

# *Station News* A PROGRESS REPORT for staff

and Friends of America's first Agricultural Experiment Station

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## **Photo of the Month...**

Students with tranquilized buck at the "Deer capture techniques" workshop for University of Connecticut, North American Wildlife class at Lake Gaillard in North Branford given by Scott Williams.



## **Departmental News**

### **Administration**

DR. LOUIS A. MAGNARELLI was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Fred Musante of the Hamden Chronicle (December 1); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Mike McKeon of the Hartford Courant (December 2); hosted and participated in a meeting of the Experiment Station Associates at the Station (December 2); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Dominique Avery of CTN (December 3); participated in the annual meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 7); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Brad McHee of the New York Times (December 9); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Brian Coble of Woodshop News (December 10); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Pammy Treadakis of the Litchfield County Times (December 10); participated in a public forum of the Invasive Plants Council (December 13); was interviewed about invasive plants by Bob Miller of the Danbury News Times (December 13); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Joe Sinopoli of American Nurseryman Magazine (December 14); gave a presentation on Sudden Oak Death at a meeting of the State of Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality in Hartford (December 15); was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Calli Planakis of the New Haven Register (December 16); and was interviewed about Sudden Oak Death by Dana Whelan of WTIC Radio (December 30).

### **Analytical Chemistry**

DR. MARYJANE INCORVIA MATTINA met with Dr. Brij Sawhney and Professors James Stuart and Cristian Schulthess together with Karen Kinsella, a graduate student at UCONN, to discuss research cooperation between our two institutions (December 8); met with Caren Wilcox, Special Advisor-Food Safety and Health to Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro to discuss the activities in the food safety arena in which the Department of Analytical Chemistry has robust ongoing programs. Drs. Magnarelli, Anderson, and Andreadis and Dr. Mattina also shared lunch with Ms. Wilcox (December 21).

CRAIG MUSANTE participated in a workshop on advanced technologies for the cost-effective cleanup of brownfield properties in Rocky Hill CT, sponsored by Regenesys Corp (December 7).

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## **Biochemistry and Genetics**

### **Entomology**

DR. JOHN F. ADNERSON Awards: Connecticut Farm Bureau Recognition Award for service to agriculture; Honorary member of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association; Distinguished Service award from the Connecticut Greenhouse Growers Association; Award of Merit from the Connecticut Pomological Society; Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition; Proclamation from the City of New Haven; Certificate of Appreciation from the USDA; attended the Connecticut Farm Bureau Annual meeting in Vernon (November 9); addressed the Federated Garden Clubs, in New Haven (November 17); attended the FFA annual breakfast in Hartford (December 7); attended the Connecticut Pomological Society Meeting in Glastonbury (December 7); attended the annual Christmas meeting of the Gardeners of New Haven in North Branford (December 21); met and hosted Caren Wilcox, Aide to Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (December 21); participated in a Board Meeting of the Lyme Disease Foundation (December 30); hosted Drs. Mary Jane Lis and Bruce Sherman, Connecticut Department of Agriculture (January 5); with Director Louis Magnarelli, gave tour of the Johnson-Horsfall Building to the Directors of the Federated Garden Clubs of Connecticut (January 19); attended the Annual Winter meeting of the Connecticut Tree Protective Association in Southington (January 20)

DR. CHRIS T. MAIER presented a poster (Alien Insects Recently Discovered in Connecticut) and the Award of Merit (to John Anderson) at the Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 7).

DR. VICTORIA SMITH attended the CT Pomological Society Annual meeting held at The Gallery in Glastonbury (December 7).

DR. KIRBY C. STAFFORD, III spoke on ticks, Lyme disease and deer at a meeting of the Ridgefield Deer Committee in Ridgefield (December 20).

