

STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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.



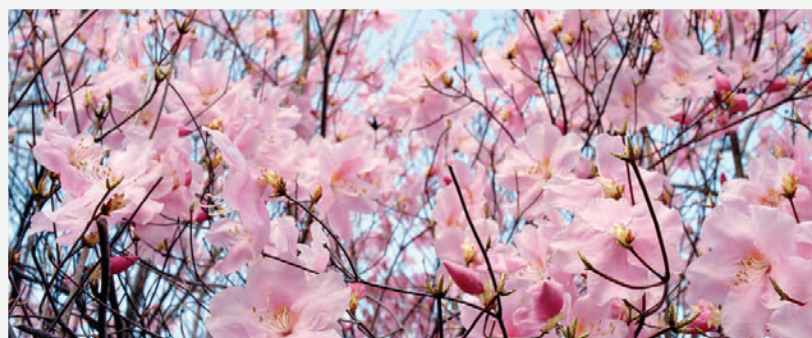
VOLUME 2, ISSUE 4

Departmental News

Administration	2
Analytical Chemistry	2
Biochemistry and Genetics	3
Entomology	4
Environmental Sciences	7

APRIL 2012

Forestry and Horticulture	8
Plant Pathology and Ecology	9
Valley Laboratory	11
Journal Articles Approved	13





STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

ADMINISTRATION

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI was interviewed by Mike Patrick of the Waterbury Republican about Station research and outreach activities (March 5); was interviewed about ticks and Lyme disease by Valerie Foster of Healthy Life Magazine (March 20); was interviewed about ticks by WTIC Radio (March 22); gave a report on tree pests at the Tree Warden's Annual Meeting in Farmington (March 22); attended the annual meeting of the Valley Community Foundation in Derby and represented the Experiment Station as the Jones Family Farms Trust Fund was announced (March 26); welcomed the participants of the Landscape Design School and gave a report on Experiment Station research and other activities (March 27); and participated in the Annual Meeting of the Experiment Station Associates in Jones Auditorium (March 29).

ANALYTICAL CHEMISTRY

DR. JASON C. WHITE participated in an FDA FERN conference call on an ongoing surveillance exercise for arsenic in fruit juices (March 1); participated in the monthly Laboratory Preparedness Network meeting at the Department of Public Health in Hartford (March 5); participated with Department staff in two FDA conference calls discussing potential funding for laboratory accreditation (March 7, 8); participated in an FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (March 8); participated in a conference call with the CT Department of Public Health and the CT Department of Consumer Protection regarding the recent increase in consumer complaint samples concerning powdered infant formula (March 8); travelled to the University of Parma (Parma, Italy) to discuss collaborative research and to present an invited lecture entitled "Nanomaterial contamination of agricultural crops" (March 11-15) (175 attendees); participated in an International Phytotechnology Society conference call among society officers discussing website re-design (March 21); participated in an EPA-sponsored conference call on the potential use of phytoremediation at a PCB-contaminated site in Virginia (March 26); presented an invited lecture entitled "Phytotechnologies: Fundamentals and Mechanisms" by WebEx to a graduate school class in the Harvard University Department of Landscape Architecture (March 27) (10 attendees); participated in the annual Department of Public Health Bioterrorism/FBI Weapons of Mass Destruction First Responder Training Course in Rocky Hill (March 28); and met with Dr. Peter Rabinowitz of the Yale University Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program regarding a collaborative project on the health effects associated with hydraulic fracturing (March 30).

DR. BRIAN EITZER participated in two FDA conference calls discussing potential funding for laboratory accreditation (March 7, 8); participated in an FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (March 8); was a judge at the Connecticut Science Fair at Quinnipiac University in Hamden CT (March 14-15); attended a Principal Investigator planning meeting for the SCRI funded grant entitled "Pollination security for fruit and vegetables in the Northeast" at the University of Massachusetts (March 26); participated in a FERN cCAP conference call about High Resolution Mass Spectrometry (March 21); and met with Dr. Christian Krupke of Purdue University to discuss collaborative research efforts on pesticides and honey bees (March 30).

