

# *Station News* A PROGRESS REPORT for staff

and Friends of America's first Agricultural Experiment Station

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## **Departmental News**

### **Administration**

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI spoke to (20 high school science teachers) about Station programs in the Johnson/Horsfall building (July 6); was interviewed about invasive plants and insects by Melissa Nicefaro of Business New Haven (July 13); was interviewed about Lockwood Farm by Betsy Driebrek of the Hamden Daily News (July 13); welcomed greenhouse and nursery growers in Jones Auditorium (July 20); was interviewed about Plant Science Day by Brian Smith of WICC Radio in Bridgeport (July 21); was interviewed about Station research by Allison Damast of the Stamford Advocate (July 27); and was interviewed about Station research by Joel Lang of the Hartford Courant (July 31).

### **Analytical Chemistry**

Gave a tour of the Department of Analytical Chemistry and presentation to 20 high school science ICES teachers toured Analytical Chemistry. They heard a talk by DR. MARYJANE INCORVIA MATTINA, and had talks and laboratory tours from staff: DRS. CHRISTINA ROBB, DAVID STILWELL and WILLIAM IANNUCCI-BERGER, TERRI ARSENAULT, MAMIE PYLES and JOHN RANCIATO (20 high school science ICES teachers) (July 6).

DR. MARYJANE INCORVIA MATTINA spoke with students and teachers from the Education Connection program, a week-long program at the University of New Haven regarding work performed in Analytical Chemistry (July 13)

DR. WALTER KROL presented a talk on July 18<sup>th</sup> entitled "From Flora to Fern: The Role Played by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station" at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Florida Pesticide Residue Workshop and 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Foodborne Pathogen Analysis Conference held at the Hilton in the Walt Disney World Resort in Orlando Florida July 16-19, 2006. The content of the talk will be published on the Florida Pesticide Residue Workshop Homepage <http://www.flworkshop.com/index.htm>.

DR. BRIAN EITZER presented a talk entitled "Linearity and Sensitivity of the QuEChERS Method for Pesticide Residues in Foods with a Labeled Internal Standard and a Linear Ion Trap LC/MS" at the 43<sup>rd</sup> Florida Pesticide Residue Workshop in Orlando, FL (July 16-19).

### **Biochemistry and Genetics**

### **Entomology**

ROSE HISKES taught a class on butterfly gardening to Advanced Master Gardeners in Storrs (9 attendees) (July 15) and staffed the Station Question and Answer Booth at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association summer meeting in Farmington (July 20).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH attended the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Summer Meeting, held at Young's Nursery in Woodbury (July 12); participated in a meeting of the Administrative Council of

the North East Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NE-SARE); held at Bangor and Orono Maine (approximately 25 attendees) (July 16-19); attended an open house for nursery industry professionals, held at Summer Hill Nursery in Madison (July 26); and was interviewed by Grand Walker of the Hartford Courant, for an article about honeybees and beekeeping (July 27).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD, III interviewed by Fran Schneido, WCBS Radio, about the lone star tick (July 7); participated in a meeting of the Northeast Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors in Geneva, NY (July 10-11); spoke to students from the University of New Haven touring the Station about tick and Lyme disease research (July 13); interviewed by Jackie McKean, Wilton Bulletin, about Lyme disease cases in Wilton and Connecticut for 2005 (July 17); interviewed by Anahad O'Connor, New York Times, about gypsy moth activity in Connecticut (July 17); interviewed by Judy Benson, The Day of New London, about tick activity (July 26); interviewed by Cara Loriz, Shelter Island Reporter, about the relationship between deer, ticks, and Lyme disease (July 31).

## **Forestry and Horticulture**

DR. JEFFREY WARD along with DR. MARTIN GENT and SCOTT WILLIAMS attended the CNLA Field day at Young's Nursery, Woodbury (July 12); participated in the Connecticut Urban Forest Council meeting in New Haven (July 18); assisted Grove Street Cemetery Association with tree identification (July 18); participated in the Connecticut Tree Protective Association annual meeting in Farmington (July 20); invited guest on WTIC AM-1080 radio talk show "Garden talk" to offer advice on tree care (35,000 listeners) (July 22); and met with Jason Mancini (Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Research Center) and Bryan Connolly to examine research plots in Cedar Swamp in Ledyard (July 27).