DR. KIMBERLY A. STONER chaired a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care Committee at the Valley Laboratory (July 22). Participated in a meeting of the Board of Directors of NOFA at Ron Capozzi's farm, Durham (July 25). Presented a workshop, "Learning by Example, Case Studies of Pest Management on Organic Farms" at the NOFA Summer Conference, Amherst, MA. (August 14). Chaired a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care Committee at the Valley Laboratory (August 19). Chaired a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care Committee at the Valley Laboratory (Sept. 16). Presented a workshop, "Organic Management of Vegetable Insects" at the Common Ground Fair, Unity, ME. (Sept. 25). Hosted a seed cleaning workshop for farmers and other seed producers in Connecticut, with equipment from the Public Seed Initiative at Lockwood Farm (October 7). Presented a poster, "What's Lurking in Your Cover Crops," presenting the results of SARE-funded research at the National SARE Conference, Burlington, VT (October 20-21). Participated in a NOFA Board of Directors meeting, Northford Farm, Northford (October 24). Taught a segment of the Garden Club Study School on organic management of insects on vegetables and herbs at the Jones Auditorium, New Haven (October 26). Made a presentation, "The NOFA Organic Land Care Program" at the Maine Organic Farmer and Gardener's Association Farmer-to-Farmer Conference in Bar Harbor, ME (November 6). Was a Keynote speaker, along with Michael Nadeau, at the annual meeting of CT NOFA on the subject, "Organic Land Care, the Quiet Revolution" at the Jones Auditorium, New Haven (November 13); Chaired a meeting of the NOFA Organic Land Care Committee at the Valley Laboratory (November 16). Organized and facilitated a regional networking session at the Update Course for the NOFA Organic Land Care program at the Tolland Agricultural Center, Vernon

(December 2). Participated in a strategic planning retreat for the Organic Land Care Program, Mercy Center, Madison (December 10-12). Organized and led a strategic planning retreat for the Board of Directors of CT NOFA at the Lockwood Farm cottage (December 18).

## **Forestry and Horticulture**

DR. JEFFREY WARD spoke on "Cooperative fire research" to the Cooperative Fire Program Review Team in Windsor Locks (December 2); spoke on "A short history of the Connecticut forest" to the Fairfield County Master Gardeners in Bethel (December 6); presided at the Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Board of Directors meeting in Southington (December 8); administered practical and oral examination to arborist candidates for the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board (December 15); hosted a field tour of current forestry research by Adam Moore, Connecticut Forest and Parks Association, Middlefield (December 16); was interviewed about the amount of oak harvested and employment in forest harvesting in Connecticut by Kelly Planakis of the New Haven Register (December 16); was interviewed about the potential impact of Sudden Oak Death to the Connecticut forest by Jamie Muro of WTNH (December 28); was interviewed about Douglas fir growing in Connecticut by Peter Davenport of the Stamford Advocate (December 28); and was interviewed about the potential impact of Sudden Oak Death to the Connecticut forest by Simon Gutierrez of WTIC Fox-61 (December 29).

DR. MARTIN GENT with Lou Magnarelli, met with Larry Drago of Clear Channel radio, and later with the Board of the Station Associates to discuss radio infomercials describing the services provided by the Station (December 2).

DR. ABIGAIL MAYNARD represented the Station at a meeting of the State Technical Committee to discuss Farm Bill funding in Tolland (December 15).

DR. WILLIAM NAIL attended a meeting of the Connecticut Vineyard and Winery Association (December 6); and participated in a meeting of the Connecticut Farm Wine Council (December 6).

J.P. BARSKY chaired the Yankee Division Society of American Foresters Executive Committee Meeting in Marlborough (December 3).

SCOTT WILLIAMS taught a "Deer capture techniques" workshop for University of Connecticut, North American Wildlife class at Lake Gaillard in North Branford (December 2).

## **Lockwood Farm**

RICHARD CECARELLI assisted Prism Communication, Inc. and Sussex Country Weather Network in the installation of the new weather station at Lockwood Farm (provided by the National Weather Service), which will provide online weather data in the spring of 2005 (December 2004).

ROLLIN HANNAN was elected to the National Honey Commodities Board for the American Farm Bureau (December 2004), assisted Prism Communication, Inc. and Sussex Country Weather Network in the installation of the new weather station at Lockwood Farm (provided by the National Weather Service), which will provide online weather data in the spring of 2005 (December 2004).

The total produce donation by the Lockwood Farm in 2004 was 16,658 lbs. We would like to thank all of the staff for being so kind to donate their research produce.

## **Plant Pathology and Ecology**

DR. DONALD E. AYLOR attended the annual meeting of the Conn. Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 7).

DR. SHARON M. DOUGLAS gave a presentation entitled "The top new disease threats to organic land care" at the NOFA Organic Land Care Recertification Seminar in Tolland (December 2); attended the

annual meeting of the Conn. Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 7); was interviewed by Tammy Tragakiss of the Litchfield County Times about the science and biology of *Phytophthora ramorum*, the causal agent of Sudden Oak Death (SOD) and Ramorum Blight (December 13); assisted in the oral exams of the Conn. Tree Protective Examining Board and presented an update on the status of Sudden Oak Death in Connecticut (December 15).

