

# STATION NEWS

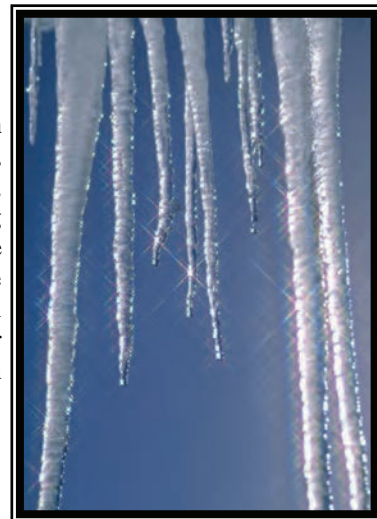
THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



## THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

STATION NEWS  
*PUTTING SCIENCE TO WORK FOR  
SOCIETY*

The mission of The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is to develop, advance, and disseminate scientific knowledge, improve agricultural productivity and environmental quality, protect plants, and enhance human health and well-being through research for the benefit of Connecticut residents and the nation. Seeking solutions across a variety of disciplines for the benefit of urban, suburban, and rural communities, Station scientists remain committed to "Putting Science to Work for Society", a motto as relevant today as it was at our founding in 1875.



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## DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

### ADMINISTRATION

**DR. LOUIS A MAGNARELLI** participated in an Invasive Plants Council meeting in Hartford (December 11).

### ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

**DR. JASON C. WHITE** participated in the monthly Laboratory Preparedness Network meeting at the Department of Public Health in Rocky Hill (December 3); gave an invited lecture at the University of Connecticut Department of Plant Biology and Landscape Architecture entitled "Plant interactions with environmental contaminants" (25 attendees) and along with **MR. JOSEPH HAWTHORNE**, **MS. TERRI ARSENAULT**, and **DR. ROBERTO DE LA TORRE-ROCHE** met with Department faculty to discuss mutual research interests (December 7); participated with **DR. BRIAN EITZER**, **DR. WALTER KROL**, **MS. KITTIPATH PRAPAYOTIN-RIVEROS**, **DR. CHRISTINA ROBB**, **MS. TERRI ARSENAULT**, **MR. JOHN RANCIATO**, **MR. WILLIAM BERGER**, **MR. CRAIG MUSANTE**, and **MR. JOSEPH HAWTHORNE** in on-site presentation of the FDA Electronic Laboratory Exchange Network (eLEXNET) system by Eduardo Lim US PHS/FDA (December 11); participated with **DR. BRIAN EITZER**, **DR. WALTER KROL**, **MS. KITTIPATH PRAPAYOTIN-RIVEROS**, **DR. CHRISTINA ROBB**, **MS. TERRI ARSENAULT**, **MR. CRAIG MUSANTE**, and **MR. WILLIAM BERGER** in an FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) conference call (December 13); met with Professor Saion Sinha of the University of New Haven regarding a collaborative project to develop a nanoparticle sensor for food matrices (December 13), hosted the initial meeting of the CAES Crop Protection and Food Safety Working Group (11 attendees), participated in an organizational conference call with the Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL) regarding a special "Nanotoxicology" session I will be co-chairing at the upcoming APHL meeting in June 2013 (December 19); participated with **DR. BRIAN EITZER**, **DR. WALTER KROL**, **MS. KITTIPATH PRAPAYOTIN-RIVEROS**, **DR. CHRISTINA ROBB**, **MS. TERRI ARSENAULT**, **MR. JOHN RANCIATO**, **MR. WILLIAM BERGER**, **MR. CRAIG MUSANTE**, and **MR. JOSEPH HAWTHORNE** in a FDA ISO Accreditation Cooperative Agreement Laboratory conference call (December 20); and participated with **MR. CRAIG MUSANTE** in a conference call with the CT Department of Agriculture/Division of Aquaculture, the University of Connecticut, and the CT Department of Public Health regarding the potential contamination and regulation of Long Island Sound-grown seaweed for heavy metals and other agents of concern (December 21).

