



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

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PRESS RELEASE

Connecticut Bed Bug Forum

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PRESS RELEASE: The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is to host the Connecticut bed bug forum for Connecticut housing authorities, pest control operators, health departments, sanitarians, housing code inspectors, the hospitality industry, and related businesses.

New Haven, Conn., Thursday, October 15th, 2009 from 8AM-12:30PM--A Connecticut bed bug forum will be held at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) in New Haven where a panel of experts will meet with local health departments, sanitarians, housing authorities, legal professionals, the hospitality industry, and pest control companies to discuss the coordinated management of bed bugs in the State of Connecticut. In a half day program, participants have the opportunity to listen to a series of lectures about bed bug biology, research, control, and management followed by a town hall meeting. Seating is pre-registration only.

Dr. Gale E. Ridge scientist from CAES is the organizer of this event in cooperation with Dr. Kirby Stafford III, Connecticut State Entomologist and Vice Director of CAES, Pamela Kilby-Fox, Connecticut Department of Public Health, Diane Jorsey, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Judith R. Dicine, Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice, Tim Callahan, Norwalk Health Department, and Mike Lipsett, Connecticut Pest Control.

The first half of the program will begin with a lecture by Dr. Ridge on the biology, history, and factors associated with the recent worldwide resurgence of bed bugs, followed by Dr. John F. Anderson on bed bug research. A demonstration of the use of trained dogs for the detection of bed bug populations by Mr. Charlie Mastroberti will follow. Then Hazelann B. Cook, executive director of the Hamden Housing Authority, will talk about the housing authority experiences with bed bugs and the mornings lectures conclude with Attorney Judith R. Dicine from the

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Connecticut Division of Criminal Justice skillfully leading the audience through the legal aspects of bed bug management. Following the lectures the speakers as an expert panel will sit down in a town hall meeting with the audience to discuss ways to help provide a coordinated management effort for bed bug control in Connecticut.