

**Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC)
Science and Technology Subcommittee Meeting**

**Meeting Minutes
May 12, 2025**

There was a quorum of the Science Subcommittee, and the following were in attendance:

Science Subcommittee Members Present:

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| Brad Carmen | Dr. Melinda Klein | Jeff Steen |
| Aaron Dillon | Dr. Ivan Milosavljevic | Dr. Ram Uckoo |
| Dr. Subhas Hajeri | Dr. Etienne Rabe | |

CDFA Staff:

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| Joseph Damiano | Dahmoon Maeesomy | Michael Soltero |
| Kiana Dao | Alex Muniz | Nilan Watmore |
| Paul Figueroa | Keith Okasaki | Raymond Niem |
| Anmol Joshi | David Phong | |

Other Attendees:

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| Dr. Rob Clark | Dr. Neil McRoberts | Margaret O'Neill |
| Dr. Jonathan Kaplan | Mia Neunzig | Sandra Zwaal |

All attendees participated via webinar

Opening Comments

Chair, Dr. Etienne Rabe called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Pest Control District (PCD) Working Group Update

Keith Okasaki gave an update on discussions from the PCD Working group and individual meetings with PCDs. The goal of the Pest Control Working Group is to identify activities that the PCDs can perform, with an emphasis on commercial citrus and increasing grower involvement. The PCD Working Group is determining the scopes and budgets for these potential activities and will bring a recommendation to the Science Subcommittee and the Full Committee.

Hotspot Criteria Working Group Update

David Phong gave an update on the Hotspot Criteria Working Group, which last convened on May 2nd. The group consists of Dr. Ram Uckoo, Dr. Rob Clark, Dr. McRoberts, Dr. Sandra Olkowski, Dr. Weiqi Luo, and Dr. Matt Daugherty. The Hotspot Working Group is preparing a draft report on its analysis regarding the definition of the Huanglongbing (HLB) Core Area and the agriculture/urban interface area. The group should have the report ready for the Science Subcommittee to review by the end of June.

Regional Asian Citrus Psyllid (ACP) / Huanglongbing (HLB) Activity Working Group Update

Dr. Etienne Rabe led the Subcommittee to review the recommendations of the Regional ACP/HLB Activity Working Group. Charts and tables with the activity recommendations from the eight-member Working Group were shown for the following regions: Northern California, San Joaquin Valley, Central Coast, Southern Coast, San Bernardino and West Riverside, Los Angeles and Orange, Desert, and San Diego. In each region, the Working Group provided inputs for the following activities: HLB and *Candidatus* Liberibacter asiaticus positive (CLas+) ACP Detection Response, Commercial/Residential ACP Detection Response, Commercial/Residential Biocontrol, Commodity Survey, Commercial Grove/Residential ACP Trapping, and Residential Multi-Pest Survey.

Some Science Subcommittee members expressed hesitation regarding forwarding the Working Group recommendations to the Full Committee, given the divergence in opinions among the members of the Working Group. Dr. McRoberts assured the Science Subcommittee that even though, in the end, there were still disagreements among the Working Group members on some issues, all accepted the final group recommendations. Discussion ended with Dr. Rabe proposing to work with members offline to determine the best way to move the Working Group recommendations forward.

Other Items and Adjournment

Dr. Rabe relayed an update from Jim Cranney regarding the registration of Ethyl Formate. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) should approve registration within the next two weeks. The California Department of Pesticide Regulation has not given a timeline of registration for Ethyl Formate, but will likely move to approve registration once the EPA has registered the chemical.

Chair, Dr. Etienne Rabe adjourned the meeting at 4:10 pm.