

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

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Please submit your special photos you recently took and would like to share. We can have a featured photo of the month.

Photo of the Month...



Lockwood Farm May 6th 2004. Taken by: Matthew Boehm in Plant Pathology and Ecology

Departmental News

Administration

DR. JOHN F. ANDERSON gave a lecture at Brown University in Providence, RI on the natural history of West Nile virus (April 2); participated in the CT Wine Council Board Meeting (April 5); participated in a meeting of the Invasive Plants Committee in Hartford (April 16); hosted Plant Science in the Spring in Jones Auditorium (April 19); hosted the Station's Board of Control (April 21); hosted the Experiment Station Associates Board (April 22); interviewed by Bridget Ruthman, Waterbury Republican on West Nile virus (April 22); interviewed with Marge Stevens, channel 12 on mosquitoes (April 22); met with Simone Gilman and three others about mosquitoes in catch basins (April 22); gave a talk on the Station to the Cheshire Rotary Club in Cheshire (April 29).

Analytical Chemistry

DR. BRIAN EITZER attended a liquid chromatography/mass spectrometry symposium hosted by Thermo in New Haven (April 7).

DR. DAVID STILWELL interviewed by Pamela Weil from Connecticut Gardener on CCA wood in the garden (April 2).

Biochemistry and Genetics

Entomology

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI was interviewed by Fran Schneido of WCBS radio about tick-borne infections (April 13). Spoke to citizens, who attended Plant Science Day in the spring and toured laboratories, on detecting antibodies to tick-borne agents (April 19). Interviewed by Dan Kane of Channel 3 TV (WFSB) about Sudden Oak Death (April 21).

DR. CHRIS T. MAIER was interviewed about periodical cicadas by Andrea Guritt of the Herald News, Patterson, NJ. (April 2), interviewed about periodical cicadas by John Annese of the Staten Island Advance (April 6), interviewed about periodical cicadas by Steve Grant of the Hartford Courant (April 22), and interviewed about periodical cicadas by Edward Reicciuti, a freelance writer in Killingworth (April 30). Displayed the emerald ash borer, its damage, and other wood-boring beetles at the Annual Dinner Meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society Meeting in Jones Auditorium (April 23).

STEPHEN SANDREY participated in the Sudden Oak Death Survey Training Workshop, conducted by the US Forest Service, held at Saunderstown, RI (April 27-28).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH was interviewed by Steve Grant of the Hartford Courant regarding the recent outbreak of Sudden Oak Death (April 14) and participated in the Sudden Oak Death Survey Training Workshop, conducted by the US Forest Service, held at Saunderstown, RI (April 27-28).

DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER led a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care Committee, Windsor (April 15); spoke on "Organic Methods of Pest Management" to the Organic Gardening Conference of NOFA New Jersey. Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ. (April 17).

PETER TRENCHARD participated in the Sudden Oak Death Survey Training Workshop, conducted by the US Forest Service, held at Saunderstown, RI (April 27-28).

Forestry and Horticulture

DR. KIRBY STAFFORD participated in a meeting in Groton of the Ledge Light Health District and Torrington Health District on the community Lyme disease prevention projects (April 5); interviewed by Jennifer Jordon, WCBS, New York, about tick activity (April 13); spoke to touring visitors about tick control for Plant Science in the Spring (April 19); interviewed by Asante Green, Stamford Advocate, about Lyme disease (April 21); interviewed by Bridget Rutman, Republic American, about tick activity for 2004 and the tick lifecycle (April 22); interviewed by Victoria Mondesire, WVIT-30, about tick activity (April 26); spoke on ticks and tick control at Danbury Hospital (April 27); spoke to the Mumford Cove Owner's Association about tick research in the Groton community (April 28).

DR. JEFFREY WARD presided at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Board of Directors meeting in New Haven, CT (April 5); presented a display on forest research at Forestry Day in the State Capitol Concourse in Hartford (April 13); served on the Goodwin Forestry Scholarship Committee in Middlefield (April 15); hosted a visit by Kurt Gottschalk, USDA Forest Service, Morgantown, WV to examine cutting methods and hemlock research (April 16).

DR. MARTIN GENT visited David Zemelski of Durham to discuss production of tomato in greenhouses and salad greens in high tunnels (April 26); with other members of the phyto-remediation group – discussed with Martin Chrispeels the movement of hydrophobic organic chemicals in plants (April 29).