**DR. BRIAN EITZER** participated in a FDA conference call about the FERN cCAP Exactive LC/MS project (December 6).

**MR. WILLIAM BERGER** initiated collaborative experiments at the University of Massachusetts with Professor Om Parkash to study the molecular mechanism of pesticide uptake by transgenic and wild type *Arabidopsis thaliana* (December 20).

### ENTOMOLOGY

**MS. KATHERINE DUGAS** participated in the CT Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey meeting held at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (17 attendees) (December 10).



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**MS. ROSE T. HISKES** participated in a Forest Pest Webinar in Windsor (December 5); organized and ran a statewide CAPS committee meeting at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (17 attendees) (December 10); participated in the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group annual and steering committee meetings at Goodwin College in East Hartford (December 12).

**DR. CHRIS T. MAIER** spoke about the distribution and trapping of the brown marmorated stink bug in Connecticut at a multistate Hatch meeting held at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ (10 attendees) (December 3); presented a display titled "Return of the Periodical Cicada" at the Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society in Glastonbury (88 attendees) (December 4); spoke about the status of the brown marmorated stink bug at the CT Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Committee meeting held at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (15 attendees) (December 10).

**DR. GALE E. RIDGE** presented a talk about managing bed bugs in Connecticut libraries at the Russell Library in Middletown; she then participated in a training panel with other experts to help librarians manage the insect in their libraries (90 attendees) (December 5); spoke about how to deal with bed bugs for the handicapped to staff at HART United in Waterbury (15 attendees) (December 10); spoke about bed bugs and staff self-protection against bed bugs at the Capitol Region Mental Health Center in Hartford (55 attendees) (December 10); spoke about bed bug management in senior apartment complexes at the Woodview Senior Center in East Haven. Representatives from HUD, the mayor, the director of health, and other dignitaries attended the talk (50 attendees) (December 19).

**DR. VICTORIA L. SMITH**, with **MR. STEVE SANDREY**, **MS. TIA BLEVINS**, **MR. PETER TRENCHARD**, and **MR. JEFF FENGLER**, participated in a webinar on improvements to the PExD Export Certification system (December 6); participated in the fall meeting of the CT Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey Committee held at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (17 participants) (December 10); with **PETER TRENCHARD** and **TIA BLEVINS**, participated in a webinar on the trapping program for Emerald ash borer (December 19).

**DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III** participated in a conference call of the lead team (USDA-PPQ, USDA Forest Service, CT Division of Forestry (DEEP), and CAES) on the delimiting survey for Emerald ash borer (4 attendees) (December 3); participated in a Forest Pest Survey and Outreach project webinar (December 5); was interviewed about the Emerald ash borer by Rick Ruthman, Quinnipiac University (December 6); participated in the CT Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey meeting at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (17 attendees) (December 10); participated and chaired a meeting of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee in the Slate Board Room (5 attendees) (December 13); participated in a USDA-NIFA web conference on the new REEport system (December 13); provided training to CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection personnel on the Emerald ash borer and related regulations in Hartford (18 attendees) (December 14); with **DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI**, attended a meeting of the Legislative Regulatory Review Committee in Hartford for the proposed firewood regulations (December 18); was interviewed about the Emerald ash borer and regulatory and survey activities by Quannah Leonard of the Waterbury Republican-American (December 27).

### ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

**DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS** presented an invited talk entitled *Global Climate Change and Mosquito-Borne Diseases* at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Northeastern Mosquito Control Association, held in Mystic, CT (approx. 170 meeting attendees) (December 3).

**DR. PHILIP ARMSTRONG** presented an invited talk entitled *Tracking Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus Evolution, Overwintering and Spread in North America by Phylogenetic Analysis* at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Northeastern Mosquito Control Association, held in Mystic, CT (approx. 170 meeting attendees) (December 3).



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**DR. GOUDARZ MOLAEI** presented an invited talk entitled *Vector Host Interactions and Transmission of Arboviruses in the United States* at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Northeastern Mosquito Control Association, held in Mystic, CT (approx. 170 meeting attendees) (December 3).

