The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station



123 HUNTINGTON STREET, P.O. BOX 1106, NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT 06504

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PRESS RELEASE

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MEDIA CONTACTS:

Dr. Kimberly A. Stoner Department of Entomology The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station 123 Huntington Street New Haven, CT 06511 Phone: (203) 974-8480 E-mail: <u>Kimberly.Stoner@ct.gov</u> Dr. Kirby C. Stafford III Department of Entomology The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station 123 Huntington Street New Haven, CT 06511 Phone: (203) 974-8485 E-mail:<u>Kirby.Stafford@ct.gov</u>

Tour of Meadows and Pollinator Habitat to be Co-Led by Bee Scientist

New Haven, CT -- The Entomology Department of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) announces a tour of five meadows and pollinator plantings on Saturday, July 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.. The tour will begin in Westbrook, CT, at a reclaimed brownfield that has become a "green" parking lot with a quarter-acre meadow garden, and then continue to private meadows in Killingworth, Chester, and two sites in Old Saybrook.

Dr. Kimberly Stoner, CAES entomologist specializing in bees, will speak at each stop about the specifics of the pollinator habitat at each location. Kathy Connolly, a landscape designer with a specialty in naturalized settings and native plants, will speak about the planting history of the site, meadow establishment, plant selection, and the long-term maintenance of a successful flowering meadow.

New England native plants and grasses reach their peak between July and early October. Participants will see more than a hundred species of native plants, many of them in peak flower or plume, in successful, persistent flowering meadows, in a wide variety of settings, both large and small.

The tour is open to all. This tour qualifies for four recertification credits for NOFA Accredited Organic Land Care Professionals, and five hours of Pesticide Recertification Credits in all categories. It is also supported by Specialty Crop Block Grant from the Connecticut Department of Agriculture.

Cost: \$50.00 if registered in advance. Space is limited. Link for more information and to register: <u>www.ct.gov/caes/pollinators</u>.

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