2027 Annual Meeting of the Northeast Regional Center for Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases: Training & Evaluation Center

New York Conference Center at Cornell ILR
570 Lexington Ave., 12th Floor, New York City, New York

Monday 15 February 2027		
8:30 am	**Breakfast and Registration**	
9:00 am	Welcome Address from NEVBD-TEC Program Director	Laura Harrington *Cornell University*
9:10 am	Passive Tick Surveillance in Connecticut: Detecting Exotic Introductions and Assessing Public Health Risk	Lorelei Sandland *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
9:25 am	Tick & Wildlife Urban Surveillance System	Marie Lilly *Columbia University*
9:40 am	Investigation of *Borrelia mayonii* in New York State	Jennifer White *New York State Department of Health*
9:55 am	BREAK	
10:10 am	Evaluation of Rodent-Targeted Tick Control Approaches	Danielle Tufts *University of Pittsburgh*
10:25 am	Wildlife Host Community Composition Influences Selection of Target Host for Tick-borne Disease Control in Residential Landscapes	Sung-Joo Lee *Columbia University*
10:40 am	Mosquito Xenosurveillance to Understand EEE Virus Transmission Dynamics in Connecticut	Jonathan Karisa *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
10:55 am	Evaluating Community Composition of *Aedes* Mosquitoes in Maryland	Jordan Palmer *University of Maryland, College Park*
11:10 am	BREAK	
11:20 am	City Mosquitoes: Urban Ancestry and Temperature Clines in a *Culex pipiens* Hybrid Zone	Benjamin Gregory *University of Maryland, College Park*
11:35 am	Factors Associated with Abundance and Expansion of *Culex* Mosquitoes in New Jersey and Massachusetts	Elvira De Basitani *Cornell University*
11:50 am	Nanopore Sequencing for Surveillance of the *Culex pipiens* Complex and Associated Mosquito Species	Andrea Gloria-Soria *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
12:05 pm	**LUNCH**	
1:30 pm	Updates from CDC Division of Vector-Borne Diseases	*TBD*
1:45 pm	Updates from Pacific Southwest Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases	Chris Barker *UC Davis / PacVec*
2:00 pm	Tropical Islands Training and Evaluation Center (TITEC): A Three-Year Review of Training and Evaluation Activities in Puerto Rico and the Pacific Islands	Amarilys Asencio Torres *Puerto Rico Vector Control Unit / TITEC* *Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust*
2:15 pm	Collaborative Multi-State *Amblyomma americanum* Tick Control Projects in the Southeastern USA	Melissa Nolan *University of South Carolina / SECVBD*
2:30 pm	BREAK	
2:45 pm	Updates from Gulf South VECTOR Training & Evaluation Center	Nina Dacko *Gulf South VECTOR*
3:00 pm	Updates from Rocky and High Plains Training & Evaluation Center	Karla Saavedra-Rodriguez *Colorado State University / RaHPVec*
3:15 pm	Updates from New England Center of Excellence in Vector-Borne Diseases	Andrew Lover *UMass – Amherst / NewVec*

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3:30 pm	Leveraging Passive Tick Surveillance Data to Investigate the Association Between Alpha-Gal-Specific IgE Seroprevalence and Tick Species Distribution in Connecticut	Kristen Rosamond *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
3:45 pm	BREAK	
4:00 pm	Tickborne Pathogen Discovery Updates	Laura Goodman *Cornell University*
4:15 pm	Can Landowner-Influenced Forest Conditions Predict Blacklegged Tick Abundance Across Landscape Contexts?	Allison Gardner *University of Maine*
4:30 pm	Evaluation of Tick Control Cost-Effectiveness and Perceptions in Residential Settings	Linghui Wu *Columbia University*
4:45 pm	Refining Residential Integrated Tick Management: Host-Targeted Treatments and Seasonal Spraying	Megan Linske *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
5:00 pm	**Meeting Adjourn**	
5:30 pm – 7:30 pm ◆ NEVBD-TEC Leadership & Advisory Board Business Meeting		

Recipient of NEVBD-TEC Training Program support

Tuesday 16 February 2027		
8:30 am	**Breakfast and Registration**	
9:00 am	AMCA Legislative and Regulatory Committee Update	Priscilla Matton *American Mosquito Control Association*
9:15 am	Building A Sustainable Regional Workforce by Integrating Vector Biology into Connecticut State Schools Curricula	Goudarz Molaei *Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station*
9:30 am	NEVBD-TEC Summer Internship Program: Training the Next Generation of Vector Control Professionals	Áine Lehane *Cornell University*
9:45 am	BREAK	
10:00 am	Northeast Train-the-Trainer Program for Farm Vector Safety and Vector-Borne Disease Prevention	Drew Lysaker *PennState Extension*
10:15 am	Partnership with Mi'kmaq Nation to Expand Vector Surveillance in Maine	Charles Lubelczyk / Aaron Macek *MaineHealth / Mi'kmaq Natural Resources*
10:30 am	Survey of Emergency Medicine Providers on Tickborne Disease Clinical Management and Continuing Education	Robert Smith *MaineHealth*
10:45 am	BREAK	
10:55 am	Lyme Disease Prevention in Rural Communities: Making Connections to Support Communication	Amelia Greiner Safi *Cornell University*
11:10 am	Survey of Rural Communities in Endemic and Emerging Areas of Lyme Disease on Prevention and Vaccination	Emily Mader *Cornell University*
11:25 am	Taking a Shot: Understanding Perceptions of Ticks, Lyme Disease Risk, and Lyme Disease Vaccination	Emily Struckhoff *PennState Extension*
11:40 am	Legislative Updates and Priorities from the Vector-Borne Disease Network	Erin Cadwalader *Entomological Society of America*
12:00 pm	**LUNCH**	
1:30 pm	Insecticide Resistance Monitoring in the Northeast: 2026 Season Results from the NEVBD Program	Lindsay Baxter *Cornell University*

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1:45 pm	Title pending	Christopher Bibbs *Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District*
2:00 pm	From Capacity Building to Evidence-Based Action: A Decade of Integrated Vector Management in Puerto Rico and Beyond	Julieanne Miranda Bermúdez *Puerto Rico Vector Control Unit* *Puerto Rico Science, Technology & Research Trust*
2:15 pm	Title pending	Tadhgh Rainey *Hunterdon County Mosquito & Vector Control*
2:30 pm	BREAK	
2:45 pm	Title pending	Andrea Egizi *Monmouth County Tickborne Disease Program*
3:00 pm	New Jersey Ticks4Science!	Emily Fontaine *Rutgers University*
3:15 pm	Tickborne Disease Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices among Maryland Residents	Megan Fritz *University of Maryland, College Park*
3:30 pm	Hearing from the Herd: Focus Groups with Maryland Livestock Producers on Tick Risks and Prevention	Logan Lott *University of Maryland, College Park*
3:45 pm	BREAK	
4:00 pm	Pest Professional Tickborne Disease Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Survey	Joellen Lampman *Cornell Integrated Pest Management*
4:15 pm	Tick Bite Prevention Behavioral Messaging Assessment using the Tick App	Heather Kopsco *Columbia University*
4:30 pm	Tickborne Disease Survey with Pet Owners	Indira Chakravarti *PennState Extension*
4:45 pm	**Closing Remarks & Meeting Adjourn**	

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This conference will also be held via Zoom Webinar. All individuals interested in attending can register by visiting:
https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_yGSIJjyASaCY6B2b3GpHDg