

# 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 Station research by Mr. Waters of WQUN Radio (August 3); gave a tour to State Senator Robert Kane and Lisa Hammersly of the Senate Republican Office and spoke about Station research programs (August 8); gave a report on Station research and other activities to the Experiment Station Associates (August 8); and was interviewed about the Memorandum of Understanding for the Experiment Station and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection concerning the Emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle by Bob Miller of the Danbury News Times (August 11).

### ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

**DR. JASON C. WHITE** attended the 43<sup>rd</sup> IUPAC World Chemistry Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico and was an invited keynote speaker in the session on interactions of nanoparticles with the environment where he gave a lecture entitled "Nanomaterial contamination by agricultural crops (40 attendees) (August 1-4); hosted a tour of department laboratories and programs for State Senator Rob Kane (August 8); participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (August 11); met with Dr. María Hernández-Soriano of North Carolina State University (August 12); participated in a conference call of the Organizing Committee for the 8<sup>th</sup> International Phytotechnologies Conference which will be held September 13-16 in Portland Oregon (August 19); met with Steve Rock of the US EPA National Risk Management Research Laboratory (August 26); attended the annual FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Technical Meeting in Madison, WI (75 attendees) (August 23-25); and gave a platform presentation entitled "Simultaneous surveillance of food products for chemical and microbial contamination" (August 25).

**DR. BRIAN EITZER** participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (August 11); attended the annual FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Technical Meeting in Madison WI (75 attendees) (August 23-25); and gave a platform presentation entitled "Validation of a QuEChERS high resolution LC-MS pesticide screen."

**DR. WALTER KROL** participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (August 11); and was filmed performing the homogenization and analysis of produce by Karyl Evans Productions LLC for a public service announcement being prepared for the CAES (August 12).

**MS. TERRI ARSENAULT** participated in a FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (August 11); attended the annual FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Technical Meeting in Madison WI (75 attendees) (August 23-25) and gave a platform presentation entitled "Analysis of tetramine by GC-MS."

### ENTOMOLOGY

**MS. KATHERINE DUGAS** staffed a table educating the public about Asian longhorned beetle,



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Emerald ash borer, and other forest pests at the Sharon Audubon Festival in Sharon (August 13).

**MS. ROSE HISKES** gave a talk on “Pests of Plants” to the Washington Garden Club in Washington (25 attendees) (August 11); organized and announced a “Plant Identification Workshop” for the Connecticut Accredited Nursery Professional (CANP) class conducted by the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association in New Haven (August 30).

**DR. CHRIS MAIER** was interviewed about the brown marmorated stink bug by John Burgeson of the Connecticut Post (August 3); and was interviewed about the brown marmorated stink bug by Anne Rowlands of the Connecticut Gardener Magazine (August 3).

**DR. GALE E. RIDGE** was interviewed about insect inquiries by Connecticut citizens by the New Haven Register (August 3); was interviewed about bed bugs by WQUN AM 1220 Radio (August 3); was interviewed about the lily leaf beetle by the Republican-American (August 5); was interviewed about chickens and their feeding activities on ticks by the Republican-American (August 10); and was invited to a meeting held by the Greenwich Health Department to assist them in planning more effective management of ongoing bed bug infestations in Greenwich Housing Authority properties. The meeting was attended by representatives from the Greenwich Housing Authority, Greenwich Health Department, pest management professionals, and housing and urban development. She also wrote a fact sheet in time for the beginning of the school year titled “Bed Bug Guide for Connecticut Schools” (August 11).

**DR. VICTORIA L. SMITH** participated in a joint meeting of the National Plant Board Board of Directors and USDA-APHIS-Plant Protection and Quarantine Leadership Team, held at The Curtis Hotel in Denver, CO (30 participants) (August 7); participated in the annual meeting of the National Plant Board, as Eastern Plant Board President and representative from Connecticut, held at The Curtis Hotel in Denver, CO (200 participants) (August 8-10); participated in a meeting of the National Plant Board Board of Directors, as Eastern Plant Board President, held at The Curtis Hotel in Denver, CO (15 participants) (August 11).

**DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III** was interviewed about ticks and Lyme disease for a video on barberry control and its impact on ticks by Steven Sadlowski (August 2); was interviewed about ticks and Lyme disease by Mara Lavitt for the New Haven Register (August 3); conducted Diversity Training for seasonal and new full-time employees (August 15); and was interviewed about ticks and Lyme disease by George Krinsky for the Republican-American (August 24).

## ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

**DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS** was interviewed about the isolations of West Nile virus this summer from mosquitoes collected in New Britain, Stamford and Westport, by Fran Schneido (August 3); discussed the State Mosquito Trapping and Testing Program and impact of budget cuts on the mosquito research and surveillance programs with State Representative, Patricia Dillon (August 3); was interviewed about the rapid build-up of West Nile virus this summer and the detection of virus in mosquitoes collected in 15 towns in CT by Steve Coats WTIC Radio (August 9); presented a talk entitled “*West Nile virus: a retrospective look at an emerging mosquito-borne disease in the western hemisphere*” to North Branford Rotary Club (15 attendees) (August 10); was interviewed about the isolation of West Nile virus from mosquitoes collected in 19 towns and the risk of human infection by Bill Weir-Hartford Courant (August 16); was interviewed about West Nile virus and the State Mosquito Trapping and Testing Program by a group of graduate students from the Yale University School of Forestry (August 22); was interviewed about West Nile virus activity this summer in CT and impact of budget cut on the program by Steve Kotchco, Connecticut Public Radio (August 23); was interviewed about West Nile virus activity this summer and mosquito-borne diseases in CT Cory Garfman, Journal Inquirer (August 24); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus in mosquitoes collected in New London County this summer by Judy Bensen, The Day (August 25); and was interviewed about the State Mosquito Trapping and Testing Program, West Nile virus, the impact of federal budget cut on the program by Craig Lemoult, National Public Radio (August 25).