**MR. JOHN SHEPARD** presented an invited talk entitled *Arbovirus Activity in Connecticut, 2012* at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association, held in Plymouth, MA (approx. 170 meeting attendees) (December 3) and was elected to a two year term on the Board of Directors of the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association.

## FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

**DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD** attended the annual meeting the Connecticut Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 4); reported on Station activities at a quarterly meeting of the Soil and Water Conservation Districts in Windsor (16 people) (December 13).

**DR. WILLIAM NAIL** participated in a meeting of the Steering Committee of the New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference in Manchester, NH (December 7); participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Farm Wine Development Council at the Connecticut Department of Agriculture in Hartford (December 13); met with Matt Hansen in Chester to evaluate a site for a potential vineyard and to discuss various aspects of vineyard establishment (December 20).

**DR. JEFFREY WARD** administered practical and oral examination to arborist candidates for the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board (December 5); interviewed about running bamboos by Linda McIntyre, Landscape Architecture magazine (December 10); attended Connecticut Invasive Plant Council meeting in Hartford (December 11); interviewed about storms, trees, and power lines by Laura Modlin of the Easton Courier Newspaper (December 27).

**DR. SCOTT WILLIAMS** met with Dr. Morty Ortega and Megan Floyd of the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment at the University of Connecticut to discuss collaborative research on small rodent populations in Connecticut (December 13); met with Dr. Anthony DeNicola to establish residential research sites in the Town of Redding (December 27); along with JP BARKSY and MICHEAL SHORT, hosted the 2012 Connecticut-FFA Forestry Career Development Event and oversaw the competitive examinations (December 6).

## PLANT PATHOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

**DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS** met with members of the Bauer Park Management Committee to discuss past and future chestnut plantings at Bauer Park in Madison (6 adult attendees) (December 22).

**DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS** participated in the CT Tree Protection Examining Board's December meeting to assist with the oral exam required to become a licensed arborist (December 5); participated in the CAPS meeting at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (December 10); participated in the monthly meeting of the CTPA Board of Directors at Aqua Turf in Plantsville (December 11).

**DR. WADE H. ELMER** presented a demonstration on how to isolate plant pathogenic fungi from plants to Andy Bramante's Biology class at Greenwich High School in Greenwich (9 student attendees) (December 6).

**DR. YONGHAO LI** attended the CT Pomological Society Meeting in Glastonbury (December 4).

**DR. ROBERT E. MARRA** attended the "Improving Tree Health" working group for its first organizational meeting (December 17).





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Dr. Sandra Anagnostakis has received the Service Award for 2012 from The Northern Nut Growers Association, Inc., for dedicated and outstanding service. The plaque was made from a chestnut board.

## VALLEY LABORATORY

**DR. RICHARD COWLES** spoke on "Spotted wing drosophila: research update" at the New England Vegetable and Berry Growers' Association, Portsmouth, NH (120 attendees) (December 1); and the same subject to the Connecticut Pomological Society, Glastonbury, (80 attendees) (December 4); participated in Masters' Degree defense, University of Connecticut (December 5); Presented "Exotic Drosophilids" at the CAPS meeting, Valley Laboratory (12 attendees) (December 10); presented "Spotted wing drosophila: research update" as a webinar with extension specialists across Canada (12 attendees) (December 18); met with the Deputy Commissioner of DEEP to discuss the pesticide ban on K-8 school grounds, and ways to improve upon existing legislation (7 attendees) (December 19).

**DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA** examined candidates for the Connecticut arborist license and participated in the quarterly meeting of the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board in New Haven (December 5); and was interviewed about the history and culture of shade and broadleaf tobacco by author Mark Sullivan for a book about the history of tobacco in Connecticut (December 7).

**DR. TODD L. MERVOSH** participated in a meeting at Goodwin College in East Hartford to review attendee evaluations from the October 25<sup>th</sup> symposium sponsored by the Conn. Invasive Plant Working Group (December 12); and attended the first meeting of the Native Plant Advisory Group at UConn in Storrs (December 13).



