

**CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE (CPDPC)
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE WEBINAR MEETING**

**Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 7, 2022**

Operations Subcommittee Members Present:

Kevin Ball*	John C. Gless*	Roger Smith*
Franco Bernardi	Jim Gorden	Keith Watkins
Brad Carmen*		

Operations Subcommittee Member Absent:

Jared Plumlee

California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Staff:

Kelley Aubushon*	Anmol Joshi*	Colleen Murphy-Vierra*
Karina Chu*	Marina Kaiser*	Keith Okasaki*
Kiana Dao*	Sara Khalid*	David Paynter*
Samuel Ferris*	Betty Lee*	David Phong*
Paul Figueroa*	Zachary McCormack*	Briana Russell*
Jorge Garcia*	Jeremy Morales	Michael Soltero*
Victoria Hornbaker*	David Morgan*	Claudia Vazquez*
Laura Irons*	Alex Muniz*	Jennifer Willems
Mathew Jian*		

Guests:

Ruben Arroyo*	Melinda Klein*	Sylvie Robillard*
Teri Blaser*	Jessica Leslie*	Cressida Silvers*
Daniel Delgado*	Weiqi Luo*	Leigh Sittler*
Rick Dunn	Marcy Martin*	Karen Westerman*
Lisa Finke*	Neil McRoberts*	Qijun Xiang*
Ariana Gehrig*	Sandra Olkowski*	Judy Zaninovich*
Subhas Hajeri	Curtis Pate*	Sandra Zwaal*

*Participated via webinar

Opening

The Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee Operations Subcommittee meeting was called to order via webinar at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, December 7, 2022. John C. Gless welcomed Subcommittee members, guests, and staff. There were no public comments.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 – FIND AND ERADICATE HUANGLONGBING

HLB Detection, Delimitation and Tree Removal

Anmol Joshi reported that the first huanglongbing (HLB) positive trees were detected in Chino, Bellflower, and Monterey Park, and the first *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLAs) positive Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) sample was confirmed in Costa Mesa. There were no HLB quarantine boundary expansions. HLB delimitation surveys are ongoing in Whitter, Pico Rivera, Paramount, La Mirada, Corona, Chino, Westminster, City of Orange, Santa Ana, and Anaheim. 2,613 quadrant samples were collected in October and November. There were 205 HLB positive trees detected and 166 HLB positive trees removed in October and November.

Laboratory Update

Lucita Kumagai reported the laboratory tested 10,217 plant samples and 6,146 ACP samples in October and November. Year-to-date, the laboratory received a total of 98,396 plant and ACP samples. To date, there have been 2,804 sites with positive HLB and/or CLas detections, 4,053 HLB positive tree detections, and 522 confirmed CLas positive ACP samples.

HLB Risk Survey

David Phong reported that HLB risk survey cycle 1 2022 is 62 percent complete. Survey was completed in 21 of the 42 allocated counties. He reported that 24,363 properties have been surveyed, with 4,812 entomology samples and 5,194 plant samples collected.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 – CONTROL ACP MOVEMENT AND ENFORCE REGULATIONS

Regulatory Activity Update

Keith Okasaki reported that the 2022-2023 county agreement period started in October. He asked counties to include in each monthly activity report the number of regulatory incidents, which includes issuing notices of violations, issuing notices of proposed actions, investigating growers who did not submit declarations, investigating ACP detections at packing houses, and tracking down illegal shipments of citrus. Staff continue working with counties to verify HLB fruit seller exhibits and completion of farm labor contractor exhibits.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 – ACP CONTROL/SUPPRESSION

Trapping, Treatment, and Staffing Updates

Southern District

Anmol Joshi reported HLB delimitation treatments were completed in Corona, Chino, Jurupa Valley, Duarte, Whittier, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Irvine, Orange, Fountain Valley, Anaheim, and Santa Ana during the October and November reporting period. Five public meetings were conducted in October and November for Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. A public meeting for HLB delimitation treatment in Orange County is scheduled on December 22, 2022. A public meeting for Treatment Around Commercial Citrus Groves (TACCG) will be scheduled later this month, and the TACCG will take place between January and March 2023. Southern District has 26 vacant positions, five of which are permanent positions.

Central District

Claudia Vazquez reported 101 ACP detections from September to November, 80 of which were from Kern County. Treatment is ongoing for the ACP detections. There was a total of 111,200 *Tamarixia radiata* released from September to November, with 8,100 released in Fresno County, 45,600 released in Kern County, 3,200 released in Madera County, 30,300 released in Santa Barbara County, 14,400 released in San Luis Obispo County, and 9,600 released in Tulare County. 56,000 *Tamarixia radiata* were released in November due to an increase in the number of ACP detections. Central District has 12 vacant permanent positions.

