

Station News

A PROGRESS REPORT for staff
and Friends of America's first Agricultural Experiment Station



Rose Bonito and Lisa Kaczenski hosted a Station exhibit at the 10th Annual Herb Festival at the Topmost Herb Farm in Coventry on Saturday, June 4th.

Visitors at the Station's booth at the Topmost Herb Farm

Departmental News

Administration

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI spoke to Experiment Station Associates Board members about federal formula funds, Ramorum blight, and the career of Dr. Donald F. Jones at Lockwood Farm (June 2); greeted members of the Federated Garden Clubs in Jones Auditorium and gave a report on Station activities (June 6); was interviewed by Nancy Cohen of Public Radio about invasive plants (June 21); and was interviewed by Nancy Cohen of Public Radio about gypsy moth (June 24).

Entomology

ROSE BONITO with LISA KACZENSKI set up and manned a Station information booth at the 10th Annual Herb Festival 2005 at the Topmost Herb Farm in Coventry (June 4).

DR. CHRIS T. MAIER spoke about Diptera (two-winged flies) diversity during the 2005 BioBlitz of the University of Connecticut at Two Rivers Magnet School in East Hartford (June 4) and spoke about upcoming meetings and fruit insects at a Twilight Meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society at Bishop Orchards, Guilford (June 21).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH participated in a meeting of the CT Pomological Society, held at Bishops Orchard in Guilford, with a presentation on winter moth and a report on apple scab (June 21).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD, III with Heidi Stuber, spoke to Park & Recreation staff members about tick sampling and trained Doug Barile on how to sample for ticks (June 1); was interviewed by Carolyn Battista about formic acid treatment for *Varroa* mite for Connecticut Section of the New York Times (June 7); interviewed by Garrott Condon of the Hartford Courant about Bait Box for tick control (June 7); interviewed by Dr. Evan Pitteoff, Newtown School Superintendent and Donna Culbert, Director of Health for a cable program on Lyme Disease prevention (June 9); visited by Dr. Marc Dolan, CDC, to discuss bait box and other research projects (June 10); interviewed by Judy Benson of The Day about tick activity this year (June 16); spoke about ticks, deer, and Lyme disease prevention to the Weston Deer Committee in Weston (June 22); and was interviewed by Pamela Weil of the CT Gardener about tick activity (June 23).

DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER participated in a meeting of the Board of Directors of CT NOFA, Northford Farm, Northford (June 12); organized and facilitated a meeting of the "It's Not Farmland Without Farmers" network at the Valley Laboratory, Windsor (June 13); chaired a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care committee at the Valley Laboratory, Windsor (June 14); assisted in a tour of three organic farms: Hall Farm in Simsbury, Holcomb Farm in West Granby, and Town Farm Dairy in Simsbury (June 26); made presentations at a Professional Development Program for Cooperative Extension and other agricultural agency personnel from all over the Northeast sponsored by the Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE). Presentations also were given on "Organic Management of Insect Pests" and "Tarnished Plant Bug: Biology and Management." Penn State University, State College, PA (June 27-30).

Forestry and Horticulture

J.P. BARSKY attended Game of Logging-Level 3 Training in Pleasant Valley (June 16); Game of Logging-Level 4 (June 30); and earned third place finish in competition; attended and served as Chair at the Yankee Division Society of American Foresters Executive Committee Meeting in Marlborough (June 29).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL attended a meeting of the Connecticut Grape and Wine Council; and participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Farm Wine Council at the Valley Laboratory (June 6); presented a talk, "Basics of Training Systems and Trellis Design" to the New England Grape Growers in Bolton, MA (June 16); and presented a poster, "Pruning and Training System Effects on Yield, Time of Harvest, and Fruit Quality of Concord Grapevines in Michigan" at the Annual Meeting of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture in Seattle, WA (June 22-24).

