

Bark Beetle Identification Training

August 8-10, 2017

Fernald Hall, University of Massachusetts

Trainer Profiles:

Robert Rabaglia, Entomologist, USDA Forest Service, Forest Health Protection

- **Robert (Bob) Rabaglia** is currently National Entomologist for the US Forest Service, Forest Health Protection in Washington DC. He has been with the Forest Service since 2005 and coordinates national forest insect projects across the country. He coordinates the Early Detection and Rapid Response project for bark and ambrosia beetles, as well as funding for projects such as gypsy moth, southern pine beetles and hemlock woolly adelgid. Although he now sits at a desk and plays with budget spreadsheets most of the time, he also has a Research Associate appointment at the US Natural History Museum (the Smithsonian) in Washington and is able to work on scolytine identifications. Prior to joining the Forest Service, he was forest entomologist in Maryland for 18 years. He received his MS and PhD degrees in entomology from the State University of New York, College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse, NY.

E. Richard Hoebeke, Taxonomic Entomologist, Associate Curator and Collection Manager of the University of Georgia Collection of Arthropods

- **E. Richard (Rick) Hoebeke** is currently the associate curator and collection manager of the Collection of Arthropods, Georgia Museum of Natural History at the University of Georgia, Athens. Previous to this position, he served as the collection manager and assistant curator of the insect collection at Cornell University in Ithaca, NY from 1977 to 2011. While a portion of his ongoing research includes phylogenetic and taxonomic studies of beetles of the family Staphylinidae of North, Central, and South America, his applied research focuses on the detection of and survey for non-indigenous invasive species among the North American insect fauna. During the past three decades, he has been recognized as a national leader in the area of exotic pest detection, having discovered numerous insect species new to the Western Hemisphere, North America, or to the United States. He not only has collected and identified immigrant species belonging to diverse orders, but he has also authored or co-authored over 80 refereed papers on exotic species, providing valuable information on their recognition, North American distribution, seasonal history, and habits. He was the first entomologist to identify the highly destructive Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) from an infested Brooklyn neighborhood in New York City in 1996, the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (*Halyomorpha halys*) in eastern Pennsylvania in 2001, and the pine-killing European woodwasp (*Sirex noctilio*) from central New York in early 2005. Since 2001, he also has been an identification specialist supporting the joint USDA-APHIS and Forest Service's "Early Detection and Rapid Response" survey for exotic Scolytidae. He received a B.S. in Biological Science in 1971 and a M.S. in Systematic Entomology in 1973, both from Michigan State University. He continued with his Ph.D. studies in Systematic Entomology from 1974-1977 at Cornell University.

Marc DiGirolomo, Forest Health Technician, Northeastern Area, State & Private Forestry, Durham Field Office

- **Marc DiGirolomo** is a Forest Health Technician for the US Forest Service - Forest Health Protection (FHP) group in Durham, NH. The FHP group provides technical assistance to state cooperators on various insect and disease issues within the seven state region of New England and New York. They also implement monitoring and treatment projects, methods development studies, and annual aerial detection surveys. Marc's primary role is field work and insect identification for the various projects the group is involved in. Since joining the Forest Service in 2013, Marc has processed and identified nearly 1 million specimens of bark and wood inhabiting insects. He specializes in the taxonomy of Scolytinae, but has a broad interest in northeastern wood inhabiting insects, and Coleoptera in general. Marc maintains a reference collection of select wood boring families at the Durham Field Office, as well as a personal collection of over 5000 specimens, mostly beetles. Previous to working for the Forest Service, Marc worked as a PPQ Officer with APHIS battling the Asian Longhorned Beetle in Worcester, MA, and as a Forestry Technician for the State of New Hampshire. He received undergraduate degrees in Forest Technology and Forestry, and a Master's degree in Entomology from the State University of New York College of Environmental Science & Forestry in Syracuse, NY.

Speaker Profile:

Matt Ayres, Professor of Biological Sciences and Chair of the Graduate Program in Ecology, Evolution, Ecosystems, and Society, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH

- **Matt Ayres** has been studying the ecology and population dynamics of bark beetles, especially the southern pine beetle, since he was a postdoc with the U.S. Forest Service in Pineville, LA. Research topics have included tree defenses, nutritional ecology, thermal ecology, distribution limits, species interactions among symbionts, and determination of population abundance. He studies the population ecology of insects, especially forest pests. The Ayres Lab group seeks to understand the forces that lead to high abundance and dramatic fluctuations in some species, and which stabilize the abundance of most species. He describes his research as basic, applied, usually collaborative, and sometimes interdisciplinary. He mentions that his most important research colleagues are Dartmouth undergraduates, graduate students, and post-docs. Teaching at Dartmouth inspires his research and vice versa.