DR. UMA RAMAKRISHNAN interviewed by Ann Raver of the New York Times about deer research at the station April 1); attended the 60th Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference at Ocean City, MD and presented a paper titled "Dispersal and inbreeding potential in free-ranging white-tailed deer" (April 25-28).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD spoke on New Vegetable Crops for Connecticut at Plant Science Day in the Spring in Jones Auditorium (April 19).

SCOTT WILLIAMS participated in greenhouse tours during Plant Science in the Spring by explaining the potential role white-tailed deer play in seed dispersal (April 19); presented research poster titled "Seed dispersal by white-tailed deer in south-central Connecticut, USA" at the 60th Annual Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference in Ocean City, MD (April 12-28).

Lockwood Farm

Plant Pathology and Ecology

DR. SANDRA L. ANAGNOSTAKIS gave a talk on "Using biological control to maintain chestnut trees" and both she and MS. PAMELA SLETTEN led discussion groups on the use of Pinchot Forest land for restoration of chestnut at a workshop on "Chestnut restoration in the Delaware Highlands" in Milford, PA (April 1); gave a talk entitled "Chestnuts in the 21st century" to a Yale Forestry class in New Haven (April 8); gave a talk entitled "Chestnuts in the 21st century" at Trinity College in Hartford (April 15); with MS. PAMELA SLETTEN, gave a presentation entitled "Chestnut trees bred for resistance to chestnut blight" at Plant Science Day in the Spring (April 19); gave a talk entitled "Chestnuts in the 21st century" to the Connecticut Valley Independent School Science Teachers Association at Taft School in Watertown (April 29).

DR. DONALD E. AYLOR gave an invited lecture on "Survival of maize pollen in the atmosphere" at Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Des Moines, IA (April 6); gave an invited lecture on "Modeling the aerial dispersal of maize pollen" at Pioneer Hi-Bred International in Des Moines, IA (April 7); presented a poster on "Aerial dispersal of corn pollen" at Plant Science Day in the Spring (April 19); presented a poster entitled "Quantifying aerial dispersal of maize pollen for deployment of GM crops" at the NE Sun Grant Initiative meeting in Buffalo, NY (April 26).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS gave a lecture and hands-on workshop on "Vegetative propagation of plants" to the Guilford Garden Club in Guilford (April 14); gave a talk entitled "First steps to a healthy garden" at Plant Science Day in the Spring (April 19).

DR. WADE H. ELMER visited the Fusarium Research Laboratory at Penn State University to acquire new techniques to identify *Fusarium* isolates (April 15); attended a planning meeting of the Northeastern Division of The American Phytopathological Society in State College, PA (April 16).

MARY K. INMAN gave a talk entitled "Pruning for the Home Gardener" to the Olde Ripton Garden Club in Shelton (April 5); answered questions on plant disease problems and general gardening practices and presented a poster on plant disease diagnosis services at the Experiment Station at a program for Earth Day at the Bristol-Myers Squibb Pharmaceutical Research Institute in Wallingford (April 20).

Soil and Water

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS presented a seminar entitled “The Emergence and Spread of West Nile Virus in North America: a Five Year Perspective 1999 – 2003” to the Compton Corporation of Uniroyal Chemical in Middlebury, CT (April 14).

GREGORY BUGBEE spoke at a public meeting of the Guilford Board of Finance held at the Guilford Town Hall on “Control of Invasive Weeds in Lake Quonnipaug”(April 7); gave a seminar on “Container Gardening Indoors and Out” at the Colchester Public Library (April 13); spoke on “Container Gardening Indoors and Out” to the North Branford Women’s Garden Club (April 29).

DR. JASON WHITE attended editorial board meeting for the International Journal of Phytoremediation at the University of Massachusetts Amherst (April 6); met with undergraduate students from Muhlenberg College to discuss ongoing collaborative experiments investigating the uptake of weathered DDE by worms and plants (April 18); met with Dr. Maarten Crispells of Univ. of California San Diego to discuss the potential role of aquaporins in the uptake of weathered persistent organic pollutants (April 29).

Valley Laboratory

TIM ABBEY presented Ornamental Plant Problems to a University of Connecticut Master Gardener class in Stamford (April 19); and Introduction to Integrated Pest Management to an Environmental Studies class at Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield (April 22); hosted a meeting of the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Winter Meeting Committee at the Valley Laboratory in Windsor (April 7); and attended meetings of the Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group in Windsor (April 28); and the Connecticut Tree Protective Association Education Committee in Hartford (April 29).

