



# Minutes from the 489<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Connecticut Entomological Society

September 16, 2011

Jones Auditorium  
Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06504

Pre-meeting pizza and beverages were available to attendees beginning at 6:30pm.

Business meeting: The meeting was called to order by President Chris Maier at approximately 7:30pm.

Reports: The secretary's report of the 488<sup>th</sup> meeting was read by Laura Saucier and approved as read. It was noted that the emailed announcement for the 489<sup>th</sup> meeting was sent in a word file that some folks were unable to open. Future announcements will be in PDF format, as this seems to be universally accessible.

The treasurer's report was read by Mike Montgomery and approved. Mike announced that he will soon be sending out dues reminders and a summary of the finances of the society. It was noted that we will be cutting down on paper/postage by emailing much of future correspondence. Should members wish to continue to receive paper announcements, please contact Mike or Laura.

Old Business: None offered

New Business:

- Chris Maier announced that the October meeting will include taking the speaker out to dinner prior to the meeting (vs. the usual pizza offering). Details to be announced.
- The April meeting will be moved to the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday of the month due to speaker availability.

Announcements/Exhibits:

- Raul Ferreira brought specimens from the collecting trip to the Munstermann property.
- Raul also brought a copy of *Insecta Mundi* (9/16/11) that included a new CT record for a millipede (*Boraria infesta* Chamberlain, 1918).
- Raul also brought a book with mistakes in it for folks to take a look at.

- Rich Cowles brought in a vial of *Drosophila suzukii* (spotted-wing Drosophila) that had recently been found in CT. It is an economic pest that in one year has moved from the Carolinas north to New Hampshire. The fly cuts into unripe fruit to lay eggs. This pest affects raspberries, strawberries (will affect next year's crop here), and blueberries (affected late varieties here).
- Bill Krinsky brought in a stable fly that had mites on it.
- Chris Maier brought a book on the Natural History of Hover Flies by Rotheray and Gilbert.
- Chris also brought in some copies of a Forest Service publication he and other CES members contributed to entitled Caterpillars on the Foliage of Conifers in the Northeastern United States (revised June 2011).

### Evening Presentation:

Our very interesting evening presentation was by Goudarz Molaei from the Center for Vector Biology and Zoonotic Diseases at the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, CT. Goudarz presentation was titled Discerning Mosquitoes and Their Catholic Counterparts That Govern the Transmission of Arboviruses in the USA. Goudarz presented some of his research on the feeding behavior of mosquitoes and the transmission of two Arboviruses- West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus (EEEV). Following are some of the highlights:

WNV: in the northeast, 5 species of mosquitoes transmit WNV. Goudarz explained how the mosquitoes become infectious and how they transmit the virus. His research focused on the collection of mosquitoes from 91 sites across CT via multiple trapping methods and looking at the blood meals to determine which hosts were targeted by which species. He also looked at species complex/genetic variations and if they influenced feeding preferences in the CT/NY area. He found that ancestry influenced the probability of whether these mosquitoes fed on mammals.

EEE: this disease is limited to eastern US, as well as Central and South America. Four swamp-breeding mosquito species transmit the virus. Goudarz looked at the blood feeding patterns of these mosquitoes. In the northeast US EEEV transmission cycle, wild birds are the reservoirs and amplifying hosts.

The audience had many questions for the speaker. A lengthy question and answer session followed the presentation.

**Note: Corrections and additions to the minutes are welcomed. Please email [Laura.Saucier@ct.gov](mailto:Laura.Saucier@ct.gov).**