**The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station**

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**CAES SEMINAR SERIES**

# "Application of Agricultural Decision Support Systems to Apple Production in the Northeast"

## Dr. Daniel Cooley
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**University of Massachusetts, Amherst**

## Wednesday, May 22, 2019
12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Food and coffee will be available at 11:45 a.m.

**Jones Auditorium**
**The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station**
**123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT**

Agricultural decision support systems (DSSs) are an important advance in promoting use of integrated pest management (IPM) in agriculture. These systems integrate real-time weather data and related crop and pest development information with forecasting models for plant diseases, insect pests, and other aspects of crop management. Over the past decade, several DSSs have been developed and released for use in apple production. These systems differ in terms of the type of weather data and forecast models they use, and in output they produce. More importantly, risk levels generated by them can vary. We evaluated four of the commonly used DSSs for accuracy in predicting primary apple scab infections. We found that significant differences occurred between these systems in terms of their estimates of the length of time primary infections were possible, and that these estimates also could differ from direct observations of *Venturia inaequalis* ascospore availability and apple scab infections.