CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes Wednesday, April 24, 2019

The Science and Technology Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm on April 24, 2019.

Science Subcommittee Members Present:

Dr. Ed Civerolo* Dr. Melinda Klein* Kevin Olsen* Aaron Dillon* Dr. Jason Leathers* Dr. Etienne Rabe*

Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell*

Science Subcommittee Members Absent:

None.

Interested Parties:

Price Adams*	Victoria Hornbaker	Mamoudou Setamou*
Bob Atkins*	Sara Khalid	Cressida Silvers*
Holly Deniston-Sheets*	Lea Pereira*	Judy Zaninovich*
Rick Dunn*	Sylvie Robillard*	Sandra Zwaal*
Zac Greene*		

^{*} 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. There were no changes to the previous science meeting minutes.

Strategy 2-Control Movement of Psyllids around the State; Regulations

Ethyl Formate: Update on Registration Process

Dr. Etienne Rabe mentioned that there will be a meeting between Jim Cranney, Spencer Walse, the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) and the registrant on May 14 to discuss the possibility of a Section 18 for Ethyl Formate. If a Section 18 is not possible, the registration process for a Section 3 is still on track to be completed by fall of 2020.

Evergreen: Application Advances

Etienne commented that he is unaware of any additional work on better application methodology for Evergreen. A Multiagency Coordination (MAC) proposal to build these structures was unable to come to fruition due to a lack of industry partners able to participate.

Strategy 3-Suppress Asian Citrus Psyllid Population

Science Advisory Panel Discussion Regarding Tree Removal

Etienne pointed out that a lot of money is being spent on tree removal in Southern California and discovering trees infected with Huanglongbing (HLB) is largely based on luck, scouting methods and Dr. Gottwald's risk model. Etienne suggested a change to the approach of HLB management in Southern California that would be more science based and predictable. Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell mentioned that different regions in California are managed and treated differently based on the ability to control Asian citrus psyllids (ACP). Bob Atkins suggested continuing with the same protocol until there is a feasible alternative. Victoria Hornbaker recommended the Data Analysis and Tactical Operations Cell (DATOC) create a scientific analysis of the issue that can be sent to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) legal department to make sure that any recommended changes will not interfere with CDFA's ability to conduct emergency actions. An operational component could be developed after the CDFA legal office reviews the scientific analysis. Holly Deniston-Sheets commented that DATOC has looked at predictions of the consequences of changing the protocol in Southern California. Two ways to look at this would be the Cambridge model and the Agent-Based model from Florida. A comprehensive summary of CDFA activities in Southern California was developed. Once the summary is approved by CDFA, DATOC will define and run through different scenarios to determine how the different scenarios will impact disease spread. Dr. Melinda Klein asked if any geographic review was done on how close infections are in different areas based on densities. Holly mentioned that Tania Aguedas looked at areas that had ten or more positive trees, and it was found that Whittier had 90 percent total infections found within 180 meters. Garden Grove had 95 percent of infections within 180 meters.

Other Discussion Items

Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell commented that there is a separate committee working on developing a voluntary grower response for when there is HLB near or in a commercial orchard. A document has been created and reviewed, and it will be presented at the May 8 Full Committee meeting for approval. Once approved, it can be rolled out to the industry.

Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm. The next Science and Technology meeting will be held on June 12, 2019.