DR. ROBERT E. MARRA attended the annual meeting of the Conn. Pomological Society in Glastonbury (December 7).

## **Soil and Water**

DR. THEODORE ANDREADIS presented an invited talk "Epidemiology of West Nile virus in Connecticut: a six year analysis of mosquito data, 1999 – 2004" at the 50th Annual Meeting of the Northeastern Mosquito Control Association held in Newport, RI (December 6); met with Caren Wilcox, aid to US Representative Rosa DeLauro, and gave an overview of the Experiment Station's mosquito and West Nile virus research and surveillance program (December 21).

DR. PHILIP ARMSTRONG presented a poster "Isolations of Potosi virus from Connecticut Mosquitoes" at the 53rd Annual Meeting of the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (November 10).

GREGORY BUGBEE spoke on "improving Soil in the Home Garden" to the Hebron Garden Club at the Hebron Public Library (November 17); gave a seminar on "Connecticut Soils" to an environmental science class at the Cooperative High School in New Haven (November 23); spoke on "Controlling Aquatic Vegetation in Lake Quonnipaug" at a meeting of the Friends of lake Quonnipaug at the North Guilford firehouse.(November 28); hosted a meeting with Lou Magnarelli, Jason White, Robert Capers and Roslyn Selsky at CAES with officials from the CTDEP and the CT Federation of Lakes to draft protocol for developing a CT lakes database and providing training sessions for volunteer lake water monitoring and aquatic vegetation identification (November 30).

DR. JOSEPH PIGNATELLO attended Robert M. Langer Graduate Student Symposium in the School of Engineering at Yale University and co-authored a paper with Michael Sander on "Assessing the reversibility of organic compound sorption to natural organic matter solids: a novel approach using isotope exchange." (December 3); presented an invited lecture at the Center for Environmental Systems, Stevens Institute of Technology on "Bioavailability of Pollutants in Soil and Sediment." (December 11).

DR. CHARLES VOSSBRINCK gave a talk on spiders to a second grade class at the Savin Rock community school in West Haven (November 15).

DR. JASON WHITE visited Cornell University's Agricultural Experiment Station in Geneva, NY and presented a lecture entitled "The genetic diversity in uptake and translocation of pesticides and other organic compounds from soil by Cucurbitaceae" (November 4-5); attended Annual Meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry in Portland Oregon and presented a talk entitled "Differential uptake of persistent organic pollutants (POPs) by agricultural species." (November 15-16); participated in meeting with officials from DEP and the CT Federation of Lakes to discuss the Experiment Station's Invasive Aquatic Weed Program (November 30); participated in U.S. EPA conference call of steering and planning committee for the Third International Phytotechnologies Conference to be held in April in Atlanta, GA. (December 14); met with Caren Wilcox, aid to Representative Rosa DeLauro, concerning USDA invasive weed project. (December 21).

## **Valley Laboratory**

TIM ABBEY presented "Introduction to Weeds" at the Connecticut Nursery and Landscape Association Nursery Accreditation Program in Southington (November 2); presented "2004 Corn Rootworm Update" at a meeting of the Litchfield County Dairy Council in Torrington (November 9); presented "Designing an Integrated Pest Management Program" for the Connecticut Tree Protective Association (CTPA) Arboriculture 101 class in New Haven (November 10); assisted with the CTPA Arboriculture 101 Tree

Conditions Lab in New Haven (November 3); and presented “Top New Insect Threats to Organic Land Care” at a NOFA Organic Land Care Update course at the Tolland County Agriculture Building in Tolland (December 2).

DR. CAROLE CHEAH gave a tour of the Valley Laboratory to Jamie Fischer, wildlife biologist with the DEP (November 16); and was interviewed on hemlock woolly adelgid and biological control by Sam Fretwell, a reporter for The State, Columbia, SC on (November 19).

DR. RICHARD COWLES presented “Conventional plant breeding for strawberry tolerance to black vine weevil” to the Cornell Club of Greater Hartford, Storrs, (November 6); presented two lectures: “History of American Entomology” and “Africanized Honey Bees” at Eastern Connecticut State University, Willimantic, (November 15 and 17); coauthored two posters “Natural Dyes as Novel Insecticides” and “Disruption of the Immune Response in Scarab Larvae by *Steinernema glaseri* Surface Coat Proteins,” presented at the Entomological Society of America National Meeting by E. A. Cowles and X. Li, respectively, Salt Lake City, Utah, (November 16).

