PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, September 12, 2017

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Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES) Scientists join the Center for Sustainable Nanotechnology (CSN)

New Haven, CT – Two researchers at The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Dr. Jason C. White, Head of the Department of Analytical Chemistry and Vice Director, and Dr. Wade Elmer, Head of the Department of Plant Pathology, have received a two-year grant from Center for Sustainable Nanotechnology (CSN) to conduct research on the use of nanoscale nutrients to suppress crop disease and enhance yield. The focus of the new CSN project will involve the direct synthesis of customized nanoscale micronutrients to suppress soil pathogens which significantly reduce crop production and result in billions of dollars in annual losses in the United States. CAES investigators have found that nanoscale forms of these plant nutrients are more effective at suppressing disease, improving nutritional status and enhancing crop growth than are conventional products. A summary of CAES’s research can be found in a recent article in the publication UNDARK (https://undark.org/article/nanoscale-connecticut-agricultural-station/). This research will help to safely optimize food production and enhance global food security. The CSN is a NSF Center for Chemical Innovation that is now in its third year and includes investigators from 11 universities and the Department of Energy Pacific Northwest National Laboratory.

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