



The 1139th meeting of the New England Botanical Club, Inc. will be held
Saturday, **14 September 2019, at 4:00 p.m.** at
McConnell Hall, Smith College, Northampton, MA



“Floral Traits Mediating Pathogen Dynamics in Pollinators”
By
Dr. Lynn S. Adler, Professor
Biology Department, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, MA

PLEASE READ:

- 1) **LYNN’S ABSTRACT:** Flowering plants provide food resources for pollinators, but can also be sites where diseases get transmitted. Work in the Adler lab examines the many ways that floral traits can mediate interactions between pollinators and pathogens, focusing on the common eastern bumble bee and a gut pathogen. A variety of nectar chemicals can reduce this pathogen. In addition, sunflower pollen dramatically reduces this pathogen, and we are assessing options to develop sunflower pollen supplements and plantings as a non-chemical way to manage bumble bee health. Other work in the lab has shown that plant species vary in their ability to transmit pathogens to uninfected bees, with consequences for bee health at the colony level. These results can have important implications for managing bee health and provide insights on choices of flowering plants for pollinator habitat.
- 2) **LOCATION OF SATURDAY MEETING IS IN NORTHAMPTON, MA:** NEBC’s September “away” meeting will be at [Smith College](#). Directions and parking info can be found in the [Program Schedule](#), which also describes other activities.
- 3) **TWO ADDITIONAL FREE SATURDAY ACTIVITIES REQUIRE REGISTRATION. DEADLINE IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12:** [Registration link](#). Please see two-page [Program Schedule](#) for all Saturday details. This is printable PDF. Questions? Please contact Matthew Charpentier at mpcharpentier93@gmail.com
 - Fungal walk with Dianna Smith at Smith College’s MacLeish Field Station (12:00 noon-3:00 pm). [Directions will be sent to registrants.] Dianna Smith is a mycology researcher, field guide author, and educator. She will introduce you to the fascinating world of the fungi kingdom during our three-hour guided walk. In addition to helping attendees learn to identify particular morphological groups of fungi, Dianna will provide essential information about their lifestyles and functions in forest and garden ecology, their evolutionary history, habitat preferences, edibility, toxicity, and potential medicinal uses. By the time you complete this walk, you will know more about these curious representatives of the mostly hidden kingdom of fungi than 99.9% of the world’s population.

- Field Trip with Pete Grima to Montague Plains Wildlife Management Area (10:00 am to 2:00 pm). [Directions will be sent to registrants.] Covering several powerline corridors on the Montague sandplain and adjacent Will's Hill, we will focus on the amazing asters, gorgeous goldenrods, lingering legumes and genteel (fringed) gentians that will be in their prime. We may meet a couple of orchids too! Easy walk of 1.5 miles with 200 ft. of elevation gain. Be prepared for ticks and open sunny conditions.
- 4) **2019-2020 NEBC MEETINGS WILL BE 4 PM SATURDAY:** *Important announcement from President Jesse Bellemare:* Starting in September 2019, NEBC will undertake an exploratory shift to holding our regular monthly meetings on Saturday afternoons at 4:00PM+. This change follows from discussions in NEBC Council last spring about ways to increase member participation at monthly meetings. In our online survey from 2018, we saw that a large number of NEBC members found the traditional meeting time on Friday evenings difficult to accommodate in their work and personal schedules and inconvenient for travel into the Boston area. Our hope is that the new meeting time on Saturday afternoons might support increased participation from NEBC members, both for those in the Boston area and for members from further afield. We also hope that this shift might allow for greater involvement in other club activities associated with the meetings, such as volunteer hours in the herbarium or workshops that will be planned for Saturday afternoons prior to 4:00 PM. We will undertake this new meeting time on a trial basis in 2019-2020 and plan to re-assess in the spring when looking ahead to setting the schedule for Fall 2020 meetings. Please feel free to share your comments or concerns about this change with NEBC by emailing president@rhodora.org.
 - 5) **EAGLE HILL INSTITUTE DISCOUNTS & NEBC STIPENDS:** Eagle Hill Institute, Steuben, ME, is again offering NEBC members a 20% discount for their 2019 seminars and workshops, which applies towards tuition and accommodations, but not meals. Also NEBC will give a stipend of \$150 towards coast for the first 10 NEBC members who register for a botany course. Five Fall Weekend Workshops are still available. [Eagle Hill 2019 calendar](#). Contact John Burns at nebc@rhodora.org for details.
 - 6) **NEXT NEBC MEETING:** On Saturday, October 5, Dr. Jacquelyn L. Gill, Associate Professor of Paleoecology & Plant Ecology, School of Biology & Ecology, and Climate Change Institute, University of Maine, Orono, ME, will speak on *“The Once and Future Forests: What 21,000 Years of Prehistory Tells Us to Expect in a Warming World.”* Prior to the talk, NEBC members will also be granted free admission to Harvard’s Museum of Natural History, including Glass Flowers, for themselves and one guest.
 - 7) **VIDEOS of PAST PRESENTATIONS:** Please see [Past Meetings](#) for videos of past lectures.

The Council will not meet in September.

The New England Botanical Club

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