

# The 115<sup>th</sup> Plant Science Day

**Wednesday, August 6, 2025 • 10am-4pm**

— Free Admission —

## OPEN HOUSE

**THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION**

LOCKWOOD FARM - 890 EVERGREEN AVENUE, HAMDEN, CT

THE SAMUEL W. JOHNSON LECTURE • PRESENTATIONS ON RESEARCH • BARN EXHIBITS • PESTICIDE CREDITS  
FIELD EXPERIMENTS • TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATIONS • CENTURY FARM AWARD • PASSPORT FOR CHILDREN

### CULTIVATION AND KINSHIP IN THE WEB OF LIFE

#### Scott Chaskey

*The challenges that confront us daily in the twenty-first century—familial, social, economic, environmental—can be overwhelming. So it is timely to revisit an ancient theme, an interspecies theme—our kinship with nature. Attention to microbial life and a diversity of species, and stories of our interconnection with the land where we live provide invaluable lessons for building healthy human communities.*

Scott Chaskey is a poet, farmer, and educator. For 30 years he cultivated soil and community for the Peconic Land Trust at Quail Hill Farm in Amagansett, NY, one of the original CSA's in the country. Past president of the Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York, he was honored as Farmer of the Year in 2013. He has served as a founding Board member for the Center for Whole Communities, in Vermont, Sylvester Manor Educational Farm, Shelter Island, NY, and for the Peter Matthiessen Center, Sagaponack, NY. He is the author of *This Common Ground*, (Viking, 2005), *Seedtime, On the History, Husbandry, Politics, and Promise of Seeds* (Rodale, 2014), *Stars are Suns* (Stoneman, 1995), and most recently, *Soil and Spirit* (Milkweed Editions, 2023). He lives in Sag Harbor, NY, with his wife Megan Chaskey, poet and musician, in the home in which they raised three children.

**New Haven 203.974.8500 • Toll-free 877.855.2237 • [portal.ct.gov/caes](http://portal.ct.gov/caes)**

*The Experiment Station is a state-supported scientific research institution where theory and practice have marched together to improve the well-being of Connecticut.*

**DIRECTIONS: FROM INTERSTATE 91 TRAVELING NORTH:** Take Exit 10. Follow the Route 40 connector for 3.1 miles. Turn right onto Whitney Avenue (Route 10) and go north for 0.6 miles. Turn left onto Evergreen Avenue at the traffic light; go 0.1 mile and turn right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on the left; enter the 2nd driveway.

**TRAVELING SOUTH:** Take Exit 10. Follow the Route 40 connector for 3.0 miles. Turn right onto Whitney Avenue (Route 10) and go north for 0.6 miles. Turn left onto Evergreen Avenue at the traffic light; go 0.1 mile and turn right onto Kenwood Avenue. The farm is on the left; enter the 2nd driveway.





# The 115<sup>th</sup> Plant Science Day

**Wednesday, August 6, 2025**

**NO PETS, PLEASE.  
SERVICE  
ANIMALS ONLY.  
RAIN OR SHINE  
FREE ADMISSION**

Gates open at 9:30 am  
Programs begins at 10:00 am • Event 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

**10:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.**

**MORNING GREETING AND OPENING REMARKS**

Jason C. White, Ph.D., Director  
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

**10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.**

Sara Nason, Ph.D., Assistant Agricultural Scientist II, Department of Environmental Science and Forestry  
*Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) – an Emerging Issue in Connecticut and Beyond*

**10:15 a.m. – 10:35 a.m.**

**TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATION TENT**

(20-minute demonstration, repeated twice during the day, 10:15 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.)  
Jatinder S. Aulakh, Ph.D., Associate Agricultural Scientist, Valley Laboratory  
*Invasive Plant Management Options for Homeowners*

**10:40 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.**

**TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATION TENT**

(20-minute demonstration, repeated twice during the day, 10:40 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.)  
Joseph Liquori, Agricultural Research Technician I, Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology  
*DIY Propagation Station: Cut, Dip, and Stick!*