DR. WALTER KROL participated in two FDA conference calls discussing potential funding for laboratory accreditation (March 7, 8); participated in an FDA FERN Chemistry Cooperative Agreement (cCAP) Laboratory conference call (March 8); attended an EPA sponsored Pesticide Regulatory Education Program (PREP) Laboratory Issues course in Davis California (March 19-



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

22); and presented a talk entitled “CAES Market Basket Survey – Pesticide Contamination of Fresh and Dried Herbs” (March 17) (40 attendees); and “The Role of Pesticides in Honey bee Decline: Methodology Issues for Removing Pesticides in Bees, Pollen, Honeycomb” (March 22) (40 attendees).

BIOCHEMISTRY AND GENETICS

DR. DOUGLAS W. DINGMAN discussed honey bee research project with American honey Princess, Danielle Dale and Connecticut Beekeepers Association officers Ted and Becky Jones (March 16); participated in a meeting with Mark Cooper (Director of Health, Westport Weston Health district), Michael Pascucilla (Director of Health, East Shore District Health Department), Timothy Callahan (Director of Health, Norwalk Health Department, Dr. Adalgisa Caccone (Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies, and Lauren Brooks (Research Assistant, Yale Institute for Biospheric Studies) to outline procedural details for conducting microbial source tracking in three Long Island Sound watersheds within Connecticut (March 20); and presented honey bee information and research efforts to Hebron community school students touring the Station (March 23).

DR. NEIL P. SCHULTES presented a seminar on Nucleobase Transporters at to the Irish-Nelson Group at the Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology at Yale University (March 9); along with **DR. DONALD AYLOR**, spoke with and gave a brief Station tour for Dr. Nicholas Kalaitzandonakes from the Department Agriculture and Applied Economics at the University of Missouri. Dr. Kalaitzandonakes gave a lecture on the Economic of Co-existence of GM, conventional and organic crops at the Biotechnology in Agriculture Study Group part of the Yale Interdisciplinary Center For Bioethics (March 15); and delivered lectures about “Genetically Modified Plants in Agriculture” to a Yale University course Sci031 “Current Topics in Science” (March 23 & 30).



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

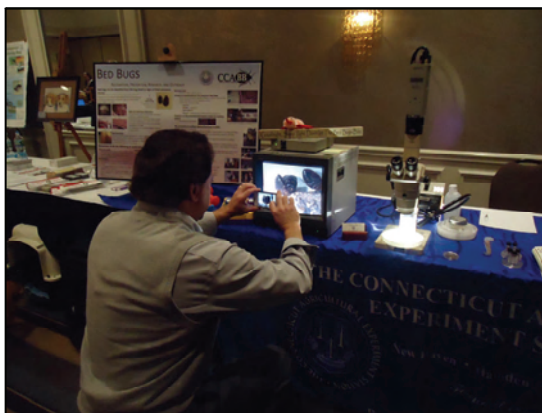
ENTOMOLOGY

MS. KATHERINE DUGAS gave a lecture about working in the field of Entomology at Mitchell College in New London (March 8) (15 students attended); attended the Entomological Society of America Eastern Branch Annual Meeting in Hartford. There were CAES booths dedicated to bed bugs, Asian longhorned beetle, and Emerald ash borer (March 17) (250 attendees were reported by the ESA); and distributed teaching materials, handouts, and outreach materials about forest pests to educators at the Connecticut Outdoor and Environmental Education Association Annual Meeting in New Britain (March 23) (75 attendees) .

MS. ROSE HISKES participated in a Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group symposium planning committee meeting in Windsor (March 1); with **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS**, participated in a conference call with Joan Allen, UConn, about Forest Pest Outreach (March 2); collaborated with Ken Mosher, state computer IT consultant BEST-DAS, on the Pesticide Guide Toward Integrated Pest Management for Arborists and Nursery Growers in East Hartford (March 15); with **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS**, met with **MS. TERRI ARSENAULT** to plan a Forest Pest Station at the Girl Scout's 100th Anniversary Jamboree in Durham on May 19 (March 16); with **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS**, staffed a Forest Pest table at the "Bug's World" at the Eastern Branch Meeting of the Entomological Society of America held at the Hilton Hotel in Hartford (March 17); staffed a Forest Pest booth at the Master Gardeners annual symposium at Manchester Community College in Manchester (March 24) (91 direct contacts); participated in a Forest Pest Project conference call (March 28).

DR. CHRIS MAIER spoke on "Two Nasty Invasive Insects: Brown Marmorated Stink Bug and Spotted Wing Drosophila" at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees); and discussed the trapping and biology of the spotted wing drosophila during the Spotted Wing Drosophila: 2012 New England Survey Coordination Meeting at the Valley Laboratory (March 7).

