

FUSARIUM EXPERT FROM PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS A SPECIAL SEMINAR

Following the 17th International *Fusarium* Laboratory Workshop this past week, Professor David Geiser presented a special seminar at FABI on June 8. The Director of the *Fusarium* Research Center at Pennsylvania State University, Prof. Geiser was one of 13 expert instructors who led the workshop. He is also the curator of the largest collection of cultures of *Fusarium* in the world.



His talk, “Two *Fusarium* Stories” focused on different aspects of the *Fusarium* species. Prof. Geiser discussed the classification of *Fusarium xylarioides*, the causal agent of coffee wilt disease, which has caused extensive losses in African countries that grow coffee for export such as Uganda. Prof. Geiser also delved into the symbiotic relationship between *Fusarium* and ambrosia beetles, focusing on *Euwallacea validus* and evidence that points to a relationship that has co-evolved.