

## California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Risk-Based Survey Working Group Meeting

### Meeting Minutes August 2, 2023

#### Attendees

Karina Chu	Dr. Subhas Hajeri	Keith Okasaki
Dr. Rob Clark	Dr. Jonathan Kaplan	David Phong
Kiana Dao	Dr. Daniel Lee	Rathkiry Siv
John C. Gless	Dr. Weiqi Luo	Dr. Ram Uckoo
Jim Gorden	Dr. Joey Mayorquin	

All attendees participated via webinar.

#### **Call to Order, Roll Call, Introductions**

The Risk-Based Survey Working Group Meeting was called to order by Dr. Ram Uckoo at 1:31 p.m. Keith Okasaki welcomed the Risk-Based Survey (RBS) Working Group members and members of the public participating online.

#### **Review Science Advisory Panel Recommendation**

Keith Okasaki restated the Science Advisory Panel's (SAP) recommendation to decouple the risk-based survey (RBS), focusing survey on the agricultural and urban interface near commercial citrus in southern California, while continuing residential RBS in northern and central California. Delimitation survey is still required in the core area around HLB detections, which is separate from RBS. The RBS model weightings previously recommended by the Working Group placed a strong emphasis on surveying in Section-Township-Ranges (STR's) near *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* (CLAs) and Asian citrus psyllid (ACP) detections, which results in surveying the delimitation and core areas in southern California.

The main items to be discussed in this meeting are the distance from commercial citrus survey and the size of groves to survey around. Identifying target areas to survey in southern California and adjusting weight factors of ACP detections and CLAs detections to near zero will help direct staff to survey in high-risk areas around commercial citrus. In central and northern California, residential RBS will still be conducted with a strong emphasis on ACP detections, breeding populations, and points of introduction rather than counties that have never had an ACP detection.

#### **Discuss Southern California Survey**

David Phong said the program can survey about 1,000 grids statewide each year, or 1,000 square miles. In southern California, the program can survey about 350 grids per year based on a 50/50 split of resources between RBS and delimitation survey. Resources can be re-allocated as treatment, tree removal, and other activities must be completed. Mr. Phong presented a table showing the number of grids that fall within various distances around various sized commercial citrus groves. The recommendation

from the RBS working group is to keep the 50/50 split of resources and survey within one mile of groves larger than five acres.

Mr. Phong moved on to discussing “leading edge” residential survey, which includes the part of the remaining 50 percent of southern California staff. Currently, RBS is not conducted in the delimitation area. The goal is to reduce the number of grids surveyed within the HLB quarantine and best utilize resources. Of the 50 percent of resources dedicated to “leading edge” survey, the Working Group proposed to allocate half to surveying within the HLB quarantine area but outside of the delimitation area, and the other half to grids outside of the current quarantine area.

### **Discuss Northern/Central California Survey**

Mr. Phong presented a map with a red boundary around the geographic extent of northern and central California. All agreed that no RBS should be done in Zone 1 counties. Keith Okasaki said the survey should emphasize places of risk and focus on STR’s around nymph and adult psyllid detections, as well as points of introduction such as flea markets and swap meets. Further, the weighting for CLAs should be reduced to zero because it has not been detected. As RBS includes multi-pest survey, counties without ACP detections will not be completely eliminated. Mr. Gorden suggested reducing RBS in northern and central California by 75 percent.

The Working Group agreed the survey should focus on areas where ACP is endemic, which is measured by repeated nymphal finds. The CLAs+ weight factor should be reduced to zero. Other factors included and considered will be packinghouses, transportation corridors, and markets. A visual model to see risk and STR’s will be created.

### **Other Items and Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:36 p.m.