

STATION NEWS

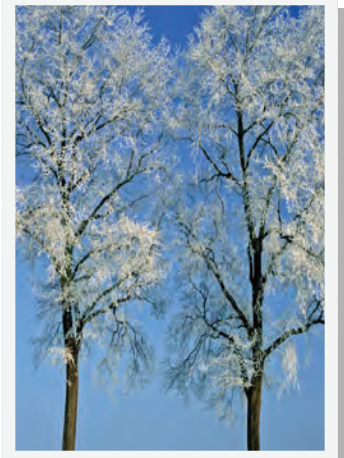
THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



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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 was interviewed about mosquitoes by Abe Katz of the New Haven Register (November 3) and spoke about Station research to members of the Experiment Station Associates (November 28).

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

DR. JASON C. WHITE participated in the monthly Laboratory Preparedness Network meeting at the Department of Public Health in Hartford (November 7), presented a lecture at the Quinnipiac University Sigma Xi Seminar series entitled "Role of the CT Agricultural Experiment Station and the Food Emergency Response Network in the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response" (25 attendees) (November 7), hosted Boy Scout Troop 51 of Cheshire and gave them a tour of the Department laboratories and programs to fulfill their Chemistry Merit badge requirements (10 attendees) (November 8), participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (November 10), attended the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) in Boston MA and presented a lecture entitled "Nanomaterial contamination of agricultural crops" (50 attendees) (November 15-16), hosted the New Haven Public School Talented and Gifted class and gave them a tour of the Department laboratories and programs (12 attendees) (November 29), and participated in an FDA Office of Regulatory Affairs Conference call on an upcoming surveillance exercise for arsenic in fruit juices (November 30).

DR. BRIAN EITZER participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (November 10) and presented a poster entitled "Movement of Soil-Applied Systemic Insecticides into the Pollen and Nectar of Squash: Are Concentrations High Enough to Impact Pollinators?" at the 32nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC) Meeting in Boston, MA (November 13 -16).

DR. WALTER KROL spoke to Boy Scout Troop 51 of Cheshire about analytical chemistry so as to fulfill their Chemistry Merit badge requirements (10 attendees) (November 8), participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (November 14), attended the Eastern Analytical Symposium and Exposition in Somerset, NJ, as an invited speaker, and presented a talk entitled: "Implementing QuEChERS sample preparation for the analysis of PAH's in seafood: a state laboratory response" (30 attendees)(November 14), was interviewed by Vera-Lynn Kubinec, Associate Producer CBC Television, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3B 2G1 regarding pesticides on organic produce (November 29), and was interviewed by Meg Evans of LC/GC Magazine for an article to appear in the December 8, 2011 edition of E-Separation Solutions regarding the work done at the CAES for the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill (November 30).

DR. CHRISTINA ROBB chaired and organized a session at the 2011 Eastern Analytical Symposium in Somerset New Jersey called "Seafood Analysis and the Gulf Oil Spill: The Federal/State Response" (November 14).

MR. CRAIG MUSANTE met with Donald Carew Vice-President Analytical Consulting Technology, Inc. to discuss the operation and use of the Agilent 7500ce ICP-MS for the elemental analysis of environmental samples (November 9).



BIOCHEMISTRY AND GENETICS

DR. NEIL SCHULTES presented a talk to the Quinnipiac Sigma Xi Chapter on “The Genetics and Molecular Biology of C4 Photosynthesis in Maize” (October 27); served as the Quinnipiac Sigma Xi Chapter delegate at the Sigma Xi Annual Meeting and International Research Conference in Raleigh, North Carolina (November 10-13); presented a poster “*A Possible Role for the LHCb7 Gene in Photosynthetic Light Acclimation*” detailing research with **DR. RICHARD PETESON**; along with **DR. RICHARD PETERSON**, hosted Mark Lipson – a visiting speaker at the Yale Bioethics GMO plant series – on a tour of the Station and discussing current research in the Department of Biochemistry & Genetics; Mark Lipson is the Organic and Sustainable Agriculture Policy Advisor at the USDA (November 18); and served as an examiner for a Masters Thesis defense for Julie Crosby at the Department of Biology Indiana-Perdue University Ft. Wayne, IN (November 29).