**10:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.**

**CENTURY FARM AWARD**

Rosedale Farms and Vineyards, Simsbury, CT

**11:00 a.m. – 11:10 a.m.**

**EXPERIMENT STATION ASSOCIATES**

Cheryl Cappiali, President

**11:10 a.m. – 12:00 noon**

**THE SAMUEL W. JOHNSON MEMORIAL LECTURE**

Scott Chaskey  
Poet, Farmer, and Educator  
Peconic Land Trust at Quail Hill Farm, Amagansett, NY  
*Cultivation and Kinship in the Web of Life*

**12:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.**

**LUNCH on your own**

**PAVILION**

**1:15 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.**

Quan Zeng, Ph.D., Agricultural Scientist, Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology  
*Managing Apple diseases in a Sustainable Manner: From Biological Controls to Disease Resistance in the Hosts*

**1:45 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.**

Kelsey E. Fisher, Ph.D., Assistant Agricultural Scientist II, Department of Entomology  
*Managing milkweed habitat to support monarch butterfly success*

**2:15 p.m.**

Adjourn Main Talks

**2:30 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.**

**TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATION TENT**

(20-minute demonstration, repeated twice during the day, 10:15 a.m. & 2:30 p.m.)  
Jatinder S. Aulakh, Ph.D., Associate Agricultural Scientist, Valley Laboratory  
*Invasive Plant Management Options for Homeowners*

**3:15 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.**

**TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATION TENT**

(20-minute demonstration, repeated twice during the day, 10:40 a.m. & 3:15 p.m.)  
Joseph Liquori, Agricultural Research Technician I, Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology  
*DIY Propagation Station: Cut, Dip, and Stick!*

**3:35 p.m.**

**TECHNICAL DEMONSTRATION TENT**

Adjourn Technical Demonstrations

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**SIGN-OUT**

Attendees can pick up their Pesticide Credit forms at the registration table (R).

## BARN EXHIBITS (BARN B)

**The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
150th Anniversary Year- History and Achievements**  
Investigators: Katherine Dugas and Gale E. Ridge, Ph.D.

**Sprayable Eugenol-Infused Nano-Bioemulsion  
Film for Protecting Tomatoes After Harvest**

**Department: Analytical Chemistry**

Investigators: Raja Muthuramalingam, Ph.D., Carlos Tamez, Ph.D., Anuja Bharadwaj, Ph.D., Nubia Zuverza-Mena Ph.D., Washington Da Silva, Ph.D., Christian O. Dimkpa, Ph.D., Jason C. White, Ph.D.

**The Invasive Tiger Mosquito *Aedes albopictus*  
Increases Dog Heartworm Risk in Connecticut**

**Department: Entomology**

Investigators: Andrea Gloria-Soria, Ph.D. and Meredith Bagger, MPH.

**Using Organic and Inorganic Amendments  
to Improve Soil Properties**

**Department: Environmental Science and Forestry**

Investigators: Itamar Shabtai, Ph.D. and Alice Zhou, Ph.D.

**Integrated Strategies for Managing Apple Disease:  
From Antibiotics to Genetic Resistance**

**Department: Plant Pathology and Ecology**

Investigators: James Standish, Jewell Jung, Naziya Nabi, Himanshi Jayasinghe, Veedaa Soltaniband, Quan Zeng, Ph.D.

**Deer Repellents: DIY Options**

**Department: Valley Laboratory**

Investigator: Richard S. Cowles, Ph.D., assisted by Ethan Paine

**ANSWERS TO YOUR QUESTIONS  
(Plot 21)**

Staff members in the “questions and answers” tent are prepared to give information on identification of insects, plant disorders, soils and their management, and other problems of growers and gardeners.

**KIDS' KORNER  
(Plot 23)**

Come to the Kids' Korner to pick up your child's passport and a gift.

**SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITY  
(Plot 23)**

For all children, including Girl Scouts

**CONNECTICUT PESTICIDE  
CREDITS  
(Registration, R)**

Connecticut pesticide credits will be offered.  
All categories and private applicator (PA) category/3.75 total credit hours.