DR. JEFFREY WARD administered the practical and oral examination to arborist candidates for the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board (June 1); along with Scott Williams met with Valerie O'Donnell and David M. Gillespie of the Regional Water Authority to discuss the impact of high deer densities on forest regeneration and wildflowers (June 1); spoke on "Smells and tastes of the forests" to students from Kelly and Strong Elementary Schools at the Southington Trails Days (June 2); presided at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Board of Directors meeting in Farmington (June 7); interviewed by Ed Crowder of the Connecticut Post about the effect of heat on plant growth (June 13); attended the "Wetlands and Wildlife" workshop hosted by the Connecticut Chapter of the Society of American Foresters in Burlington (June 14); participated in Connecticut Forestlands Committee meeting in Middlefield (June 20); and participated in the Connecticut Urban Forest Council meeting in New Haven (June 23).

SCOTT WILLIAMS gave an invited presentation on "Potential changes in reproductive and behavioral ecology of white-tailed deer in response to immuno-contraception" at the Deer Management Workshop at Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA (June 8); was interviewed by Channel 6 news on deer capture and capture equipment; attended the "Wetlands and Wildlife" workshop hosted by the Connecticut Chapter of the Society of American Foresters in Burlington (June 14); and was interviewed by Laura Voter of the Manchester Journal-Inquirer on the effectiveness of the Wireless Deer Fence and deer repellents (June 23).

Plant Pathology and Ecology

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS assisted the Conn. Tree Protective Association Examining Board with the oral exam for arborists (June 1); participated in a round-table discussion of instructors of the Conn. Tree Protective Association's Arboriculture 101 course (June 22).

DR. WADE H. ELMER was visited by retired Lieutenant Commander Jim Tierney of the West Hartford Veterans Memorial Group to discuss the processing of cemetery soil samples from around the world to commemorate the new Veterans Memorial in the fall (June 3); presented the talk "Cultural and microbial amendments to suppress the replant disease in asparagus," presented the poster "Does salt increase spear earliness," and led the workshop presentation on "Overcoming the replant problem in asparagus" at the 11th International Asparagus Symposium in Venray, The Netherlands (June 15-22).

DR. FRANCIS J. FERRANDINO gave a talk entitled "Proper pruning and training to minimize the effect of plant disease on the yield of tomatoes" at Heritage Village in Southbury (June 15).

Soil and Water

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS was interviewed about mosquitoes and West Nile virus by Garrett Condon of the Hartford Courant (June 8); was interviewed about the State Mosquito / West Nile Virus Trapping Program and the outlook for this year by Marc Sims of CT Public radio (June 10); was interviewed about mosquitoes and West Nile virus by Judy Benson of The Day (June 16); was interviewed about mosquitoes, repellants and West Nile virus activity in Connecticut by Steve Kotchko of Connecticut Public Radio (June 23); and was interviewed about deer flies and mosquitoes by Bridget Ruthman of the Waterbury Republican American (June 27).

GREGORY BUGBEE spoke on "CAES Invasive Aquatic Plant Program Update" to the Connecticut Invasive Plant Council in Hartford (June 14).

DR. ROBERT CAPERS addressed the Lake Besek Association discussing results of a 2004 survey and providing general information on invasive plant ecology (June 21).

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO presented a keynote speech entitled "Some fundamental issues in sorption related to physical and biological remediation of soils," at the NATO-OTAN Advanced Research Workshop 981071 on Viable Methods of Soil and Water Pollution Monitoring, Protection and Remediation." held in Krakow, Poland (June 25-July 2).

DR. JASON WHITE presented a talk entitled "Phytoextraction of weathered PCBs and DDE from soil" at Batelle's 8th International In-situ and On-site Bioremediation Symposium (June 5-9); attended the Invasive Plant Council meeting at DEP Headquarters in Hartford, the CAES Invasive Aquatic Weed Project was presented (June 14); and met with representatives of Woodard and Curran, a consulting firm, concerning a potential collaborative project at a dieldrin-contaminated site in Wallingford (June 21).

Valley Laboratory

TIMOTHY ABBEY attended a meeting of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Winter Program Committee at the CNLA Open House at The Garden Barn in Vernon (June 23).