ROSE HISKES gave a talk on houseplants to the Greater New Haven Garden Club in Hamden (November 1); team taught a Pesticide Training Short Course for Christmas tree growers in Windsor (November 9 and 18); gave lectures on pesticides and diseases of ornamentals and turf at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury (November 3, 10, and 17); gave lectures on diseases of ornamentals and turf at Naugatuck Valley Community College in Waterbury (December 1, 8, and 15).

DR. JAMES A. LAMONDIA was interviewed about the effect of weather on the 2003 and 2004 shade and broadleaf tobacco crops and tobacco diseases by Marsha Bloomberg of the Springfield MA Sunday Republican (November 10); presented a Plant Pathology lecture on Nematology and laboratory on Nematode identification at the University of Connecticut (November 10); was interviewed about tobacco culture by Anne Brocker, industrial hygienist at the University of Connecticut Health Center (November 17); and examined candidates for the Connecticut arborist license and participated in the quarterly meeting of the Connecticut Tree Protection Examining Board in New Haven (December 15).

DR. DEWEI LI hosted Mr. Ding, Xibin, Associate Director of Shandong Forestry Bureau. Mr. Ding visited both Valley lab and CAES in New Haven (November 15).

DR. TODD L. MERVOSH spoke about weed management in corn at a meeting of the Litchfield County Dairy Committee in Torrington (November 9) and spoke about invasive plants at a meeting of the East Granby Land Trust (December 6).

THOMAS RATHIER instructed students in the hands-on laboratory session and review session of the Arboriculture 101 course presented by the Connecticut Tree Protective Association in Jones Auditorium (November 3 and December 9) and with Rose Hiskes prepared and conducted a short course to help Christmas tree growers prepare for the private applicator pesticide license (November 9 and 18).

## **Journal Articles Approved December 2004**

Andreadis, Theodore, Michael C. Thomas, and John J. Shepard. Identification Guide to the Mosquitoes of Connecticut. Station Bulletin.

A. Farajollahi, W. J. Crans, D. Nickerson, P. Bryant, B. Wolf, A. Glaser, and Theodore G. Andreadis. Detection of West Nile virus RNA from the louse fly *Icosta Americana* (Diptera: Hippoboscidae). Journal of the American Mosquito Control Association.

Philip M. Armstrong, Theodore G. Andreadis, John F. Anderson, and Andrew J. Main. Isolation of Potosi virus (Bunyaviridae) from mosquitoes collected in Connecticut. Journal of Medical Entomology.

Gregory J. Bugbee and Jason C. White. A diagnostic feasibility study of Moodus Reservoir, East Haddam, CT: Water chemistry, aquatic vegetation survey and management options. Station Bulletin.

- Gregory J. Bugbee, Jason C. White. Control of Cabomba, Eurasian Milfoil and Water Lily in Lake Quonnapaug with herbicides and hydroraking. Station Bulletin.
- Gregory J. Bugbee and Jason C. White. Control of Cabomba and Eurasian Milfoil in Lake Quonnapaug with Fluridone and 2,4-D. Station Bulletin.
- Robert S. Capers, Gregory J. Bugbee, Roslyn Selsky, and Jason C. White. A Guide to Invasive Aquatic Plants of Connecticut. Station Bulletin.
- Sharon M. Douglas. Disease Management Guide for Connecticut Arborists 2005-2006.
- Wade H. Elmer. Evaluation of Fusarium resistance in cultivars of China asters, 2004. Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases.
- Wade H. Elmer. Effect of fungicide dips with and without Actigard 50WP on Fusarium corm rot of gladiolus, 2004. Fungicide and Nematicide Tests.
- Richard Peterson. PsbS genotype in relation to coordinated function of PSII and PSI in Arabidopsis leaves. Photosynthesis Research.
- Charles R. Vossbrinck. Molecular phylogeny of the Microsporidia: ecological, ultrastructural and taxonomic considerations. Folia Parasitologica.
- Jeffrey S. Ward. Influence of disturbance on ingrowth in hardwood forests: The old-series plots – 1927-1997.
- Jason C. White, Z. D. Parrish, M. Isleyen, M. P. N. Gent, W. Iannucci-Berger, B. D. Eitzer, J. W. Kelsey, M. J. I Mattina. Phytoextraction of weathered PCBs by curcubita and lupinus species. International Journal of Phytoremediation.

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