

Station News A PROGRESS REPORT for staff and Friends of America's first Agricultural Experiment Station

Photos of the Month...



Scott Williams traveled to Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA to participate in Dr. Uma Ramakrishnan's Deer Management Workshop, June 7 - 9. He gave a talk on non-lethal deer management and its applications, explained capture techniques, and demonstrated use of the dart rifle. Here he demonstrates the finer points of radio telemetry.

Departmental News

Administration

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI was interviewed about testing for Lyme disease by Lisa Sarah of the Journal Inquirer (May 4); and welcomed participants of the Connecticut Watershed Conservation Network in Jones Auditorium (May 13).

Analytical Chemistry

DRS. BRIAN EITZER, WALTER KROL, and DAVID STILWELL provided tours of the Analytical Chemistry Laboratories to the New Haven Garden Club (May 2).

DRS. MARYJANE INCORVIA MATTINA, BRIAN EITZER, DAVID STILWELL, WALTER KROL and CRAIG MUSANTE, WILLIAM IANNUCCI-BERGER, TERRI ARSENAULT visited the new science building at Albertus Magnus College (May 17). The tour was conducted by Albertus science faculty, Drs. Hon, Barreuther, and Compagnone-Post. The group discussed cooperation between the two institutions including possible student internships.

Biochemistry and Genetics

Entomology

DR. CHRIS T. MAIER spoke about the brown marmorated stink bug and wood-boring apple pests at a twilight meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society at Buell's Orchard in Eastford (May 25); spoke about problems with the NAPIS database and about exotic pests at a meeting of the Advisory Committee of the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (May 26).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH participated in a meeting of the CT Cooperative Agricultural Pests Survey (CAPS) Committee, held at the Valley Lab in Windsor (May 26).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD, III attended affirmative action training in Hartford (May 2-3); interviewed about ticks and Lyme disease prevention by Cindy Barry, Ledge Light Health District for their Health Watch television show (May 11); spoke on ticks and Lyme disease at a meeting of the Killingworth Land Trust (May 20); attended a retirement celebration for Judith Nelson, Director of Health, Westport Weston Health District (May 24); interviewed by Garrett Condon, Hartford Courant, about tick control studies. (May 31).

DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER participated in a meeting of the Board of Directors of CT NOFA, West Hartford (May 12); visited Upper Forty Organic Farm to get baseline records for SARE project on improving Brassica production, Cromwell (May 18); visited Holcomb Farm CSA and demonstrated scouting methods for cabbage maggot, Granby (May 20); visited Gordon Bednarz's farm, to assist with pest management on this farm growing organic vegetables for the first year, Glastonbury (May 24).

Forestry and Horticulture

DR. JEFFREY WARD met with Mark Carabetta, Connecticut Chapter-The Nature Conservancy, in Salem to advise on monitoring effects of deer browse on forest understory vegetation.(May 12); participated in the Connecticut Urban Forest Council meeting in New London.(May 17); spoke on "Strategies for reducing deer browse damage" to the Heritage Village River Garden Club in Southbury (May 18); assisted at the Connecticut Tree Climber's Competition at Heritage Village in Southbury, CT (May 21); presented a poster on "Diameter limit cutting accelerates loss of oak in southern New England hardwood forests" at the Diameter-limit cutting in northeastern forest workshop in Amherst, MA.(May 23); was interviewed about weeping Sargent hemlock by Rob Varley of the New Haven Register (May 25).

DR.MARTIN GENT attended a symposium and served as a panelist in a workshop on "Biotechnology Risk Assessment: Gene Confinement for Genetically Modified Grasses" held at the Omni Hotel New Haven and sponsored by Yale University's Interdisciplinary Bioethics Project and lifeedu.org (May 13-14).

DR.WILLIAM NAIL participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Farm Wine Council at the Valley Lab.(May 2); attended a meeting of the Connecticut Wine and Grape Council at the Valley Lab (May 2); participated in a meeting for the Multistate Research Project NE1020, "Multi-state Evaluation of Wine grape Cultivars and Clones", in Davis, CA.(May 25-26).

SCOTT WILLIAMS visited Quaker Valley Deer Farm in western Connecticut to discuss white-tailed deer management issues (May 9); gave presentations to middle school students from six different classes about southern Connecticut wildlife for Farm City at Lockwood Farm.(May 17).

Lockwood Farm

Plant Pathology and Ecology

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS gave a lecture for a Sigma Xi series on "Chestnuts in the 21st Century" at Quinnipiac University in Hamden (May 4).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS was interviewed about cedar-apple rust and the horny gall wasp on pin oak by Abram Katz of the New Haven Register (May 2); participated in the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) meeting in Windsor (May 26).

DR. WADE H. ELMER gave a presentation on "Plant parts and their diseases" to first-grade students at Doolittle School in Cheshire (May 16); was visited by officers of the Connecticut Gladiolus Society to discuss *Fusarium* research on gladiolus (May 27).