DR. CAROLE CHEAH met with Dr. Steve Patton of the Nature Conservancy at Centennial Memorial State Forest to show him the first northeastern release site for *Scymnus sinuanodulus*, an imported coccinellid species from China for biological control evaluations (April 29); gave a tour of the Kenneth White Insectary at the Valley Laboratory to Mr. John Leper of the Wethersfield Tree Commission (May 25); met with Jim Parda, State Lands Supervisor for the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection at the Nathan Hale State Forest, (May 26); met with Brad Onken, Program Coordinator and Entomologist of the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry (May 31); together with Eddie Thornton, Jr., Richard Chandler III and Jim Preste, research assistants for the hemlock woolly adelgid biocontrol project, was interviewed by Joyce Rossignol for Wethersfield Life during a release of 250 *Sasajiscymnus tsugae* to control hemlock woolly adelgid at Standish Park, Wethersfield (June 1); with Jim Preste, met with Helene Flounders, forester for Pachaug State Forest in Voluntown, Scott Dawley, Park and Forest Supervisor and Mark Blazejak, Environmental Protection Maintainer from the Department of Environmental Protection at the Pachaug State Forest for a release of over 500 *S. tsugae* for biological control of hemlock woolly adelgid on (June 2); processed new importations of coccinellid predators of HWA at the USDA Forest Service quarantine laboratory at Ansonia on (June 3, 10 and 20); met with Dr. Kathleen Shields, Dr. Melody Keena, Dr. R. Talbot Trotter and Dr. Michael Montgomery to discuss reviews of research proposals on hemlock resistance at the Northeastern Research Station, Hamden, CT on (June 6 and 15); together with Jim Preste, met and discussed proposed predator overwintering studies with Star Childs, consulting forester, and Joel Bronson, forest manager at Great Mountain Forest, Norfolk, (June 16); and met and discussed HWA and biological control studies with John Fulsom, DEP Conservation

Officer at Mashamoquet Brook State Park, Pomfret, with Eddie Thornton, Jr., Richard Chandler III and Jim Preste on (June 30).

DR. RICHARD COWLES presented "White grubs in blueberries" to the Massachusetts Blueberry Growers' Association, Plymouth, MA on (June 18), presented a talk entitled "Insect pests in Christmas trees," at a Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers' Association meeting, Voluntown on (June 21); and was interviewed by Pamela Weil of Connecticut Gardener Magazine regarding control of white grubs on (June 30).

ROSE HISKES gave a tour of the CNLA Discovery & Education Gardens and Valley Lab field plots to the Sow and Reap Garden Club *June 2*; worked on the insect team at BioBlitz in East Hartford (June 3 and 4); and taught a class on "Trees and shrubs for the Connecticut garden" for Windsor Adult Education (June 2, 9, and 16).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA spoke about Station activities and research conducted by Valley Lab scientists to the Sow and Reap Garden Club of Granby CT (June 2); and was interviewed about the presence of blue mold in Kentucky and implications for the Connecticut crop by Dana Whalen of WTIC radio(June 30).

DR. DEWEI LI participated in the Analytic Accreditation Board meeting of The American Industrial Hygiene Association during the AIHCE Conference in Anaheim, CA (May 21-26).

Journal Articles Approved June 2005

Kwon, Seokjoon and Joseph J. Pignatello. Effect of Natural Organic Substances on the Surface and Adsorptive Properties of Environmental Black Carbon (Char): Pseudo Pore Blockage by Model Lipid Components. *Environmental Science and Technology*.

Stoner, Kimberly. It's Not Farmland without Farmers. *Gleanings* 6/15/05.

Stoner, Kimberly. New Farmers and Farmer Wannabees. *Gleanings* 6/15/05

Stoner, Kimberly. NOFA Organic Lawn and Turf Course. *Gleanings* 6/15/05

Stoner, Kimberly. Plant Science Day, August 3, Lockwood Farm, Hamden. *Gleanings* 6/15/05

Stoner, Kimberly and Steve Gilman. Kestrel Farm Case Study. *Real World Organic: Exemplary Organic Farms in the Northeast*. Chapter of book: *Real World Organic: Exemplary Organic Farms in the Northeast*.

Ward, Jeffrey S., T. E. Worthley, P. Smallidge, K. Bennett. *Northeastern Forest Regeneration Handbook*. USDA Forest Service.

Zhu, Dongqiang and Joseph J. Pignatello. A Concentration-Dependent Multi-Term Linear Free Energy Relationship for Sorption of Organic Compounds to Soils Based on the Hexadecane Dilute-Solution Reference State. *Environmental Science and Technology*.

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