



RIVERSIDE

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

ENTM250 Seminar Series



Speaker:

César R. Rodríguez-Saona

Professor and Extension Specialist in Entomology
Department of Entomology
Rutgers University

Date: Monday, April 04, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Format: Virtual Seminar

Zoom: 948 0131 1028

Passcode: 347039

Title:

“Applying Chemical Ecology to Conservation Biological Control”

Abstract:

Plants often respond to herbivore damage by inducing direct (i.e., secondary metabolites that affect the performance and preference of herbivores) and indirect (i.e., volatiles that attract natural enemies of herbivores) defenses. These induced defenses can affect arthropod communities and can thus be used potentially in agricultural systems to control insect pests. In my seminar, I will summarize studies I conducted to investigate the effects of induced plant defenses on tri-trophic (plant-herbivore-natural enemy) interactions. I will also present recent research being done in my lab to understand the effects of crop domestication on induced plant defenses. On a more applied perspective, I will present our work on the use of plant volatiles to attract natural enemies of insect pests in agroecosystems.

Short Bio.:

Dr. Cesar Rodriguez-Saona is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Blueberry and Cranberry Entomology at Rutgers University, New Jersey (USA). He received his M.S. degree (1994) in Entomology from Oregon State University and his Ph.D. (1999) in Entomology from the University of California, Riverside. Prior to joining Rutgers University, he worked as a post-doc for the USDA-ARS in Phoenix, AZ, University of Toronto in Ontario, Canada, and Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI.

Refreshments will be served in the Entomology Building Courtyard at 3:30pm