DR. GALE E. RIDGE launched on Facebook and YouTube the "Bed Bug Training Video, 'They're Back', a 7-minute informational video peppered with cartoons and staged scenarios to help health department staff manage bed bug issues and situations. This "lighter touch" has been found to reduce public anxiety and help citizens learn and process information; spoke about bed bugs to the Winter Regional Conference of the New England Pest Management Association in Boxborough, MA (March 16) (200 attendees); and with **MS. KATHERINE DUGAS**, had a bed bug display at the public exhibit sponsored by the Entomology Society of America Eastern Branch Meeting in Hartford (March 17) (1,173 visitors).



Charlie Mastoberti photographing live bed bugs mating.



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



Collage of the "It's a Bug's World" public exhibit.

Spoke about the human side of the bed bug equation and the important role of public education and outreach in regard to bed bug management at a bed bug symposium at the Entomology Society of America Eastern Branch Meeting in Hartford (March 18) (30 attendees); spoke about bed bugs to health department officials and nursing groups from across Connecticut at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven (March 21) (120 attendees); was interviewed about bed bugs and how they affect furniture banks and charities by Judy Benson of The Day (March 26); was interviewed about ticks, the Marmorated stink bug, Asian longhorned beetle, and the Emerald ash borer by Harlan Levi of the Journal Register (March 28); attended a meeting in Hartford called by Representative Andres Ayala where she advised landlord/tenant representatives about bed bugs while they deliberated over the landlord/tenant Bed Bug Bill No. 190 (March 28); and spoke to doctors at Danbury Hospital about the biology, history, and management of bed bugs in emergency rooms (March 30) (40 attendees) .

DR. CLAIRE E. RUTLEDGE presented a talk titled "An update on the Emerald ash borer" at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees); staffed the "hands-on" table with forest pests for Arboriculture 101 in Jones Auditorium (March 7); manned a table with a display on *Cerceris fumipennis* for "Bug's World" at the Eastern Branch of the Entomological Society Annual Meeting in Hartford (March 17) (250 youth attendees); and taught a class called "Beetle detectives: on the trail of the Emerald ash borer" at Minds in Motion sponsored by Connecticut Association for the Gifted in Prospect (March 31) (6 youth attendees).

DR. VICTORIA L. SMITH participated in the National Plant Board Systems Approach to Nursery Certification, held at USDA Center in Riverdale, MD (March 5) (approx. 60 participants); participated in the National Plant Board Board of Directors meeting, as president of the Eastern Plant Board, held at USDA Center in Riverdale, MD (March 6) (15 participants) ; participated in a joint meeting of the National Plant Board Board of Directors and the USDA-APHIS-PPQ Leadership Team, held at USDA Center in Riverdale, MD (March 7-8) (approx. 45 participants); participated in a meeting of the Yale Biosafety Committee in New Haven (March 15) (20 participants); with **DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS**, was a guest on the Wayne Norman morning show on WILI Radio, to discuss boxwood blight (March 19); and with **DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS** and **MS. VICKIE M. BOMBA-LEWANDOSKI**, manned the Experiment Station booth at Agriculture Day, held in the State Capitol in Hartford (March 21).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III spoke on landscape and natural control of ticks at a Lyme disease and tick control forum held in Taunton, MA (March 1) (88 attendees); participated in Part 1 of a USDA webinar on the IPHIS web reporting system for pest survey (March 2); was interviewed about Novozymes and the fungus *Metarhizium* for tick control by Tom Porter of Maine public radio (March 5); moderated the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees); with **DRS. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI, SHARON M. DOUGLAS**, and **MR. MICHAEL P. LAST**, met with architects from FLAD to discuss the Jenkins-Waggoner Laboratory plans (March 7) (9 attendees); participated in Part 2 of a USDA webinar on the IPHIS web reporting system for pest survey (March 7); participated as administrative advisor at a meeting of the Multistate Project NE-1043, Biology, Ecology and Management of



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Emerging Disease Vectors in Jones Auditorium (March 13) (19 attendees); with **DRS. KIMBERLY A. STONER, DOUGLAS W. DINGMAN, and BRIAN D. EITZER**, provided a tour of the Station with research updates for beekeepers Ted and Becky Jones and the American Honey Princess, Danielle Dale (March 16); attended the Eastern Branch Meeting of the Entomological Society of America in Hartford (March 17); participated in a meeting of the Northeast Area Experiment Station Directors (NERA) and the Multistate Activities Committee in Baltimore, MD (March 19-21); was interviewed about the fungus *Metarhizium* for tick control by Laura Landro of the Wall Street Journal (March 22); was interviewed about spring tick activity by Alissa Smith of the Daily Wilton (March 22); and attended the annual meeting of the Experiment Station Associates in Jones Auditorium (March 29).

DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER presented a talk on “Pollination, Wild Bees, and Honey Bees” at the CT NOFA Winter Conference at Manchester Community College (March 3) (60 attendees); presented a talk on “Pollination, Wild Bees, and Honey Bees” to the Clinton Garden Club at the Clinton Public Library (March 8) (25 attendees); with **DRS. KIRBY C. STAFFORD III, DOUGLAS W. DINGMAN, and BRIAN D. EITZER**, gave a tour focusing on bee research to the American Honey Princess, Danielle Dale, and to Ted and Becky Jones, president and treasurer of the CT Beekeeping Association (March 16); presented a display on bee research and a brief talk before a showing of the film “The Vanishing of the Bees,” sponsored by Audubon Connecticut, at the Wallingford Public Library (March 21) (26 adult and 4 youth attendees); participated in a meeting at the University of Massachusetts to launch the project, “Pollination Security For Fruits and Vegetables in the Northeast,” funded by the Specialty Crops Research Initiative of the US Department of Agriculture. **DR. BRIAN D. EITZER** and **MS. TRACY ZARRILLO** also participated (March 26) (14 scientists, graduate students, and other researchers participated); and participated in the National Forum of Beyond Pesticides at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Sciences (March 30-31).

MS. TRACY ZARRILLO attended a *Lasioglossum (Dialictus)* Identification Workshop held at the University of Massachusetts. The workshop was taught by Dialictus expert Dr. Jason Gibbs of Cornell University (March 22-25); accompanied **DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER** and **DR. BRIAN D. EITZER** to a meeting held at the University of Massachusetts regarding pollination security in specialty crops. She also met with James Fischer of the White Memorial Foundation and Kristina Vagos of the Stewart B. McKinney Wildlife Refuge to help set up bee monitoring sites within their preserves (March 26).



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS was interviewed about the Station's research and surveillance programs on mosquitoes and arboviruses by Michael Patrick, Waterbury Republican (March 5); hosted the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES and presented a research update on, *Takaokaspora japonicus: a novel microsporidian parasite from Ochlerotatus j. japonicus* (March 13); was interviewed about the impact of the abnormally warm weather on mosquito populations and West Nile virus by Dan Kane WFSB TV3 (March 13); was interviewed about the impact of the abnormally warm weather on mosquito populations and West Nile virus by Cable News 12, Norwalk, CT (March 14); was interviewed about the impact of the abnormally warm weather on mosquito populations and West Nile virus by William Weir, Hartford Courant (March 19); and was interviewed about the impact of the abnormally warm weather on mosquito populations and West Nile virus by Fox 61 News (March 20).

DR. PHILIP ARMSTRONG participated in the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES and presented an invited talk entitled *Molecular Evolution of West Nile Virus in a Northern Temperate Region*" (March 13).

MR. GREGORY BUGBEE was interviewed by Bob Miller of the News Times regarding the affects of the warm winter on weed control in Candlewood Lake (March 2); spoke to the Old Ripton Garden Club in Shelton on *Container Gardening Indoors and Out* (March 5) (35 attendees); spoke on *Connecticut Considers Banning Phosphorus in Lawn Fertilizer* at the Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources held at UCONN (March 12) (45 attendees); Spoke to the Caudatowa Garden Club in Ridgefield on *Improving Soil in the Home Garden* (March 13) (45 attendees), with Jordan Gibbons, gave an Invasive Aquatic Plant Workshop at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich (March 14) (40 attendees); with Michael Cavadini proctored the *Awesome Aquifer* event at the 2012 Science Olympiad in Farmington (March 17) (30 attendees); spoke to the Branford Land Trust on *Invasive Aquatic Plants* (March 27) (10 attendees); and with Michael Cavadini gave a soil testing demonstration to juvenile detainees at the Cheshire Correctional Facility (March 28) (10 attendees).

