



CAES

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Putting Science to Work for Society

150th ANNIVERSARY
1875 – 2025

2025-2026 Seminar Series

123 Huntington Street
New Haven, CT 06511
Jones Auditorium
12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.

September 17, 2025	Vipan Kumar, Ph.D. Associate Weed Scientist, Cornell University; "Challenges and Opportunities for Emerging Weed Problems in the Northeastern Field Crops"
September 22, 2025 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	LOCKWOOD LECTURE: Rahul Bhattacharyya, Ph.D., Director, MIT Auto-ID Labs; Title TBA
October 1, 2025	LOCKWOOD LECTURE: Charles Nicholson, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biology, Roger Williams University; "The bitter & the sweet: exploring pesticide exposure and pollinator foraging at landscape scales"
October 15, 2025	LOCKWOOD LECTURE: Joseph Coolon, Ph.D., Director of College of Integrative Sciences, Associate Professor of Biology @ Wesleyan University; Title TBA
October 29, 2025	Brian Scott-Smith, Broadcaster & Media Consultant; "Talking to the Media: The Do's and Don'ts of Getting Your Message Across"
November 12, 2025	Sudhir Sharma, Ph.D., Postdoc, CAES' Department of Analytical Chemistry; "Tiny Steps Towards Major Goals - How Nanoparticles Can Help Ensure Cleaner and Safer Food Crops"
November 26, 2025	Katherine Owens, Ph.D., National Geographic Explorer, Fulbright Scholar, Director of Environmental Studies Program @ University of Hartford; Title TBA
December 17, 2025	Libby Indermaur, Ph.D., Postdoc, CAES' Valley Laboratory, "A tale of two pie plants: interdisciplinary approaches to advance disease management in pumpkin and rhubarb"

January 7, 2026	Alvaro Garcia, Ph.D. Postdoc, CAES' Department of Analytical Chemistry; "Nanotechnology-Derived Biostimulants and Fertilizers for the Enhancement of Agri-Food Production"
January 21, 2026	LOCKWOOD LECTURE: Professor Jonas Baltrusaitis, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA; "Sustainable by design: novel materials and processes for nitrogen cycling"
February 4, 2026	Eric Slessarev, Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Yale University, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; "Title TBD, but something soils related"
February 18, 2026	Jessica Brown, Ph.D., Postdoc & Natalie Bailey, Technician I, CAES' Department of Environmental Science and Forestry; "Investigation of American Dog Tick Infestation Ecology on Horse Island in Branford's Thimbles"
March 4, 2026	Caleb Bryan, PhD, Postdoc, CAES' Department of Entomology; "Title TBA- something about bumble bee radio telemetry"
March 18, 2026	Hany Dweck, PhD, Assistant Scientist II, CAES' Department of Entomology; "The Making of a Pest Fly: Mechanisms of Olfactory Adaptation"
April 1, 2026	Blaire Steven, Ph.D., Scientist, CAES' Department of Environmental Science and Forestry; "The Axenic Mosquito to Study Host Bacterial Interactions. A CAES Success Story"
April 15, 2026	Summer Weidman, Technician II, CAES' Department of Environmental Science and Forestry & UConn Ph.D. Student; "Harnessing Remote Sensing Technology for Enhanced Management of Hydrilla"
April 29, 2026	Leigh Whittinghill, Ph. D., Assistant Scientist II, CAES' Department of Environmental Science and Forestry; "Monitoring Urban Farm Nutrient and Irrigation Use Efficiency: A Pilot Project"
May 6, 2026	Raquel Rocha, Ph.D., Assistant Agricultural Scientist II, CAES' Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology, "Root-Knot Nematodes in Connecticut: Integrating Parasitism Insights and Innovative Management Approaches"
May 13, 2026	Robert Marra, Ph.D., Associate Agricultural Scientist, CAES' Department of Plant Pathology and Ecology, "Beech Leaf Disease: Insights from a co-evolved pathosystem in Japan."
May 27, 2026	Eli Ward, Ph.D. Title TBA