



The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

Putting Science to Work for Society since 1875

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July 28, 2025

**Agricultural Research Technician I
Forest Ecosystem Health and Ecology**

Department of Environmental Science and Forestry
The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

The **Office of Forest Health** at the **Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station (CAES)** anticipates hiring a 2-year Agricultural Research Technician I position with expertise in **forest ecosystem health and ecology**. As the lead forest health agency in Connecticut, CAES works in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and other forestry agencies to monitor and manage threats to Connecticut's 1.7 million acres of forested land. These initiatives include an annual aerial survey to detect landscape-level changes in tree health and mortality; research to evaluate the impacts of changing conditions on forest structure, composition, and function; and outreach to provide technical information to forest landowners and practitioners about forest health issues in the state.

Details and compensation: The technician will be based out of the Department of Environmental Science and Forestry at CAES's New Haven campus and will work under the supervision of [Dr. Elisabeth Ward](#). This is a full-time (35 hours/week) position that is funded for 2 years with the possibility of extension depending on available funding. Starting annual salary is \$53,277 with competitive benefits (medical, dental, and pension), paid vacation, sick time, and state holidays, and opportunities for professional development and training. Hours are typically 8:30 am to 4:30 pm with a 1-hr lunch break but may vary during the field season.

Duties: The technician will assist with research, administration, and outreach associated with Connecticut's Office of Forest Health. Primary duties will include assisting with federal forest health grant administration; compiling forest health survey results for annual reports; preparing presentations and public outreach materials to disseminate forest health information to landowners and practitioners; coordinating and attending forest health workshops and meetings; and assisting with fieldwork, data analysis, and writing for publications on projects related to forest health issues. Research projects will include assessing forest ecosystem responses to ash mortality from emerald ash borer; the impacts of beech leaf disease on tree growth, mortality, and carbon dynamics; and the effects of forest management practices on tree regeneration and forest productivity. This position may involve occasional travel to regional meetings or workshops.

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Required Qualifications: We seek applicants who will take initiative, think creatively, and propose new ideas to improve Connecticut's Office of Forest Health. Candidates must be dependable, organized, able to work well independently and in a group, and willing to learn new skills. Specific qualifications include:

- A Bachelor's degree in a field related to forest health (ecology, forestry, forest entomology, forest pathology, natural resource management, environmental science) or 2 years of college with at least 3 years of professional experience
- The ability to perform physical labor and work safely in the forest in all weather conditions
- Exceptional written and oral communication skills
- Experience with ArcGIS Pro or QGIS
- A valid driver's license

Preferred Qualifications:

- Experience with data cleaning and analysis in R or other coding software
- Knowledge of forest health issues and ability to identify pests, pathogens, diseases, and plants in northeastern U.S. forests
- Experience with research and writing in a related field

Application Instructions: Applicants should submit the following electronically in a single, consolidated PDF file to Dr. Elisabeth Ward (Elisabeth.ward@ct.gov): **1)** A cover letter summarizing your qualifications and how they fit the position; **2)** a resume or C.V.; **3)** contact information for three references along with a concise statement of their professional relationship to you; and **4)** a copy of university transcripts, if applicable (official or unofficial; dates of school attendance or graduation are not required on any application materials and can be omitted or blacked out from the resume and transcripts). Applications will be accepted until the position is filled but should be submitted no later than September 1, 2025.

The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station is the nation's first state Agricultural Experiment Station, founded in 1875. The main campus is located in New Haven, Connecticut. The CAES also encompasses a 75-acre research farm in Hamden, a satellite research facility and farm in East Windsor, and a research farm in Griswold. The CAES is a state-supported scientific research institution that investigates pests, pathogens, and diseases that damage trees and crops; analyzes food safety, water quality, and soil properties; studies the genetics and biochemistry of plants; and performs experiments to test new crops and the impacts of changing conditions on forests to improve the food, health, environment, and well-being of Connecticut residents.

Equal employment opportunity means employment of people without consideration of age, ancestry, color, criminal record (in state employment and licensing), gender identity or expression, genetic information, intellectual disability, learning disability, marital status, mental disability (past or present), national origin, physical disability (including blindness), race, religious creed, retaliation for previously opposed discrimination or coercion, sex (pregnancy or sexual harassment), sexual orientation, veteran status, and workplace hazards to reproductive systems unless the provisions of sec. 46a-80(b) or 46a-81(b) of the Connecticut General Statutes are controlling or there are bona fide occupational qualifications excluding persons in one of the above protected classes. To file a complaint of discrimination, contact Jason White, Ph.D., Director, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, 123 Huntington Street, New Haven, CT 06511, (203) 974-8440 (voice), or Jason.White@ct.gov (e-mail). CAES is an affirmative action/equal opportunity provider and employer. Persons with disabilities who require alternate means of communication of program information should contact the Chief of Services, Michael Last at (203) 974-8442, (203) 974-8502 (FAX), or Michael.Last@ct.gov.

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