

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on February 25, 2015 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

John Gless*	Jim Gorden	Link Leavens*
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Committee Members Absent:

Scott Mabs	Kevin Olsen	Kevin Severns
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CRB Staff:

Ed Civerolo	Rick Dunn	Cynthia LeVesque*
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Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins	Ken Gilliland*	Mike Pitcarin*
Richard Bennett	Victoria Hornbaker	Sylvie Robillard
Erin Betts	John Krist*	Cressida Silvers*
Dan Dreyer	Magally Luque-Williams*	Debby Tanouye*
Enrico Ferro*	David Morgan*	Austin Webster
Tina Galindo*	Joseph Nicholl*	Sandra Zwaal*
Art Gilbert*	Pat Nolan*	

*** Participated via telephone/WebEx**

Opening Comments

Subcommittee Chairman Jim Gorden welcomed staff and the members of the public participating in person and online. There is a not quorum for this meeting.

Approval of minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the January 7, 2015 meeting minutes. There was one correction made: to remove Etienne Rabe since he has resigned and to add Scott Mabs to the Committee member attendee list. The minutes were then approved by all members in attendance. There is currently still a vacancy on the subcommittee and Richard Bennett volunteered to be appointed.

Report on 4th International HLB Conference

Jim Gorden gave a brief report on the HLB conference that was held in Orlando, Florida in early February. There were roughly 100 technical research reports and 115 posters presented at the conference. The CCM showcase is being held the first week of March and projects of interest that

were presented at the conference will be presented at the showcase. There was a question asked about the researchers and if they are collaborating with one another, Jim felt that there is good collaboration.

Financial Report

Victoria reported that there is no financial report to present being that the Finance Subcommittee meeting is on March 2, 2015. She stated that last Finance Subcommittee meeting went well and there have been no budget issues.

Regional ACP Management Program Update

Bob gave an update on regional ACP management. All of the grower liaison positions have been filled. There have been some issues with funding for San Bernardino and Ventura Counties. Victoria has recently met with CASS and is trying to resolve the funding issues for Ventura and San Bernardino. Ventura has had some participation issues while moving into area-wide management. There was further discussion regarding ways to improve the participation rate.

Ventura has implemented their first area wide treatment as there have been additional ACP finds in residential areas. There was concern at the last CPDPC meeting about the effectiveness of treatments with groves being infested after four to six weeks. The recommendation from UC Riverside is to have treatments completed within two to three weeks in order to have effective ACP control. San Diego County is doing well and has just finished their third treatment in Pauma Valley.

There are issues with the mapping; Ventura is reporting that the maps and grove ownership data is out of date. Any updated information should be provided to Rick Dunn at the CRB so the citrus layer and ownership data can be updated. It was noted that there needs to be a consistent format for sharing locational data to make sure everyone is talking about the same parcel.

Bob reported that the Ag Commissioners are making good progress in developing guidelines for Agricultural Commissioners to use in addressing neglected and abandoned orchards. He is gathering scientific papers that support inoculum removal and would also like to gather industry support for the removal of abandoned orchards. Bob suggested that the Committee provide a letter of support.

HLB Survey Update

a. Hacienda Heights Review

Tina Galindo gave an update on the Hacienda Heights area. The new survey has been implemented by CDFR staff and has had a few kinks that need to be worked out. Cycle 1 began January 2, 2015 and 652 sites have been visited thus far, with 433 ACP samples and 10 plant samples collected and 217 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Cycle 2 will begin in March. Tina also reported on traps positive for ACP in January, 100 traps were surveyed with 19 traps positive for ACP and 37 ACP collected.

b. HLB Risk-Based Survey

Magally Luque-Williams gave an update on the HLB risk based survey. Cycle 1 is under way with Imperial County being 100 percent complete. Ventura is 84 percent complete and Tulare is 78 percent complete. All other areas are between 8 and 14 percent complete. It was reported that 12 surveyors were sent to Texas for a week long intensive training on HLB symptomology. The program is working on a methodology to incorporate Dr. Bartels data into the risk-based survey.

Biocontrol Program Report

David Morgan reported that 85,174 Tamarixia have been produce year to date through January, with 82,846 being released. In 2014, there were 1,124,091 Tamarixia produced and 931,522 were released in the Southern California area. Staff have begun a monitoring program 27 sites which include high medium and low risk areas according to the risk-based survey. One half of the monitoring site will be in release grids and one half will be in grids without releases. The monitoring sites will be visited monthly. So far the monitoring for January and February have indicated that there are a good number of eggs, a few small nymphs and a few adults. There were no large nymphs at any of the monitoring sites, but this will likely change overtime. Mike Pitcairn reported that the contracts have all been signed and construction has begun on the Cal Poly Pomona greenhouse. The anticipated finish date is June of 2015. Greg Simmons updated the subcommittee on the progress of the field cage Tamarixia production and on several cooperative studies.

Laboratory Activities

a. Riverside Laboratory Activities

Cynthia LeVesque reported that the CRB has processed and shipped 2,160 early detection subsamples. The CRB is currently tabulating the data collected from the all of the early detection field experiment investigators. The CRB is continuing to work on digital droplet PCR in collaboration with Dr. Greg McCollum. The CRB is also continuing to provide support to the UC Davis Containment facility

b. Sacramento Laboratory Activities

Victoria reviewed the ongoing Sacramento lab activates. The Lab has analyzed 5,167 ACP samples and 1,697 plant samples. CDFA is continuing to provide samples to Dr. Slupsky at UC Davis.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reviewed the data management activity for January and February 2015. Rick is still working in cooperation with the University of California's Kearney Ag Center GIS facility to update the citrus layer. Rick reported that he continues to provide mapping services to the grower liaisons including the new grower liaison in Ventura. Staff continues to support grove trapping and biocontrol by producing overview and progress maps.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30p.m. The next meeting will be held on April 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.