DR. GOUDARZ MOLAEI participated in the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES and presented an update on research activities on mosquito feeding behavior (March 13); presented an invited talk to the 99th Annual Meeting of the New Jersey Mosquito Control Association, held in Atlantic City, NJ entitled *Resurgence of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus in Northeastern U.S. and the Role of Culiseta melanura and Associated Mosquitoes* (March 29).

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO presented an invited talk entitled, *Insight into interactions of polar and ionogenic organic compounds with black carbon* at the American Chemical Society National Meeting, San Diego, CA (March 25-29).

MR. JOHN SHEPARD participated in a Board of Directors meeting of the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association in Plymouth, MA (March 9) (11 attendees); and participated in the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES (March 13).

MR. MICHAEL THOMAS participated in the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES (March 13).

DR. CHARLES VOSSBRINCK participated in the Annual Meeting of Multi-State Research Project NE-1043, *Biology, Ecology & Management of Emerging Disease Vectors* held at CAES and presented an update on research activities on the molecular phylogeny of viruses and microsporidia (March 13); and served as a judge for the Biotechnology Section at the Connecticut Science Fair held at Quinnipiac University in Hamden (March 16-17).



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

FORESTRY AND HORTICULTURE

DR. JEFFREY WARD spoke on "The Dynamic History of the Connecticut Forest" at 2012 CT-NOFA Winter Conference in Manchester (March 3) (45 attendees); spoke on "Homeowner tree care" for the Cheshire Garden Club (March 5) (23 attendees); participated in Audubon Connecticut Science Committee meeting (March 6); spoke on "At the halfway point--80 years of forest change" at the 17th annual Forest Health Workshop in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (40 attendees); administered practical and oral examination to arborist candidates for the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board (March 7); spoke on "Recovery of forests from disturbance" at the 2012 CT Conference on Natural Resources, Storrs (75 attendees) (March 12); spoke on reducing deer browse damage for the Nichol's Garden Club, Trumbull (March 13) (26 attendees); visited West Wood Elementary School in Hamden to advise on tree care and identification (March 16); was interviewed by Laura Landro of the Wall Street Journal on controlling Japanese barberry (March 19); spoke on "Influence of disturbance on stand development during forest succession" and "Treating Japanese barberry during the dormant season" at the 18th Central Hardwood Forest Conference in Morgantown, WV (March 27) (112 attendees); and attended a lecture by USDA Forest Service, Chief Tom Tidwell at Yale University on state of forestry in United States (March 28).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD assisted with science fair projects at Hamden Hall Country Day School (March 28) (12 students, 1 adult); assisted in the planning of a Lower School garden at Hamden Hall Country Day School (March 6-9); and represented the Station at a meeting of the State Technical Committee in Tolland (March 14) (18 adults).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL consulted with Stan Jennings of Haight-Brown Vineyards in Litchfield to discuss soil amendments and pruning strategies for the upcoming season (March 13); met with Jeremiah and Beth Butler at their farm in New Hartford to evaluate a potential site for a vineyard and discuss cultivar selection (March 14); visited Anthony Ferraro at Connecticut Valley Winery in New Hartford to discuss vineyard management practices for the upcoming season (March 14); and was interviewed by Alicia Gray of Southern Connecticut State University about the Connecticut grape industry for her senior research project (March 21).

DR. SCOTT WILLIAMS participated in an executive ad-hoc subcommittee meeting of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Middlefield (March 1); attended the Connecticut Forest Health Monitoring Workshop, Jones Auditorium, New Haven (March 6); gave two invited lectures titled "Overabundant White-Tailed Deer as Seed Dispersal Agents" and "Ecological Interconnectedness Between a Native Ectoparasite, an Alien Invasive Shrub, a Native Rodent, and a Native Invasive Mammal and Potential Impacts to Humans" to members of the Quinnipiac River Watershed Association, Meriden (March 7) (17 attendees); with **MICHAEL SHORT**, hosted a CAES informational table at Van Wilgens Nursery's Escape to Spring Flower Show Expo, North Branford (March 9); attended the 5th Annual Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources and discussed collaborative research funding opportunities with colleagues at the University of Connecticut, Storrs (March 12); with **J.P. BARSKY** and **MICHAEL SHORT**, discussed careers in wildlife biology with students from Lyman Hall High School Regional Vocational Agricultural Education Center, New Haven, (March 14) (10 students, 1 teacher); was interviewed by Vickie Mattern of Mother Earth News Magazine on the effectiveness of deer repellents (March 14); was interviewed by Laura Landro of the Wall Street Journal on the relationship between Japanese barberry, blacklegged ticks, and *Borrelia burgdorferi* (March 19); with **MR. J.P. BARSKY**, spoke to a biology class from Hebron High School about invasive forest pests and control techniques for invasive plant species, New Haven, (March 23) (28 students, 2 teachers); participated in a meeting of the Executive Board of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Middlefield. (March 27); and was elected Executive Treasurer of the Northeast Chapter of The Wildlife Society. (March 27).

