- Boxwood Blight: to conduct research on this new disease in the U.S. to evaluate boxwood germplasm for resistance as well as fungicide controls and the potential for fungicide resistance in the pathogen.

View the full list of funded Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program suggestions in the FY 2015 funding plan. http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/farmbill-section10007/fy15/FY15-FarmBill10007-PlantPestandDisease-Spending-Plan.pdf
For more information, visit <http://www.usda.gov/farmbill>.

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