DR. DOUGLAS DINGMAN participated in the CT Beekeepers Association annual SNEBA in Old Lyme, CT (November 19) and presented a short talk/demonstration of Honey Bee diseases and research to pupils of the gifted student program in the New Haven Public School system (November 29).

ENTOMOLOGY

MS. KATHERINE DUGAS staffed a display table about Asian longhorned beetle and Emerald ash borer at the Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Association of Conservation & Inland Wetlands Commissions held at Mountain Ridge in Wallingford (150 attendees) (November 12); with Ms. Jennifer Dacey (CCABB board member), staffed a display table about bed bugs at the second annual Bridgeport Health Fair held at Bridgeport University (~200 people visited the table) (November 18); spoke about the Insect Information Office to visiting students from the New Haven Gifted and Talented Program (20 students attended) (November 29); and along with **DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III** and **MS. ROSE HISKES** participated in a conference call of the Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project (27 participants) (November 30).



Katherine Dugas at the Bridgeport Health Fair for CCABB (November 18).



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MS. ROSE HISKES participated in a Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) Symposium Planning Committee meeting in Windsor (November 10); was interviewed about the warm fall temperatures and their effect on plants and insects by Mary O’Leary of the New Haven Register (November 28); participated in a Forest Pest and Outreach Survey Project (FPSP) conference call (November 30); and participated in a Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) Symposium Planning Committee meeting in Windsor (November 30).

MR. IRA J. KETTLE attended the Southern New England Beekeepers Assembly (SNEBA), which is an educational meeting featuring industry speakers and put on by the Connecticut Beekeepers Association, where he met with many Connecticut beekeepers on a one-to-one basis and answered questions on overwintering, spring bees, etc., in East Lyme (November 19).

DR. CHRIS MAIER displayed specimens of siricid woodwasps of Connecticut and literature on these wood-boring wasps at a meeting of the Connecticut Entomological Society at Yale University (November 18).

DR. GALE E. RIDGE participated as an advisor on bed bugs at a Product Stewardship Association meeting in Hartford (November 4); spoke about the history of bed bug management and how it applies to Integrated Pest Management control methods today to Connecticut Pest Management Professionals (PMP’s) at a training conference held at the Farmington Marriott in Farmington (95 attendees) (November 8); spoke to the doctors and medical staff at the Hospital for Special Care in New Britain about bed bugs and protective protocols for the institution (70 attendees) (November 16); arranged to have **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS** and Jennifer Dacey (CCABB board member) staff a display table about bed bugs at the second annual Bridgeport Health Fair held at Bridgeport University (~200 people visited the table) (November 18); participated in an EPA webinar titled “Pesticide Misuse and the National Bed Bug Epidemic” (November 18); spoke at a regional conference on bed bug management hosted by the Bed Bug Action Committee in Concord, New Hampshire. A wide representation of interested parties including legislators, PMP’s from all over New England, hospitality industry, social and medical representatives attended. Her speech was recorded by New Hampshire Community Television for future broadcast (200 attendees) (November 21); with the CCABB board, representatives from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), and the International Sleep Products Association, attended a meeting with Representative Andres Ayala, Jr., in Hartford (November 29). The meeting was to provide to Rep. Ayala researched legal information on current tenant/landlord law, canine scent detection, and other regulations for the purpose of his drafting a bed bug bill to be presented to the Connecticut General Assembly in the spring of 2012. CCABB’s role is advisory, providing advice and information for Rep. Ayala.

DR. CLAIRE E. RUTLEDGE attended the Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America (November 13-16) and organized, moderated, and presented two talks titled “Cuticular hydrocarbons used for prey recognition by *Cerceris fumipennis*” (co-authored by Peter J. Silk, Canadian Forest Service) and “Degree day modeling for *Cerceris fumipennis*” (co-authored by Colleen Teerling, Maine Forest Service; Philip D. Careless, University of Guelph; and Melissa K. Fierke, SUNY ESF) at a symposium titled “Biosurveillance: Using a native wasp *Cerceris fumipennis* to find Emerald Ash Borer and other species of Buprestidae” at the Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America held in Reno, NV (40 attendees) (November 16).