MR. JOSEPH P. BARSKY attended the Connecticut Forest Health Monitoring Workshop, Jones Auditorium, New Haven (March 6); staffed a CAES booth featuring Boxwood Blight and invasive exotic insects at the Garden Expo, Fairfield (March 17) (1500 attendees) .



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

PLANT PATHOLOGY AND ECOLOGY

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS gave a talk on “Growing nuts in Connecticut” for the NOFA meeting in Manchester (March 3) (65 attendees) ; reported on “The Big Planting” at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop held in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees); and spoke about forest diversity to two groups of students visiting the Station from Hebron High School (March 23) (30 attendees).

DR. DONALD E. AYLOR helped judge the finalists in the Physical Sciences Teams competition at the Annual Connecticut Science Fair at Quinnipiac University in Hamden (March 15).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS attended the 2012 Forest Health Monitoring Workshop in Jones Auditorium (March 6); gave an invited presentation on “Boxwood blight: implications for New England” at Northeast Nursery’s Annual Meeting (Danversport Yacht Club, Danvers, MA) (March 13) (125 adult attendees); gave a presentation titled “Boxwood blight: a new threat to boxwood in CT and the US” at the Bartlett Spring Horticultural Forum at Fairfield University in Fairfield (March 14) (85 adult attendees); was interviewed about the impact of the unusually warm weather on plants by Steve Grant for the Hartford Courant (March 15); appeared as a guest, along with **DR. VICTORIA L. SMITH**, on the Wayne Norman Radio Show (WILI Radio, Willimantic) on boxwood blight (March 19); presented a poster on “Boxwood blight” and answered questions about the new disease at Ag Day at the Capitol in Hartford (March 21); was interviewed about pachysandra as a new host of *Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum*, the cause of boxwood blight, by Nancy Crevier of The Newtown Bee (March 22); participated in a webinar titled “Boxwood blight: where we are and where we hope to be” organized by ANLA (March 23) (219 attendees); gave a presentation titled “Boxwood blight—A new threat to boxwood in CT” at the Annual Meeting of the Experiment Station Associates in Jones Auditorium (March 29) (35 adult attendees); was interviewed about boxwood blight by Roxanne Washington of the Plain Dealer newspaper of Cleveland, OH (March 29); and was interviewed about early flowering, frost, and implications for climate change by Melissa Bailey of the New Haven Independent (March 29).

DR. WADE H. ELMER was interviewed about his biochar research and Sudden Vegetation Dieback by Mike Patrick of the Waterbury Republican-American (March 5); visited with Zhen Gusho, a student at Greenwich High School, to participate in her project on biochar (March 7); presented a paper titled “Role of plant disease and drought stress of *Spartina alterniflora* on herbivory by marsh crabs in salt marshes affected by Sudden Vegetation Dieback” at the Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources held at UConn in Storrs (March 12) (35 attendees); spoke about Sudden Vegetation Dieback to two groups of students visiting the Station from Hebron High School (March 23) (30 attendees); was invited as a visiting scientist (March 25-31) to the China Agricultural University in Beijing, China, by Prof. Qi Wang where he presented the lectures “Fusarium crown and root rot of asparagus” (March 27) (18 attendees), “Fusarium diseases of ornamentals” (March 28) (18 attendees) , and “Mineral nutrition and plant disease” (March 29) (27 attendees); and was invited as a visiting scientist (March 31 to April 3) to Fudan University in Shanghai, China, by Dr. Bo Li where he presented the seminar “Sudden Vegetation Dieback” (April 2) (15 attendees).



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION



From left to right wearing CAES hats: Juan Du, Hai Yan Fan, Jing An, and Tan Tan Ciao.



Dr. Wade Elmer and Dr. Bo Li of Fudan University standing in a Shanghai salt marsh.



Dr. Wade Elmer with the plant pathology graduate students at China Agricultural University, Beijing.