DR. MARTIN GENT visited Bill Gniazdowski of Echo Farms, Wolcott, to examine and discuss an epidemic of disease in greenhouse tomato (June 30).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD presented an Educational Program for Teachers at Lockwood Farm (20 teachers) (July 6); and spoke about the New Crops Program on the Len and Lisa Show on WTIC 1080 (35,000 listeners) (July 22);

DR. WILLIAM NAIL presented a talk on the CAES viticulture program to a group of high school teachers at Lockwood Farm (20 teachers) (July 6); attended the annual meeting of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture Eastern Section in Rochester, NY (July 9-11); participated in a New England Wine Grape Growers meeting in Little Compton, RI (July 13); visited Westport Rivers Vineyards in Westport, MA with Drs. Andy Reynolds and Justine Vanden Heuvel (July 14); met with Charlie Rosabianca to evaluate a potential vineyard site near North Haven (July 14); and evaluated performance of historic grapevines at Harkness State Park in Waterford (July 27).

SCOTT WILLIAMS spoke to 17 students from Common Ground High School at Lockwood Farm about Station research and professional development (July 27).

## **Lockwood Farm**

### **Plant Pathology and Ecology**

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS gave a presentation to visiting high school biology teachers about plant pathology and how to integrate principles of plant pathology into the high school science curriculum (20 attendees) (July 6); gave a presentation on "Current diseases of concern" for the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers at their Twilight Meeting at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (65 attendees) (July 11); was interviewed about the impact of wet weather on plant diseases in Connecticut by Lauresha Xhiani of the Republican-American (July 13); organized a workshop for CGGA/CNLA titled "Getting to the Root of the Matter" and gave a presentation on "Healthy roots: Why are they important?" in Jones Auditorium (50 attendees) (July 20); was interviewed about the impact of wet weather on crops in Connecticut by Rick Guinness of the Journal Inquirer (July 21); participated in "Garden Talk with Len and Lisa" on WTIC

NewsTalk 1080 and discussed Plant Science Day and other items of interest (July 22); and was interviewed about indoor mold problems by Channel 8 (July 24).

DR. WADE H. ELMER was interviewed about the association between *Fusarium* species and the Sudden Wetland Dieback phenomenon observed in Long Island Sound and Cape Cod by Carolyn Johnson of the Boston Globe (July 12); was interviewed about the connection between *Fusarium* species and Sudden Wetland Dieback by Ashley Ahearn for National Public Radio's "Living on Earth" (July 18); moderated the morning session of a joint meeting between the Experiment Station and UCONN Cooperative Extension titled "Getting to the Root of the Matter" and presented a demonstration on biological fungicides with seedling geraniums in Jones Auditorium (50 attendees) (July 20); was interviewed about the association of *Fusarium* species with Sudden Wetland Dieback by Ashley Ahearn for National Public Radio's "Living on Earth" at the Yale media production studio in New Haven (July 25); and presented the poster "Distribution of *Fusarium* species on corn stubble in Connecticut" and made a presentation at the Division Officer's luncheon at the annual meeting of The American Phytopathological Society in Quebec, Ontario, Canada (July 29-August 1).

MS. MARY K. INMAN gave a talk entitled "Basic techniques for propagating plants" to the East Haven Garden Club at the Beach House in East Haven (12 attendees) (July 20).

## **Soil and Water**

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS was interviewed about mosquitoes and West Nile virus by Fox 61 (July 6); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in West Haven by Bob Miller, Danbury News Times (July 11); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in West Haven by Fran Schneido, CBS Radio NY (July 11); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in West Haven by John Silva-Metro News (July 12); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in West Haven by Steve Kalb, CT Radio Network (July 12); was interviewed about the first detection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in West Haven by Marianne Gail Brown, CT Post (July 12); was interviewed about the collection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in New Haven by Steve Kotchko, CT Public Radio (July 26); was interviewed about the collection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in New Haven by Lauren Petty, NBC 30 (July 26); was interviewed about the collection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in Greenwich by Fran Schneido, CBS Radio NY (July 28); was interviewed about the collection of West Nile virus infected mosquitoes in Greenwich by WNLK Radio, Norwalk (July 28); and was interviewed West Nile virus activity in Connecticut in 2006 by John Holtz, NY Times (July 31).

GREGORY BUGBEE was interviewed by Bob Miller of the Danbury Times on controlling Eurasian water milfoil in Candlewood Lake. (July 11); gave an update on CAES work on controlling variable milfoil in Bashan Lake to the Bashan Lake Association at the East Haddam Town Hall (50 attendees) (July 22); and spoke to the Tyler Lake Association on managing nuisance aquatic vegetation, in Goshen (12 attendees) (July 28).