DR. CAROLE CHEAH led a tour of the HWA biological control program on *Scymnus* ladybeetles at the Insect Rearing Facility, USDA Forest Service Northeastern Research Station, Hamden, CT for Mary Ellen Dix, Forest Entomology Research National Program Leader, USDA Forest Service on (March 10); was interviewed by Dr. Mansfield, of the Associated Press in Tennessee about biological control of hemlock woolly adelgid (April 29).

ROSE HISKES gave a talk on general gardening to the Greater New Haven Garden Club in Hamden (April 5); and to the Fairfield Christian Women’s Club in Trumbull (April 15); and participated in a meeting of the Invasive Plant Working Group in Windsor (April 28).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA spoke to students from Springfield College about ongoing research and services at the Valley Laboratory (April 6); met with Mike Abbott and Mark Kelley of BioSafe to discuss nematode management research (April 22); was interviewed about recognizing, understanding and managing grape diseases by Harlan Levy for the Journal Inquirer and the New England Wine Gazette (April 22).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH presented a display of weeds and wild plants at Plant Science Day in the Spring (April 19); and participated in two meetings of the Conn. Invasive Plant Working Group at the Valley Laboratory (April 28).

THOMAS RATHIER planned the educational portion as well as providing a pesticide update at the annual winter meeting of the Connecticut Christmas Tree Growers Association in Middletown (March 6); lectured on healthy soils at the annual meeting of the Yankee Division of the American Rose Society in Windsor (March 20); spoke about services available at the Valley Laboratory to the Tunxis Garden Club at the Valley Lab (March 23); instructed students in the hands on lab session and review session of Arboriculture 101, a course presented by the Connecticut Tree Protective Association in Jones Auditorium (March 24), (April 14); discussed tobacco fertilization strategies at a meeting for growers presented by Crop Production Services in East Windsor (March 25); spoke on the importance of healthy soils at the annual meeting of the Rhode Island Christmas Tree Growers Association in Richmond, RI (March 30); met with Ann Brocker of the University of Connecticut Health Center to discuss tobacco cultural methods and how they relate to worker health issues (April 2); spoke to a graduate class in sports management from Springfield College (April 6); met with students at Wesleyan University regarding beginning a community supported

agriculture program in Middletown (April 9); spoke on pruning to the Windsor Garden Club (April 12); spoke on movement of water through soils and rock to an environmental science class at Asnuntuck Community College in Enfield (April 15); spoke on The Science of Container Gardening at the Hebron Library (April 21); and spoke on healthy soils at the Colchester Library (April 27).

Journal Articles Approved April 2004

Spielman, A., Theodore Andreadis, C. Apperson, A. Cornel, J. Day, et al. Letter to the Editor: Outbreak of West Nile Virus in North America. *Science*.

Turell, Michael J., David J. Dohm, Michael R. Sardelis, Monica L. O'Guinn, Theodore G. Andreadis, and Jamie A. Blow. An Update on the Potential of North American Mosquitoes (Diptera: Culicidae) to Transmit West Nile Virus. *Journal of Medical Entomology*.

Douglas, Sharon M., and Mary K. Inman. Seed Germination and Purity Analysis 2004. *Station Bulletin*.

Gent, Martin P. N. Effect of Genotype, Fertilization, and Season on Free Amino Acids in Leaves of Salad Greens Grown in High Tunnels. *J. Plant Nutrition*.

Gent, Martin P. N., Zakia Parrish, Jason C. White. Relation Among Subspecies of *Curcubita* in Phytoextraction of Field-weathered p,p'-DDE and Exudation of Citric Acid from Roots. (Abstract) 20th Int. Conf. on Soils, Sediments, and Water.

Hill, David E. Radicchio Trials 2002-2003. *Station Bulletin*.

LaMondia, James A. Field Performance of Twenty-one Strawberry Cultivars in a Black Root Rot-infested Site. *Journal of the American Pomological Society*.

Ramakrishnan, Uma. Deer Control in Christmas Tree Plantation. *The Real Tree Line*.

White, Jason C., Z. D. Parrish, M. Isleyen, Martin P. N. Gent, William Iannucci-Berger, Brian D. Eitzer, Mary Jane Incorvia Mattina. Influence of Nutrient Amendments on the Phytoextraction of Weathered DDE by Cucurbits. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*.

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