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

DR. FRANCIS J. FERRANDINO gave a talk titled "An overview of the Southern New England Grape Information Network (2008-2011)" at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop held in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees).

MS. MARY K. INMAN spoke on "Diseases of trees" in the Tree Conditions Lab for Arboriculture 101 held in Jones Auditorium (March 7) (35 adult attendees).

DR. YONGHAO LI gave a talk titled "Diseases of trees" at Bartlett Arboretum & Gardens in Stamford (March 8) (17 attendees); and was interviewed about boxwood blight by Robert Vitale of The Columbus Dispatch (Columbus, OH) (March 26).

DR. ROBERT E. MARRA gave a talk titled, "*Phytophthora ramorum*: an Overview of Risks and Challenges for Eastern North America," at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop held in Jones Auditorium (March 6) (60 attendees); with his colleagues on the Steering Committee, hosted the Connecticut Conference on Natural Resources at the University of Connecticut in Storrs (March 12) (over 200 attendees); and met with the West Haven Tree Commission to discuss the upcoming West Haven street tree inventory, and to plan activities and events for Arbor Day (March 20).

VALLEY LABORATORY

DR. CAROLE CHEAH gave a presentation on progress in biological control of mile-a-minute weed in Connecticut at the 2012 Forest Health Monitoring Workshop (60) at New Haven (March 6); gave a workshop on control of mile-a-minute through state and NGO partnerships with Kathleen Nelson, Mad Gardeners, Inc. at the 2012 Connecticut Land Conservation Conference at Wesleyan University, Middletown (March 24) (11 attendees); and was interviewed by Patterson Clark of the Washington Post on biological control of HWA in CT and the effects of cold temperatures on HWA survival (March 28)

DR. RICHARD COWLES presented "Managing armored scales" and "Difficult to manage insect pests" to the Penn State Cooperative Extension Christmas tree growers' short course, Hazelton, PA, (March 3) (100 attendees); led a 2.5 hour "Spotted wing drosophila: Current and potential management methods" training session for New England research and extension personnel on at the Valley Laboratory, Windsor (March 7) (20 attendees); participated by giving two talks for arborists, "Systemic insecticides to manage insect pests" and "Managing common insect pests" at Rainbow Tree Care arborist training seminars in Suffern, NY (March 13) (10 attendees), Hartford, CT, (March 14) (20 attendees), and Natick, MA (March 15) (60 attendees). He gave the presentation "SWD IPM ASAP" at the Eastern Branch Entomological Society Meeting in Hartford, CT, first at the spotted wing drosophila symposium (March 17) (60 attendees) and to then the IDEP (Insect Detection, Evaluation and Prediction) Symposium (March 18) (30 attendees); and spoke on "Spotted wing drosophila: protecting home fruit," at The Experiment Station Associates Annual Meeting on (March 29) (25 attendees).

DR. JAMES LAMONDIA participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Agricultural Information Council to select the Connecticut Outstanding Young Farmer Award winner and prepare for Ag Day at the Capital (March 6); examined candidates for the Connecticut arborist license and participated in the quarterly meeting of the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board in New Haven (March 7); taught a class on identification, biology and management of tree diseases to students in the Connecticut Tree Protective Association's Arboriculture 101 class in New Haven (March 14) (45 persons); with colleagues George Abawi of Cornell-Geneva and Beth Gugino of Penn State University conducted a day-long SARE-funded workshop on the identification, assessment and management of soilborne plant pathogens in vegetable systems held in Allentown PA (30 people) (March 20) and in Saratoga, NY (13 people) March 22); was interviewed for an article about soilborne vegetable diseases by Chris Torres for Lancaster Farming (March 20); spoke about infection of *Pachysandra* and fungicide research during the ANLA webinar 'Boxwood blight update: Where we are and where we hope to be' (March 23) (230 people); spoke about fungicide resistance, efficacy and managing disease and fungicide residues in shade and broadleaf tobacco at a Windsor Shade Tobacco meeting in Windsor Locks (March 27) (15 people); with Thomas Rathier, met at



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Valley Laboratory with Bob Heffernan, Kevin Sullivan, Mike Emmons, Sali Baroli, and Rich McAvoy to discuss the development of water and soil best management practices for the Nursery and Landscape industry in Connecticut (March 28); and was interviewed by Randall Barron of Altria about cigar wrapper tobacco culture, plant pathology research, and strategies for pesticide residue management (March 30)

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH participated in a symposium planning meeting for the Conn. Invasive Plant Working Group at the Valley Laboratory (March 1) (13 attendees); spoke about “Japanese stiltgrass management in woodlands” at the Forest Health Monitoring Workshop at CAES New Haven (March 6) (60 attendees); and participated in a Connecticut Nurserymen’s Foundation scholarship selection committee meeting at the Valley Laboratory (March 21).