DR. ROBERT E. MARRA spoke about diagnostic procedures for Ramorum Blight at the 2005 Northeast Forest Pathologists Workshop in Bretton Woods, NH (May 24-26).

Soil and Water

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS presented a seminar "West Nile virus: a six-year perspective on the introduction and spread of an emerging infectious disease" at Manchester Community College, Manchester, CT (May 4); interviewed about mosquitoes and West Nile virus in Connecticut by freelance writer, Marylynn Moss, WFSB TV3 Hartford (May 9); interviewed about mosquito control and protection from West Nile virus by Sam Gingerela WTIC Radio (May 18); interviewed about mosquitoes and the State West Nile Virus Surveillance Program by Leon Collins-WFSB TV3 (May 19); interviewed about current research findings on the host feeding patterns of the mosquito vectors of West Nile Virus in the northeastern US by Fran Schneido, WCBS radio NY, and Kent Pierce, WTNH TV8 (May 20); interviewed about mosquito research on West Nile virus by Mike McCune, Hartford Courant (May 31).

GREGORY BUGBEE spoke on "Spring Lawn and Gardens Preparation" to the Pratt and Whitney Retirees Club in North Haven (May 17).

DR. ROBERT CAPERS conducted a workshop with a botanist from the Northwest Conservation District to train participants in a volunteer lake-monitoring program that is being organized by the Experiment Station and the Connecticut Federation of Lakes (May 20); conducted a workshop with Roslyn Selsky in Bolton instructing volunteers in plant identification and the procedures to use in conducting surveys. Over 60 volunteers participated in the three workshops organized to launch the volunteer lake-monitoring program (May 14).

DR. JASON WHITE Daniel Ross, graduate student in the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies was awarded an EPA Graduate Student Fellowship to investigate the role of mycorrhizal fungi in the phytoremediation of persistent organic pollutants with Dr. Jason White (May 16).

Valley Laboratory

DR. CAROLE CHEAH in collaboration with the USDA Forest Service, Hamden, CT conducted the first release in the Northeast of *Scymnus sinuanodulus*, an exotic coccinellid predator of hemlock woolly adelgid from China, at Centennial Memorial State Forest, Weston, for evaluations of biological control (April 22); inspected hemlocks for HWA with Lucas Hyder, forester, at White Memorial Conservation Area, Litchfield (April 23); gave an update on *Scymnus* research to scientists at the Northeastern Research Station, USDA Forest Service at Hamden (May 23).

ROSE HISKES taught IPM at Farm-City at Lockwood Farm in Hamden (May 17-19).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA was interviewed by Kim Soper of the Journal Inquirer about the effects of recent weather on strawberry diseases and the strawberry crop (May 26).

DR. DE-WEI LI participated in the "Integrated Earth Observation System (IEOS) Public Engagement Workshop" in Washington DC (May 9-10).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH attended a Cooperative Weed Management Workshop sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service in White River Junction, VT (May 13); and presented a talk on "Invasive plants: Control options, use of herbicides & environmental issues" to the Inland Wetlands Commission for the Town of Ledyard (May 17).

JEFFREY FENGLER participated in a Ramorum Blight survey training session at the University of Rhode Island in Kingston, RI (May 3).

THOMAS RATHIER spoke on Healthy soil and Healthy Plants to the Manchester Garden Club (April 11); participated in a review session of Arboriculture 101 in Jones Auditorium (April 13); attended a planning meeting for the annual meeting of the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy in Storrs (May 24); and attended a CAPS state committee meeting at the Valley Laboratory (May 26).

Journal Articles Approved May 2005

Elmer, Wade H. Use of cultural and microbiological treatments to overcome the replant problem in asparagus. *Acta Horticulturae*

Elmer, Wade H. Does applying salt (NaCl) increase spear earliness? *Acta Horticulturae*.

Gent, Martin P. N., Jason C. White, Zakia D. Parrish, Mehmet Isleyen, Brian D. Eitzer, and MaryJane Incorvia Mattina. Uptake and translocation of DDE supplied in hydroponics solution to cucurbita. *Journal of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*.

Gent, Martin P. N., Jason C. White, Brian D. Eitzer, and MaryJane Incorvia Mattina. Plant species differ in movement of hydrophobic organic chemicals: measurements and modeling. (Abstract) *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry Meeting, Baltimore, MD November, 2005*.

Marra, Robert E. and Sharon Douglas. *Phytophthora ramorum*: A new threat to Connecticut's forests and landscapes. *Frontiers of Plant Science*

K. Nielsen, Robert E. Marra, F. Hagen, T. Boekhout, T. G. Mitchell, G. M. Cox, and J. Heitman. Genetic background plays a role in mating type virulence potential in *Cryptococcus neoformans*. *Genetics*

Ward, Jeffrey S. Crop-tree release increases diameter growth of black birch in southern New England. *Forest Science*

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