

SAMPLE SUBMISSION

Please don't make it fancy – simple makes our lives easier.

Joe Smith,
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123-456-7890
Stilt Grass on the University Campus
Full Sized poster

HOW TO PREPARE THE POSTER ABSTRACT

PLEASE WRITE THE ABSTRACT IN THE FOLLOWING FORMAT:

1. Authors, Title, Email of the First Author (or designated corresponding author), Affiliations.
2. Skip a line
3. Summarize what the project involved: (1) why you did it, (2) where and how you did it, and, as applicable, (3) what you found out, and (4) conclusions/take home messages for the future. Abstracts should be 1,200 characters max.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT:

Title of Poster:

Cheah¹, Carole, Donna Ellis², and Todd Mervosh³. **Biological Control of Mile-a-Minute Weed (MAM) in CT.** carole.cheah@ct.gov

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Mile-a-minute weed (MAM), *Persicaria perfoliata*, originally from Asia, is considered a serious and problematic invasive weed because of its prolific ability to spread in disturbed environments. First verified in Greenwich in 2000, currently 42 towns in Connecticut have confirmed MAM reports. *Persicaria perfoliata*, though an annual, can quickly overwhelm native vegetation with its exponential growth and is a serious threat to forest regeneration. A tiny weevil, *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, native to China, with high host plant specificity and great damaging potential to MAM, was first released as a biological control agent in Delaware and New Jersey in 2004. In 2009, the first releases were implemented in Connecticut in a joint collaboration between The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and the University of Connecticut, in cooperation with the University of Delaware and the Phillip Alampi Beneficial Insect Laboratory, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, and more recently, the University of Rhode Island. Annual releases of this weed-feeder, assessments of weevil survival and impact, and monitoring of the MAM populations at release sites are part of the regional MAM biological control program supported by the USDA APHIS PPQ and USDA Forest Service. From 2009-2014, >38,000 weevils have been released in 32 sites in 18 Connecticut towns, with the help of many cooperators from the town, state and private citizen levels. Identifying characters of MAM are presented and the lifecycle of the MAM weevil, *R. latipes*, is described. Larval and adult stages of the weevil feed exclusively on MAM. Results from the latest monitoring in 2014 are summarized. Since 2009-2014, weevils have successfully survived every Connecticut winter, severe flooding and storms and even habitat or site interference, although the latter have resulted in localized reductions in weevil populations. Weevil dispersal was widespread in 2014.