MS. DIANE RIDDLE participated in initial ACO training conducted by USDA APHIS in Amherst, MA (March 20 to 23), and passed the Initial Export Certification Test for Accredited Certification Officials.



STATION NEWS

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

JOURNAL ARTICLES APPROVED MARCH 2012

- Cowles, Richard S.** Practical armored scale management in Christmas trees. *Great Lakes Christmas Tree Journal*
- Douglas, Sharon M.** Boxwood blight – A new threat to boxwood in Connecticut and the U.S. *CT Weekly Agriculture Report*
- Ferrandino, Francis J.** Time scales of inoculum production and the dynamics of the epidemic. *Phytopathology (Letters to the Editor)*
- Gent, Martin P. N.** Diurnal variation in water potential and xylem and phloem transport. *HortScience (Abstract 2012 annual meeting)*
- Gent, Martin P. N.** Rate of change of composition of lettuce in response to nitrogen depletion or resupply. *HortScience (Abstract 2012 annual meeting)*
- Isleyen, M., P. Sevin, **J. Hawthorne, William A. Berger, and Jason C. White.** Uptake and translocation of weathered chlordane and pp-DDTs by *Curcubita pepo* hybrids. *International Journal of Phytoremediation*
- Ivors, K. L., L. W. Lacey, D. C. Milks, **Sharon M. Douglas, Mary K. Inman, Robert E. Marra, and James A. LaMondia.** First report of boxwood blight caused by *Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum* in the United States. *Plant Disease (Disease Note)*
- Krol, Walter J.** The Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: Development and Implementation of Testing Methodology for the Reopening of Waters to Fishing. *Quarterly Bulletin of the NH Section of the ACS.*
- LaMondia, James A.** Management of foliar nematodes in ornamentals. *Phytopathology (Abstract)*
- LaMondia, James A. and Charles R. Vossbrinck.** First report of target spot of tobacco caused by *Rhizoctonia solani* (Ag-3) in Connecticut. *Plant Disease*
- LaMondia, James A., De-Wei Li, Robert E. Marra, and Sharon M. Douglas.** First report of *Cylindrocladium pseudonaviculatum* causing leaf spot of *Pachysandra terminalis*. *Plant Disease*
- Maier, Chris T.** New distributional records of invasive coleoptera found in Connecticut and other Eastern states: *Agrilus cyanescens* (Ratzeburg) (Buprestidae), *Lilioceris lili* (Scopoli), and *Pyrrhalta viburni* (Paykull) (Chrysomelidae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington*
- Rutledge, Claire E.** and M. A. Keena. Mating frequency and fecundity in the bronze birch borer, *Agrilus anxius* (Coleoptera: Buprestidae). *Annals of the Entomological Society of America*

**THE
CONNECTICUT
AGRICULTURAL
EXPERIMENT
STATION**

Main Laboratories
123 Huntington Street
New Haven, CT 06511-2016
Phone: 203-974-8500

Valley Laboratory
153 Cook Hill Road
Windsor, CT 06095-0248
Phone: 860-683-4977

Lockwood Farm
890 Evergreen Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518-2361
Phone: 203-974-8618

Griswold Research Center
190 Sheldon Road
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

THE CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

Back and Current issues of Station News are located on our website at <http://www.ct.gov/caes/cwp/view.asp?a=2826&q=378188>

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, religious creed, age, political beliefs, sexual orientation, criminal conviction record, gender identity, genetic information, learning disability, present or past history of mental disorder, mental retardation or physical disability including but not limited to blindness, or marital or family status. To file a complaint of discrimination, write Director, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, P.O. Box 1106, New Haven, CT 06504, or call (203) 974-8440. CAES is an affirmative action/equal opportunity provider and employer. Persons with disabilities who require alternate means of communication of program information should contact the Chief of Services at (203) 974-8442 (voice); (203) 974-8502 (FAX); or Michael.Last@ct.gov (E-mail).