



RIVERSIDE

DEPARTMENT OF ENTOMOLOGY

ENTM250 Seminar Series



Speaker:

Scott H. McArt

Assistant Professor

Department of Entomology

Cornell University

Date: Monday, April 25, 2022

Time: 4:00 pm - 4:50 pm

Format: Virtual Seminar

Zoom: 948 0131 1028

Passcode: 347039

Title:

“Pesticide risk to bees: What we know and what we need to know better”

Abstract:

Wild and managed bees contribute >\$170 billion in pollination services each year to global food production. During crop pollination and in other contexts, bees can be exposed to pesticides that pose acute or sublethal risk to their health and survival. These exposures contribute to the well-documented “pollinator declines” that are occurring throughout the world. But when, where, and how are bees exposed to harmful levels of pesticides? These are critical questions to answer before effective risk mitigation efforts can occur. In this talk, I will outline what we know about pesticide risk to bees: when there is and isn’t risk, and which pesticides contribute the most to risk. Then, I will outline three areas that would benefit from improved attention: a better understanding of routes of exposure, how fungicides impact bee health, and how the current EPA regulatory process for pesticides would benefit from adopting the FDA regulatory process for drugs; specifically, the concept of proactive pharmacovigilance that has been accepted and adopted by the pharmaceutical industry.

Refreshments will be served in the Entomology Building Courtyard at 3:00pm