DR. VICTORIA L. SMITH participated in a meeting of the US Forest Service Northeastern Area Cooperators, held at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, with discussions on aerial survey, new and established pests, and general forest health conditions (30 participants) (November 2-3).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III participated in a meeting of the architects on the plans for the Jenkins-Waggoner Building (November 16); represented the Station at the annual meeting luncheon of the Connecticut Farm Bureau in South Windsor (November 18); participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Coalition Against Bed Bugs in the Slate Building (4 attendees) (November 22); and along with **MS. ROSE HISKES** and **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS**, and participated in a conference call of the Forest Pest Outreach and Survey Project (27 participants) (November 30).



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DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER spoke at the Farm-to-Chef Annual Meeting in Shelton as a member of a panel addressing the question “What’s the Difference between Organic and IPM?” along with Patrick Horan of Wadingfield Farm, Fred Monahan of Stone Gardens Farm, and Jude Boucher of UConn Cooperative Extension (69 attendees) (November 7).

MS. TRACY ZARRILLO hosted a visit from Gary Casabona and his research technician from the Rhode Island NRCS and gave them a tour of her laboratory and took them out to a field site to demonstrate protocols for bee observation and capture techniques (September 21); and visited with Sam Droege of the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Beltsville, Maryland, to further her understanding of bee taxonomy (November 8-11).



Speakers at the symposium “Biosurveillance: Using a native wasp *Cerceris fumipennis* to find Emerald Ash Borer and other species of Buprestidae.” Left to right: Morgan D. Jackson, University of Guelph, Guelph ON; **Claire E. Rutledge**; Allan W. Hook, St. Edwards University, Austin, TX; Philip D. Careless, University of Guelph, Guelph ON; Warren E. Hellman, SUNY ESF, Syracuse, NY; Colleen Teerling, Maine Forest Service, Augusta, ME; and Christine Naplepa, North Carolina Department of Agriculture, Raleigh, NC. Not pictured: Tawny Virgilio, University of Maine, Orono, ME.

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

MR. GREGORY BUGBEE presented an update to the Connecticut Invasive Plants Council on the CAES Invasive Aquatic Plant Program at the Department of Agriculture in Hartford (Approx. 15 attendees) (November 8); with Jordan Gibbons presented a poster entitled, *Using GIS to Monitor Invasive Plants in Candlewood Lake* at Geographic Information System Day at the State capitol. The poster was then displayed with over 60 others in the Legislative Office Building for the remainder of the month. Judging took place by members of the CT GIS Council and the CAES poster won first place in the category “Best Use of GIS to Solve an Environmental Problem” (November 17); and spoke to fifth graders from the New Haven Public Schools Talented and Gifted Program on *Soils and Invasive Aquatic Plants* (Approx. 15 attendees) (November 20).

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO presented an invited seminar entitled, *Role of Black Carbon in the Fate of Pollutants: Chemistry at the Interface*, to the Department of Chemistry, Old Dominion University in Norfolk, VA (November 17); presented a paper entitled, *Catalytic Oxidation For Elimination of Methyl Bromide Fumigation Emissions*, at the Methyl Bromide Alternatives Outreach Annual Meeting held in San Diego, CA, toured the USDA-ARS-SJV lab in Parlier, CA



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and met with collaborators to discuss research plans (November 2).

MR. JOHN SHEPARD presented an invited talk entitled *The Status of Invasive Mosquito Species in Connecticut* to the Kiwanis Club of Wilton (November 16) (Approx. 60 attendees).

DR. CHARLES VOSSBRINCK presented a talk and laboratory exercise on *Phylogeny* to a Biology Class at Gateway Community College in New Haven (November 31).

FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

DR. JEFFREY WARD interviewed about tree care after storm damage by John Burgeson of the Connecticut Post (November 1); interviewed about long-term effects of storm damage by Bob Miller of the Danbury News Times (November 4); participated in a review of forestry research in Connecticut sponsored by CT DEEP-Forestry (November 7); spoke on golden bamboo at the Invasive Plant Council meeting in Hartford (10 attendees) (November 8); spoke of methods of reducing deer browse damage in managed landscapes to the Advanced Connecticut Master Gardener class at the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Center in Bethel (52 attendees) (November 10); spoke on Japanese barberry growth and control at the Invasive Shrub Control Workshop in Litchfield in cooperation with White Memorial Foundation and University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension (26 attendees) (November 15); interviewed about predicting storm damage to trees by Bob Cox of CBS radio (November 17); interviewed about inspecting trees for storm damage by Dana Whalen of WTIC-1080 radio (November 17); along with Mary Tyrrell (Yale University), spoke on "Measuring sustainability" at the 2011 Connecticut Forest Conservation and Research Forum in New Haven (120 attendees) (November 22); interviewed about spring plants flowering fall by Mary O'Leary of the New Haven Register (November 28); participated in a Connecticut Urban Forest Council meeting in Rockfall (November 29); participated in a CTPA review of the written arborist examination (November 29); interviewed about composition of the urban forest by Bob Miller of the Danbury News Times (November 29); interviewed about risk of damage to the urban forest by Will Rowlands of the Connecticut Gardener (November 30); and interviewed replacement choices for storm damaged trees by Judy Benson of the New London Day (November 30).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD represented the Station at a meeting of the State Technical Committee in Tolland (November 9); spoke to students at Hamden Hall Country Day School about careers in science (16 students) (November 17); and spoke about the New Crops Program to a group of students from New Haven's Gifted and Talented Program (12 students, 12 adults) (November 29).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL participated as Chair-Elect at the annual meeting of "NE-1020: Multi-state Evaluation of Winegrape Cultivars and Clones" in Boise, ID (November 2-3); inspected the vineyards at Saltwater Farm Vineyard in Stonington and Jonathan Edwards Vineyards in North Stonington (November 10); participated and served as Secretary at a Board of Directors meeting of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture- Eastern Section in Traverse City, MI (November 13-14); and participated in a national conference call meeting of the eXtension Viticulture Extension Educators Community of Practice (November 18).

DR. SCOTT WILLIAMS spoke on "Overabundant White-tailed Deer as Seed Dispersal Agents" and "Japanese Barberry Infestations Harbor Increased Abundances of Blacklegged Ticks" to the Advanced Connecticut Master Gardener class at the University of Connecticut's College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Center in Bethel (52 attendees) (November 10); spoke on the relationship between Japanese barberry and blacklegged ticks at the Invasive Shrub Control Workshop in Litchfield in cooperation with White Memorial Foundation and University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension (26 attendees) (November 15); participated in a public hearing regarding the impacts of deer overabundance on lands owned by the Town of Guilford. (November 16); supervised the forest pest/disorders portion of the Connecticut Chapter of the Future Farmers of America Forestry Career Development Event, Storrs (57 students) (November 21); and participated in the executive board meeting of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Middlefield (November 29).



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MR. MICHAEL R. SHORT discussed mechanical control of Japanese Barberry using brush saw and field & brush mower at an NRCS Barberry Control Workshop at White Memorial Conservation Center (26 attendees) (November 15); and prepared and administered the General Knowledge and Forest Equipment exam for the 2011 Connecticut FFA Forestry Career Development Event at UCONN, Storrs (35 students) (November 21).

MR. JOSEPH P. BARSKY staffing a CAES display at the screening of "The Green Fire", a film highlighting the career of Aldo Leopold, at the Peabody Museum, New Haven (November 12); met with Andrew Hubbard of the Metropolitan District Commission to discuss remediation of high-graded stands (November 14); spoke on safety issues when using forestry and herbicide equipment at an NRCS Barberry Control Workshop at White Memorial Conservation Center (26 attendees) (November 15); prepared and administered the forestry identification exam for the 2011 Connecticut FFA Forestry Career Development Event at UCONN, Storrs (35 students) (November 21); and attended the research presentation "Ecological urbanism through hybrid designed experiments" at Yale University (November 30).

PLANT PATHOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS spoke to a 5th grade group about tree diseases and breeding trees for resistance (20 youths and 2 adults attended) (November 29).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS was interviewed about the unusual snow storm in late October and damage to trees and shrubs by Ritchie Rathack of the Meriden Record-Journal (November 2); gave an invited presentation titled "Key diseases of conifers" at the 2011 Tree Care Industry Association Expo at the Hartford Convention Center (850 adult attendees) (November 3); participated in the monthly Board of Directors meeting of the CTPA at the Station (November 8); and was interviewed about why some trees and shrubs are flowering now and implications for climate change by Mary O'Leary of the New Haven Register (November 28).

