

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM  
JOINT SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND REGULATORY TASKFORCE  
SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday November 7, 2018

The joint Science and Technology and Regulatory Task Force Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm on November 7, 2018.

**Science Subcommittee Members Present:**

Dr. Ed Civerolo	Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Dr. Jason Leathers*
Aaron Dillon*	Dr. Melinda Klein	Dr. Etienne Rabe

**Science Subcommittee Members Absent:**

George McEwen	Kevin Olsen
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**Regulatory Taskforce Members Present:**

Aaron Dillon*	Victoria Hornbaker	Dr. Etienne Rabe
Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Link Leavens*	Keith Watkins

**Regulatory Taskforce Members Absent:**

Angela McMillian-Brannigan	Joel Nelsen	Nawal Sharma
Mark McBroom		

**Interested Parties:**

Price Adams*	Jim Gorden	Keith Okasaki
Lori Apodaca	Karen Gutierrez*	Curtis Pate*
Bob Atkins	Gavin Iacono*	Lea Pereira*
Erin Betts	Karen Jetter*	Sylvie Robillard*
Dr. Kyle Beucke*	Sara Khalid	Jason Sapp*
Teri Blaser	John Krist*	Cressida Silvers*
Kathy Day*	Leslie Leavens*	Judy Zaninovich*
Holly Deniston-Sheets	Raymond Leclerc	Sandra Zwaal*
Rick Dunn	Brianna McGuire*	
Tina Galindo*	Dr. Neil McRoberts	
Sara Garcia Figuera	Pat Nolan*	

**\* Participated via Webinar**

**Opening Comments**

Dr. Etienne Rabe welcomed the Subcommittee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online. It was noted that there was a quorum for the meeting.

## **Strategy 1-Quickly Detect and Eradicate Diseased Trees**

### **Cost/Benefit Analysis Update**

Karen Jetter reported that there has been a preliminary run of the model for San Bernardino County. The project is taking longer than was originally anticipated. Karen asked the group if simpler models should be considered, due to computational difficulties, and a full analysis has yet to be done. Victoria suggested to set up a working group to discuss what specific information is needed to come out of this project.

## **Strategy 2-Control Movement of Psyllids around the State: Regulations**

### **Review Quarantine Performance Standard Options**

#### **Field Cleaning**

Keith Okasaki reported that the intent of the field cleaning option or a mitigation is defined as field cleaning by a machine, not hand cleaning. This is to meet the Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) performance standard for moving fruit to between regional quarantine zones. The ACP Free Declaration form was updated to read “field cleaning by machine.” An advisory was also sent out to all the County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC). Growers who would like to use a mitigation option that is different from the spray and move, wet wash, or machine field cleaning must get approval from the ACP Program. CACs must forward these requests to Victoria Hornbaker, so the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) can review and approve the different mitigation methods that may be used. A call has been scheduled with CACs to discuss these issues and going forward. Nuffer, Smith and Tucker (NST) are also planning on posting this information to the Citrus Insider for the industry. It was asked if the word “machine” is defined, and Keith answered that it is not. Victoria mentioned that specifically for field cleaning, they are looking for brushing to remove stems, leaves and ACP.

#### **Evergreen Direct Spray Update**

Lori Apodaca updated that California Citrus Mutual (CCM) worked on a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for a post-harvest direct spray with the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR). A meeting was then set up with CDFA and the CACs. The SOP was sent out in an advisory to the CAC’s. Lori also mentioned that CCM is considering holding a town hall type of meeting to roll out the SOP to growers. She also stated that she hopes the Section 18 for lemons and grapefruit will be approved shortly. Currently it is with the United States Environmental Protection Agency for their review, and there have been no major setbacks. The protocol created by Dr. Spencer Walse has not changed. Victoria further elaborated that once a group decides to build a structure to do the post-harvest high pressure spray, they will have to work with their local CAC to get the structure approved. There is an inspection checklist for the Pesticide Use Enforcement staff from the county to inspect the treatment facility to ensure the protocols are being followed. An online list of approved facilities will also be generated. It was also mentioned that Dr. Spencer Walse has also been working with specialized equipment which reduces water volume.

#### **Ethyl Formate Update**

Dr. Etienne Rabe briefly updated that the timeline has remain unchanged.

### **Review Revised Qualitative Risk Model**

Sara Garcia Figuera provided an update on the model. Following the regulatory task force meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup>, a panel of stakeholders were selected to help with the development of the

model. The panel reconvened on October 12<sup>th</sup> and rated the different risk factors of the model, ran through the different ratings that were chosen, and agreed on the chosen risk models. Interviews were also done regarding the utility tables in the DEXi program. During this meeting, the results of the utility tables will be shown, and a consensus will be made. This will help determine the final risk matrix. The Risk Evaluation Tree was shown, and Sara highlighted that “Potential for Control” and “Organic/abandoned/mismanaged citrus in the zone of origin” was added. “Biocontrol” was also removed from the tree. Based on the majority criteria, it was determined that Zone 4 had the highest level of organic, abandoned, or mismanaged citrus. Zone 6 was also a high level. Zones 2 and 3 were medium, and Zone 1 was negligible. Zone 5 and 7 were more scattered. Next, Sara discussed the utility tables, which is what the software program DEXi uses to combine the scores based on the risk model tree. For the likelihood of entry, it was shown how each person rated this risk based on different combinations of Huanglongbing (HLB) presence, and likelihood of entry. Scenarios that did not have a majority agreement were decided. This included different scenarios for the likelihood of establishment with host availability/climatic suitability, establishment in residential or commercial areas, likelihood of introduction, environmental spread potential, impact based on damage and spread potential, and the likelihood of introduction and impact. The global weights for each person that participated were also shown, and what each person determined risky in each scenario. The next steps are to input the consensus ratings for the risk factors into the consensus version of the model to determine an estimation of risk after another interview with the panel members.

#### **Discuss Revised ACP Regional Quarantine Removal Criteria**

This topic was tabled as the protocol is still being developed.

#### **Strategy 3-Suppress Asian Citrus Psyllid Population**

##### Area-wide Buffer Treatment Efficacy and Duration Update

Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell reported that she has continued to look at psyllids in the fall. If treated in January or December, the psyllids disappear in the residential areas through July. In August, the population picks up again. She once again suggested that instead of timing treatments in different timeframes in different areas, it would be more efficient and effective to do buffer treatments where allowed during December-January in residential areas. Fall treatments should commence in the August-September period. She also recommended to treat with Merit and Tempo in the fall and treat with just Tempo in January. Tina Galindo commented that more staff will be needed to complete these coordinated treatments within the two-month window. Dr. Etienne Rabe recommended that Ray Leclerc and Dr. Grafton-Cardwell discuss the logistics of the treatment windows.

This meeting was adjourned at 3:23 pm. The next Joint Science and Technology and Regulatory Task Force meeting will be held on December 6, 2018.