Sensilla

OSU

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Entomology and Plant Pathology

MARCH NEWS

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Noble Research Center for Agricultural and Renewable Natural Resources

March Calendar of Events

| Seminar – Dr. Krasileva | Mar | 2 |
|---|-----|-------|
| Southern Division Meeting of APS | Mar | 7-10 |
| Seminar – Dr. Stephens | Mar | 9 |
| Spring Break | Mar | 14-18 |
| Registration Deadline for Southwestern Branch ESA Meeting | Mar | 21 |
| Hotel Deadline for Southwestern Branch ESA Meeting | Mar | 21 |
| Seminar – Dr. Meisel | Mar | 23 |

April Calendar of Events

| Seminar – Dr. Machtinger | Apr | 6 |
|---------------------------------|-----|-------|
| Seminar – Dr. Cook | Apr | 13 |
| Southwestern Branch ESA Meeting | Apr | 18-20 |
| Seminar – Dr. Casteel | Apr | 20 |
| Pre-finals Week | Apr | 25-29 |

Congratulations!

LaFonda Barrera is a grandmother for the second time! Kyson Maitlen was born on February 21 in Stillwater, weighed 6 pounds 15 ounces, and was 20 inches in length. The proud parents are Anna and Mason Maitlen, along with big brother Draeson, from Cushing.

On the Move

Dr. Eric Rebek, Professor and State Extension Specialist, begins his new position as Technical Service Manager for FMC Corporation based out of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota on March 7. His territory will cover Minnesota and the eastern parts of North and South Dakota. Eric's main assignment will involve providing technical support to sales staff, troubleshooting pest problems for customers, updating label information for pesticides, and coordinating and conducting product research with university Extension personnel. His last day at OSU is March 2.

Dr. Rebek joined our department as an Assistant Professor of Entomology and Extension State Specialist (100% Extension) for Horticulture and Turfgrass Entomology on July 1, 2007. His focus has been on turfgrass and ornamentals where he has worked with landscape, nursery, and golf course managers across the state. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 2013 and Professor in 2018.

He received his B.S. degree (double major) in Entomology and Biological Aspects of Conservation in 1996 and his M.S. degree in Entomology in 1999, both from the University of Wisconsin – Madison, and his Ph.D. in Entomology from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana in 2004. Dr. Rebek was a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the Department of Entomology at Michigan State University from 2004 until coming to OSU.

Dr. Rebek garnered nearly \$1 million in grants and contracts, published over 60 Extension publications, 73 newsletter and advisories, 21 refereed papers, and 33 non-refereed papers and reports, and has given numerous talks and posters at scientific meetings, trainings, workshops, and conferences. He has been instrumental in the Oklahoma Master Gardener Program.

Eric was the Coach of the OSU Entomology Games Team from 2009-2013 and has been the Gamesmaster for the Entomology Games at the Southwestern Branch Meeting since 2015. He was President of the SWB ESA in 2018-2019 after serving in other officer positions. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Integrated Pest Management, a position he has held since January 2019.

Dr. Rebek has taught Horticultural Insects, Insects of the Forest Ecosystem, and Biological Control. He served as the major advisor for five graduate students and was a member of many other graduate student committees.

Dr. Rebek and **Dr. Damon Smith**, along with Dr. Mike Schnelle, Extension Floriculture Specialist, received the Blue Ribbon Public Award from the Southern Region American Society for Horticulture for their Fact Sheet titled, "Managing Storm-damaged Trees" in 2008. He received the New Extension Educator Award of Merit from the OSU Chapter of Gamma Sigma Delta, the Agricultural Honor Society on April 19, 2012, plus two additional Blue Ribbon Extension Publications Awards in 2016 and 2018.

We wish him well in his new adventures!

Departmental Seminars

Seminars are held at 3:30 p.m. in Room 216-218 NRC or via Zoom.

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Speaker</u> | <u>Title</u> |
|-------------|----------------------|--|
| Mar. 2 | Dr. Ksenia Krasileva | Catching the Right Mutation: Natural and Induced Diversity in Plant Immune System |
| Mar. 9 | Dr. Patrick Stephens | Using Statistical Modes to Explore Regional to Global Patterns of Zoonotic Disease Risk |
| Mar. 23 | Dr. Richard Meisel | Thermal Biology, Behavior, and Mate Choice in House Flies with Polymorphic Sex Chromosomes |

March Birthdays

| Ali Zarrabi | March 1 |
|----------------------|----------|
| Sharon von Broembsen | March 4 |
| Hannah Dodd | March 7 |
| Neil Aker | March 8 |
| Haley Butler | March 10 |
| Kyle Risser | March 10 |
| Robin Cooper | March 15 |
| Zachary Rocha | March 15 |

| Chunxiang Hou | March 21 |
|---------------------|----------|
| Emma Laliberte | March 25 |
| Callista Vandegriff | March 29 |
| Carmen Greenwood | March 31 |