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**MR. GREGORY BUGBEE** was interviewed by the Associated Press on invasive aquatic plants in CT (August 12); and was interviewed by the George Linkletter of Danbury public TV on invasive aquatic plants in lakes Candlewood, Lillinonah and Zoar (August 26).

**MR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO** presented a talk entitled, *Adsorption of aromatic carboxylate ions to charcoal black carbon is accompanied by release of hydroxide ion* and a poster entitled, *Sorption of the antimicrobial sulfamethazine to black carbon (biochar)* at the Annual Meeting of the American Chemical Society, Denver, CO (August 28).

## FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

**DR. JEFFREY WARD** interviewed about protecting trees from hurricane damage by Ann DeMatteo of the New Haven Register (August 26).

**DR. WILLIAM NAIL** participated in a conference call meeting of the eXtension Viticulture Extension Educators Community of Practice (August 25).

## PLANT PATHOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

**DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS** participated in the monthly meeting of the CTPA Board of Directors in New Haven (August 9).

**DR. WADE H. ELMER** presented a poster titled "Partial saturation of potted ornamentals reduces Pythium root rot on flooded floor greenhouses" and gave reports at the Divisional Forum Committee Meeting and the Ad Hoc Membership Committee Meeting at the 2011 American Phytopathological Society (APS)-International Plant Protection Congress (IPPC) Joint Meeting held in Honolulu, HI (August 7-11).

**DR. FRANCIS J. FERRANDINO** gave a talk titled "Pruning and training tomato plants to minimize disease" to the East Haddam Garden Club at the Gillette Castle Visitors Center (21 adult attendees) (August 17); scouted the grape vines at Ruby Belle Vineyard in Higganum and identified an initial infection by grape Downy Mildew on 6 out of 8 cultivars. This information was passed on to Stewart Gilmore, the owner and farm manager (August 17).

**DR. ROBERT E. MARRA** was interviewed by a staff writer for Science Magazine about *Phytophthora ramorum* and the risks it poses to eastern forests and landscapes, vis-à-vis the circumstances surrounding our find of a *P. ramorum*-infected plant in the landscape in New Haven County (August 22).

## VALLEY LABORATORY

**DR. JOHN AHRENS** attended the 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Research and Extension Conference in Eichgraben, Austria to give a paper entitled 'Weed Control Practices in the Northeastern United States' (40 attendees) (August 21 to 26).

**DR. RICHARD COWLES** presented the field exhibit "Trunk sprays to manage hemlock woolly adelgid" at Plant Science Day (30 attendees visited display) (August 3); helped with the insect and mite portion of a twilight walking tour for the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers' Association meeting in New Milford, CT (25 attendees) (August 30); and made the first detection in New England of spotted wing drosophila, *Drosophila suzukii*, from traps in Fairfield County baited with whole wheat bread dough intended for monitoring strawberry sap beetle activity (August 19).



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**DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA** spoke to participants of the pesticide credit tour at Plant Science Day about research efforts to use biofumigation to control soilborne pathogens (40 people) (August 3); and discussed plant pathology and biocontrol research with Dr. Haim Gunner of Performance Biocontrol at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor, CT (August 24).

**DR. TODD L. MERVOSH** led an invasive plants walk and discussion at the Sharon Audubon Center Festival in Sharon (4 adults, 3 children) (August 14); and spoke about weed identification and management at a Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers Association twilight meeting in New Milford, CT (15 attendees) (August 30).

## JOURNAL ARTICLES APPROVED AUGUST 2011

**Anagnostakis, Sandra L.** The trouble with butternuts. Northern Nut Growers Association Annual Report 2011

**Cowles, Richard S.** The strawberry cultivar "Rubicon" submitted for patent approval. CT Farm-to-Chef Program News, September 2011

Hoban, S. M., T. S. McCleary, S. E. Schlarbaum, **Sandra L. Anagnostakis**, and J. Romero-Severson. Human impacted landscapes facilitate hybridization between a native and an introduced tree. *Evolutionary Applications*

**LaMondia, James A.** and R. L. Wick. Potyvirus infection of potato may threaten other solanaceous crops. *Phytopathology* (abstract)

**White, Jason C.** The analysis of commercial fertilizers at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station: 136 years of product safety and compliance. CT Weekly Agricultural Report, August 31, 2011

## ARTICLES OF INTEREST



Mammatus Clouds at Lockwood Farm, Hamden, CT on August 2, 2011.

Image taken by Vickie Bomba-Lewandoski.

## THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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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

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