



CAES

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CAES SEMINAR SERIES

“Genomic Ecology of the Microsporidia”

Dr. Charles Vossbrinck

Dept. of Environmental Sciences, CAES

Thursday, October 12, 2017

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

Dr. Vossbrinck has a long-standing record of research on the ecology and molecular biology of the Microsporidia, a group of obligate intracellular eukaryotic parasites. The Microsporidia infect essentially all animal taxa. Dr. Vossbrinck’s early work, based on molecular analyses of ribosomal and U2 RNAs revealed the Microsporidia to be one of the most unusual and highly divergent group of eukaryotes. Dr. Vossbrinck has established a microsporidial taxonomy based on the comparison of ecological and phylogenetic characters. Dr. Vossbrinck and colleagues at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station have examined host-parasite co-evolutionary interactions. His current work focuses on comparative genomic analysis of a group of Microsporidia that infect terrestrial insects. The goal of this analysis is to identify evolutionary adaptations at the molecular level resulting from the host-parasite co-evolutionary battle.