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## GRANT AWARDS DECEMBER 2012

**DRS. GOUDARZ MOLAEI, THEODORE ANDREADIS** and **PHILIP ARMSTRONG** received the McColgan Grant-in-Aid Award from the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association to support a new research project to investigate the *Epidemiology of Eastern Equine Encephalitis in Vermont*. \$1,000.

## JOURNAL ARTICLES APPROVED DECEMBER 2012

**Brown, H. E., Theodore G. Andreadis, J. Sturich, and A. Comrie.** Climate change influences West Nile virus vectors across the northern United States. *Environmental Health Perspectives*

**Chen, Chia-Ying and Joseph J. Pignatello.** Catalytic Oxidation for Elimination of Methyl Bromide Fumigation Emissions Using Ceria-Based Catalysts. *Applied Catalysis B: Environmental*

**Dingman, Douglas.** Using a Compound Light Microscope. Fact Sheet

**Dingman, Douglas.** Testing for Nosema in Honey Bees. Fact Sheet

**Jie, C. Y., Y. L. Jiang, J. J. Xu, K. D. Hyde, E. H. C. McKenzie, T. Y. Zhang, A. H. Bahkali, De-Wei Li, Y. Wang.** *Stachybotrys* from Soil in China, Identified by Morphology and Molecular Phylogeny. *Mycological Progress*

**Ridge, Gale E.** Delusory Parasitosis: The belief of being lived on by arthropods or other organisms. CAES Fact Sheet

**Williams, Scott C., A. J. DeNicola, T. Almendinger, and J. Maddock.** Evaluation of Recreational Hunting as a Management Technique for Overabundant White-Tailed Deer in Suburban Landscapes. ABSTRACT: 69<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference



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## ARTICLES OF INTEREST

### 2012 Connecticut-FFA Forestry Career Development Event at Lockwood Farm

On December 6<sup>th</sup> Lockwood Farm was the site of the 2012 Connecticut-FFA Forestry Career Development Event. This event evaluates students' knowledge of forest management practices, tree and wood products identification, forest mensuration, and industry safety standards.

Thirty six students from 9 State FFA Chapters participated in this years' event: Lebanon Regional FFA – Lyman Memorial High School, Woodbury FFA – Nonnewaug High School, Lyman Hall FFA – Lyman Hall High School, Mattabeset FFA – Middletown High School, Southington FFA – Southington High School, Ledyard FFA – Ledyard High School, Wamogo FFA – Wamogo Regional High School, Storrs Regional FFA – EO Smith High School and Housatonic Valley FFA – Housatonic Valley Regional High School. The students first took a 50 question exam, testing their general knowledge of forestry and the forest. They then had to identify 25 pieces of forestry related tools and equipment. It was followed by a 20 specimen tree identification exam and finally timber cruising for a board volume practicum. The students were then allowed to participate in two team events; wood products identification and a compass practicum.

The 4-student team from Middletown High School Agriculture Science and Technology Center finished in first place and will represent The State of Connecticut in regional and national competition at the 2013 Eastern States Exposition and National FFA Convention in Louisville, KY.

Dr. Scott Williams, Michael Short, J.P. Barsky and Ashley Simpson, all in the Department of Forestry & Horticulture organized and oversaw the event. Former Station staff members Geoffrey Picard, Emily Picard and Vikki Christian were on hand as teachers. Rich Cecarelli, Research Farm Manager was kind enough to let us use the facilities at Lockwood Farm.

Photo Credit: Emily Picard

Group picture





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Tree Identification



Equipment Identification





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Griswold Research Center  
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Griswold, CT 06351-3627  
Phone: 860-376-0365

*Putting Science to work  
for Society.*



Entrance to The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven on Huntington Street



Main Laboratories, New Haven



Lockwood Farm, Hamden



Griswold Research Center, Griswold



Valley Laboratory, Windsor

## THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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