DR. JASON WHITE met with Marylou Duggan of The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs regarding potentially employment/volunteer positions for disabled veterans (July 17)

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO presented a poster, "A Concentration-Dependent multi-Term Linear Free Energy Relationship for Sorption of Organic Compounds to NOM Based on the Hexadecane Dilute-Solution Reference State." at the 18<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Soil Science, Philadelphia, PA; July 9-15, 2006 (Attendance: at least 40 and as many as 2000) (July 9-15); presented a poster: "An isotope exchange technique to validate true sorption hysteresis and assess its underlying causes," at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of International Humic Substances Society; University Karlsruhe, Germany (Attendance: as many as 300) (July 30); presented a poster, "A Concentration-Dependent multi-Term Linear Free Energy Relationship for Sorption of Organic Compounds to NOM Based on the Hexadecane Dilute-Solution Reference State" at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of International Humic Substances Society; Univ. Karlsruhe, Germany (Attendance: as many as 300) (July 30); co-authored a paper "Conditioning-Annealing Studies of Natural Organic Matter Solids Linking Irreversible Sorption to Irreversible Structural Expansion," at the 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting of

International Humic Substances Society; University Karlsruhe, Germany (Attendance: about 300) (July 30); and invited Departmental seminar speaker, "Interaction of Pollutants with Natural Organic Matter Viewed from the Perspective of the Sorbent," at the Engler Bunte Institute, University of Karlsruhe, Germany (Attendance: about 15) (July 31).

## **Valley Laboratory**

TIMOTHY ABBEY presented "What's Living in Your Potting Media?" at the CGGA/CNLA program Getting to the Root of the Matter: Growing Healthy Plants in Container Production in New Haven (July 20) and attended the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Summer Meeting at Young's Nursery in Woodbury (July 12).

DR. RICHARD COWLES presented "Insect management in Christmas trees" to the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers' summer meeting at the Valley Laboratory, Windsor, CT (50 attendees) (July 11).

DR. JAMES LAMONDIA was interviewed about biodiesel research by Paul Gough for the Station Associates newsletter (July 6); answered arborist inquiries while working at the CAES booth during the CTPA Summer Meeting in Farmington (July 20); and spoke about Station research and lead a tour of Valley Laboratory farm plots to students from the Great Mountain Forest Yale Ecology Camp (July 26).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH spoke about weed management to Christmas tree growers at the annual twilight meeting at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (50 attendees) (July 11); attended the summer meeting of the Conn. Nursery & Landscape Assoc. in Woodbury (July 12); was interviewed by Steve Gambini of the Waterbury Republican-American regarding Japanese knotweed (July 13); spoke about management of liverwort, a weed problem in nursery and greenhouse containers, at a Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association conference at CAES in New Haven (40 attendees) (July 20); and led representatives of All Habitat Services L.L.C. (Madison), SePRO Corp. (Simsbury), and UAP Timberland (Old Town, ME) on an inspection of his phragmites control research plots in Old Saybrook (July 28).

THOMAS RATHIER spoke on Container Gardening at the Westport Senior Center (25 attendees) (May 15), lectured on landscaping with woody plant at Revay's Garden Center (50 attendees) (May 18), attended an organizational meeting for the Hartford Botanical Garden (May 23), attended a faculty meeting for Arboriculture 101 in New Haven (May 31); answered questions about soil fertility at a twilight meeting for Christmas tree growers in Somers (25 attendees) (June 7), organized a meeting with UConn extension personnel to plan cooperative studies on heavy metals in community gardens at the Valley Laboratory (June 14), attended the summer meeting of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association in Woodbury (July 12), presented a demonstration of container media physical characteristics at the Container Media Workshop held in Jones Auditorium (65 attendees) (July 20), answered questions on gardening on Garden Talk on WTIC AM (35,00-40,000 listeners) (July 22); and attended an open house at Summer Hill Nursery in Madison (July 26)

## **Journal Articles Approved July 2006**

Douglas, Sharon M. Healthy roots: Why are they important? GMPRO (Greenhouse Management & Production).

Krol, Walter J., Terri Arsenault and MaryJane Incorvia Mattina. Pesticide residues in produce sold in Connecticut 2005. Station Bulletin 1006.

Rathier Tom and M. Brown. Plasticulture strategies to improve timing of N availability to shade grown tobacco (abstract). 33<sup>rd</sup> National Agricultural Plastics Congress.

Cheah, Carole. Hope for hemlocks. Connecticut Woodlands.

Mariwalla, K., MD, M. Langan, MD, Kenneth A. Welch, MS, D. H. Kaplan, MD, PhD. Cutaneous myiasis associated with scalp psoriasis. Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Peters, R., J. Kelsey, Jason C. White. Differences in DDE bioaccumulation from compost and soil by the plants *C. pepo* and *C. maxima* and the earthworms *Eisenia fetida* and *Lumbricus terrestris*. Environmental Pollution.

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