



The 1146<sup>th</sup> meeting of the New England Botanical Club, Inc. will be held **Saturday, 7 November 2020, at 7:00 PM via Zoom.**



**“Decolonizing Botany”**  
**By**  
**Dr. Banu Subramaniam**  
**Professor and Chair of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies**  
**College of Humanities and Fine Arts, UMass-Amherst, Amherst, MA**

**PLEASE READ:**

- 1) **PRESENTATIONS & MEETINGS WILL BE VIRTUAL:** Although since March 2020 all our spring presentations, summer field trips, and special events had to be cancelled because of COVID-19, New England Botanical Club is now offering meetings and presentations via Zoom. The link to join our Zoom Monthly Meetings will be reoccurring and is below. After this presentation, we invite attendees to stay on Zoom and participate in some “virtual visiting.” Feel free to provide your own refreshments!
- 2) **DR. BANU SUBRAMANIAM’S ABSTRACT:** What does it mean to be a feminist botanist? Tracing the colonial roots of botany, I re-imagine a more inclusive and capacious field of botany untethered and decentered from its origins in histories of racism, slavery, and colonialism. Drawing on recent scholarship in the biological sciences, queer ecology, indigenous ecology, and postcolonial and feminist Science and Technology Studies (STS), I show how gender, race, class, sexuality, and nation shape the foundational language, terminology, and theories of modern botany, and how botany remains grounded in the violence of its colonial pasts. Decolonizing Botany reckons with these difficult origins and lays a roadmap to imagine a new feminist botany that harnesses the power of feminist thought to reimagine the practices of experimental biology.
- 3) **ANNOUNCING NEW SPECIAL PUBLICATION:** To purchase, please see [Special Publications](#) **Bertin, R. I., M. G. Hickler, K. B. Searcy, G. Motzkin, and P. P. Grima.** 2020. *Vascular Flora of Franklin County, Massachusetts*. 390 pages. (**\$25 postpaid**). This newly published NEBC Special Publication describes the flora of a botanically interesting part of Massachusetts. The county includes parts of the Worcester Plateau, the Connecticut River Valley and the Berkshire Highlands. This publication is based on over 60,000 field and herbarium records logged over a period of ten years. It includes introductory sections on the physical setting, geology, climate, soils, vegetation, human influence, and history of botanical collection and exploration. Most of the 390 pages are devoted to an annotated list of all species known from the county. Species information includes abundance, nativity status, habitat, associated species, distribution within the county, conservation status, and flowering and fruiting phenology. A town-level distribution map is included for each species, with information on historical and recent occurrences. Three appendices include a) an annotated list of collectors, b) a list of species excluded with explanations, and c) detailed information on flowering times of over 90 species.

4) **NEXT NEBC MEETING VIA ZOOM:**

On Saturday, 5 December 2020, Dr. Anurag Agrawal, James A. Perkins Professor of Environmental Studies, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, will speak on "*Of Monarchs and Milkweed: Coevolution, Chemical Ecology, & Conservation.*"

5) **VIDEOS of PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see [Past Meetings](#) for videos of past lectures, including Dr. Gill's October presentation.

*The Council will meet 4 – 5 PM on Saturday 7 November 2020 via Zoom.*

**ZOOM INVITATION FOR NEBC MONTHLY MEETINGS**

Topic: NEBC Monthly Meeting

Date and Time: First Saturday of the month at 7:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/98845538584>

Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,98845538584# US (New York)

+13017158592,,98845538584# US (Germantown)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 988 4553 8584

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/adKxNNXCOj>

**The New England Botanical Club**

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Cambridge, MA 02138-2020

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