



CAES

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CAES SEMINAR SERIES

“Biosurveillance, Detecting an Alien Invasive Beetle Using a Native Wasp”

Dr. Claire Rutledge

Dept. of Entomology, CAES

Wednesday, November 2, 2016

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Food and coffee will be available at 11:45 a.m.

Jones Auditorium

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT

When Emerald Ash Borer was first detected in Detroit, Michigan in 2002, there was a need for novel detection tools to track the destructive beetle. One method developed was biosurveillance using the native digger wasp, *Cerceris fumipennis*. This wasp uses beetles in the same family as emerald ash borer, the Buprestidae, to provision their brood, and nest in easily accessible sites such as baseball fields. The technique has been used in Connecticut since 2008, and was responsible for the first detection of emerald ash borer in the state. It has been used since then to track the spread of the beetle by town. Dr. Rutledge will discuss several aspects of the biosurveillance program in Connecticut such as the biology of the wasp, what the survey has told us about our native buprestid beetles, and the discovery of a new species of Asian buprestid in the state.