Northern District

Zachary McCormack reported that winter ACP detection trapping started in 20 counties, and year-round detection trapping is ongoing in three counties. Delimitation trapping is ongoing in Santa Clara County, and delimitation trapping is scheduled to end in Alameda County this month. Since July 2020, there have been 170,000 *Tamarixia radiata* released. Treatment is ongoing in San Jose, with a public meeting scheduled on December 8 and treatment tentatively scheduled for the week of December 13. HLB risk survey cycle 1 2022 was completed in 12 of the 24 counties. Northern District has one vacant limited-term position, and three vacant permanent positions.

Santa Clara Detections

Laura Irons reported that there have been 32 new ACP detections in Santa Clara County since the last meeting, bringing the total ACP detections to 258 since June 2020. There are currently 30 square-miles under delimitation trapping. Since 2020, there were a total of 3,508 treatment properties. 49.5% of those properties have been treated, 40.9% have no citrus hosts, 4.5% were refusal properties, and for 4.0% of the properties CDFA was unable to make contact with residents.

Regional/GL ACP Updates

Teri Blaser reported that there were no ACP detections in Fresno County and one ACP detection in the city of Madera. Coordinated treatment in northern Tulare County was completed. Cressida Silvers reported that winter 2023 ACP grower areawide treatments are scheduled to begin in January in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. *Tamarixia radiata* were released around the Arroyo Grande detection areas in September and November. Jessica Leslie reported growers with citrus groves within 800 meters of the ACP detections in southern Tulare County have completed treatment. Judy Zaninovich reported that there were many ACP detections in Kern County, and that 20% of the detections were in commercial citrus groves. All the growers have complied with treatment requests and have completed treatment. Curtis Pate reported an increase in ACP detections in Imperial County. Fall 2022 ACP grower areawide treatment was completed in Imperial County, and winter 2023 ACP grower areawide treatment is scheduled to start on January 15. Winter 2023 ACP grower areawide treatment in San Bernardino County is scheduled for November 16 to December 31. Winter 2023 ACP grower areawide treatment in San Diego County is scheduled for January 3 to January 17. Winter 2023 ACP grower areawide treatment in Riverside County is scheduled for November 15 to January 17.

Biocontrol Updates

Dr. David Morgan reported 385,000 *Tamarixia radiata* were released in November throughout California. There have been over 3 million biocontrol agents released year-to-date, and over 27 million biocontrol agents released since the program began.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 – IMPROVE DATA TECHNOLOGY, ANALYSIS, AND SHARING

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reported that staff continue to assist with the statewide citrus layer maintenance; updating the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources interactive web map with ACP, biocontrol, CLas positive ACP detections, and HLB positive detection data; supporting Psyllid Management Area group activities and regional ACP/HLB Task Force groups; conducting routine data scrubbing, quality control, and map production; search for new Data Analysis and Tactical Operation Center program manager; and supporting the commercial grove trapping/sampling program. Rick presented updates to the Riverside County and San Bernardino County citrus layers.

Risk-Based Survey and Model Refinement

Dr. Weiqi Luo presented on refining the risk-based survey model. He explained the refined risk-based survey model incorporates residential survey data, aerial/spectrum image analysis, and a supervised machine learning process. When comparing the residential survey data to the refined model, the model was able to accurately predict the number of residential properties with citrus within various counties in southern California.

OTHER ITEMS

HLB Multi Agency Coordination (MAC) ACP Research

Dr. Neil McRoberts presented on the HLB MAC ACP research on the risk of CLas positive ACP population in commercial groves of southern California. For this research project, adult ACP and ACP nymphs were collected from five locations in Ventura County, five locations in

Riverside/San Bernardino counties, and five locations in San Diego County. Four separate transects were collected at each location. To date, 9,801 adult ACP samples have been collected. Of the adult ACP samples that have been tested via research methods so far, 3.5% of them have tested presumptive positive for CLAs. There is no variation of positive detections across the regions. The samples were tested using a modified CLAs DNA extraction protocol developed by Dr. Judith Brown of the University of Arizona. Dr. McRoberts and Dr. Brown had a meeting with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to discuss the modified extraction protocol. USDA will comment on the protocol in the future. Dr. McRoberts discussed that, while there is a concern of CLAs positive ACP population in commercial groves in southern California, the positivity level is still relatively low. The field sampling phase is set to conclude at the end of this year to early next year. The results of CLAs positive nymph samples are expected to be available early next year.

Dedicated Regulatory Team Discussion

Victoria Hornbaker discussed the need for a dedicated regulatory team. She proposed setting up funding for five permanent staff positions dedicated to regulatory work. The Subcommittee determined that, at this time, the Citrus Division would not pursue additional funding for a dedicated regulatory team and instead reallocate current staff time to conducting regulatory work.

Citrus Dashboard

Colleen Murphy-Vierra went over the log-in process and the user interface for the Citrus Dashboard. On the Citrus Dashboard, users can find relevant information on many topics discussed in today's meeting, such as HLB delimitation treatment data and number of HLB-positive sites. The group discussed having one general log-in account and password for all the CPDPC members.

Adjournment

The next meeting will be on March 8, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.