DR. WADE H. ELMER gave a presentation titled "Role of plant stress, *Fusarium*, and marsh crabs in Sudden Vegetation Dieback" at the 21st Biennial Conference of the Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation in Daytona Beach, FL (45 adult attendees) (November 6-10); gave a talk on "Factors associated with Sudden Vegetation Dieback in Branford salt marshes" at the Branford Land Trust (18 adult attendees) (November 29); and visited Greenwich High School student Zheni Gusho and her science teacher, Andy Bramante, to discuss a plant pathology project (November 30).

DR. YONGHAO LI presented a poster titled "Update from the Plant Disease Information Office in Connecticut" at the Third Meeting of the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) held in Berkeley, CA (180 attendees) (November 6-9).

VALLEY LABORATORY

DR. RICHARD COWLES spoke to farmers about "Cover crops and ground covers in perennial crops – IPM implications" at a Natural Resources Conservation Service meeting, East Windsor (40 attendees) (November 15); and presented a lecture on the "Spotted wing drosophila: Current and potential management methods" to fruit growers at a meeting hosted by University of Rhode Island, Cumberland, RI (40 attendees) (November 29).

DR. JAMES LAMONDIA taught a class on identification, biology and management of tree diseases to students in the Connecticut Tree Protective Association's Arboriculture 101 class in New Haven (25 persons) (November 2).

DR. TODD MERVOSH participated in a steering committee meeting and a general meeting of the Conn. Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (50 attendees) (November 10); and participated in a symposium planning meeting for CIPWG at the Valley Laboratory (16 attendees) (November 30).



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JOURNAL ARTICLES APPROVED NOVEMBER 2011

- Ahrens, John F. and Todd L. Mervosh.** Tolerance of conifers to mesotrione alone or combined with other herbicides. *Proceedings of the Northeastern Weed Science*, Volume 66, 2012
- Berger, William A., MaryJane Incorvia Mattina, and Jason C. White.** Effect of hydrogen peroxide on the uptake of chlordane by *Curcubita pepo*. *International Journal of Environmental Analytical Chemistry*
- Douglas, Sharon M. and Mary K. Inman.** Seed Germination and Purity Analysis 2011. CAES Technical Bulletin
- Elmer, Wade H. and Robert E. Marra.** Fusarium crown rot of bloodroot (*Sanguinaria Canadensis*) in Connecticut caused by *Fusarium oxysporum*. *Plant Disease* (Note)
- Gent, Martin P. N.** Rate of change of composition of lettuce in response to nitrogen depletion or resupply. *Journal of Science of Food and Agriculture*
- Krupke, Hunt, **Brian D. Eitzer**, Andino, Given. Multiple routes of pesticide exposure for honey bees living near agricultural fields. PLUS ONE
- Li, De-Wei** and C. S. Yang. What does the development of fungal systematics mean to DNA-based methods for indoor mold investigations? 6th International Scientific Conference on Bioaerosols, Fungi, Bacteria, Mycotoxins in Indoor and Outdoor Environments and Human Health
- Maynard, Abigail A.** The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station Investigates Vegetable Amaranth. *Connecticut Weekly Agricultural Report*
- Mervosh, Todd L. and John F. Ahrens.** Tolerances of container-grown ornamentals to mesotrione, dimethenamid-p, and pendimethalin plus dimethenamid-p applications. *Proceedings of the Northeastern Weed Science Society*, Vol. 66 (2012)
- Cain, N. P., **Todd L. Mervosh**, and M. Irvine. Pale swallow-wort management with foliar herbicide treatments. *Proceedings of the Northeastern Weed Science*, Volume 66, 2012
- Z. Wang, X. Xie, J. Zhao, X. Liu, W. Feng, **Jason C. White**, and B. Xing. "Zylem- and Phlom-based Transport of CuO Nanoparticles in Maize (*Zea mays* L.). *Small*
- Williams, Scott C.**, A. J. DeNicola, T. Almendinger, and J. Maddock. Evaluating the limitations of traditional hunting as a deer management technique. *Wildlife Society Bulletin*

**THE
CONNECTICUT
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*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

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