



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Putting Science to Work for Society since 1875

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CAES Scientists Release Updated Bulletin on Management of Beech Leaf Disease

New Haven, CT - The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) has released a new fact sheet https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CAES/DOCUMENTS/Publications/Fact_Sheets/Valley_Laboratory/Beech-Leaf-Disease-Management-Options.pdf providing an update and overview of current research on the biology and management of beech leaf disease (BLD), conducted by scientists at CAES and at research institutions throughout the affected region.

Since its first appearance in Connecticut in lower Fairfield County in 2019, BLD has increased dramatically in both severity and distribution, and is now widespread on American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) in all eight Connecticut counties, as well as most of the Northeast and Ontario, Canada.

An important aspect of BLD biology is the migration of nematodes from the leaves to buds. Feeding within the buds causes the damage that will be observed in the following year. Migration of nematodes out of foliage was detected for the first time this year during the August 11 rain event.

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