

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
OPERATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 07, 2013

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on November 07, 2013 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Dan Dreyer	Link Leavens*	Etienne Rabe
Jim Gorden	Kevin Olsen	

Committee Members Absent:

Joe Barcinas	Mark McBroom	Kevin Severns
Dan Galbraith	Earl Rutz	

CDFA Staff:

Steven Brown*	Craig Hanes	Mike Pitcairn*
Jason Chan*	Victoria Hornbaker	Debby Tanouye
Tina Galindo	Lucita Kumagai*	Scosha Wright
Art Gilbert	Susan McCarthy*	Bob Wynn*

CRB Staff:

Yonas B	Louise Fisher	Brett Eikleberg
Rick Dunn	Ken Keck	Cynthia LeVesque

Guests:

Bryce Belgium*	Sylvie Robillard	Helene Wright
Ha Dang*	Paul Story	Judy Zaninovich*
Siaqa Javed*	Brian Taylor*	
Leslie Leavens*	Bob Wagner*	

*** Participated via telephone**

Opening Comments:

Chairman, Jim Gorden, welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online.

Public Comment:

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes:

Chairman Gorden reviewed the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting which took place on August 28, 2013 in Visalia, California.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting which was held on August 28, 2013 as presented.

First: Dan Dreyer

Second: Kevin Olsen

Motion Passes: All in favor

Review of Financial Reports

a. Budget Report 2012/2013

Jason Chan reviewed the previous fiscal year budget report with the Committee. He explained that the previous year has not closed due to a lag time of about 30 days and due to late invoices. He added an estimated year to go column for revenue which increased the estimated fund balance.

b. Budget Report 2013/2014

Jason reviewed the current year budgets, pointing out that no expenditures were showing because the CDFA accounting system has not closed for the month of October. Victoria and Jason also presented a revised CHRP budget that would put the spending in line with the anticipated contract amount of \$9.6 million. The original budget that CDFA had prepared based on program needs was \$11.5 million. They presented a summary of where the reduction would be made to reach the \$9.6 million target and what the impacts of the reductions would be.

The Subcommittee recommended only presenting financial reports that are tied to operational decisions.

Regional ACP Management Program Update

Craig Hanes reported that nine qualified individuals applied for the Statewide Coordinator position and the Executive Committee is in the process of reviewing the applications. They will provide CASS a list of top candidates and interviews will tentatively be set for the week of November 18th. The San Bernardino grower liaison position has been filled, Gayle Covey has been approved by the executive Committee and she is in the process of signing a contract with CASS. There is one qualified candidate for the Santa Barbara grower liaison position; the Executive Committee is reviewing her resume. There have been several candidates for the Tulare II position, but the amended contract has not been received so the position is temporarily on hold. The Ventura grower liaison position has been posted on the CASS website.

Biocontrol Update

Chairman Gorden stated that there has been a lot of progress in the last few months on the biocontrol program.

Mike Pitcairin reported that the construction at the Arvin and Rubidoux facilities has been completed. The contract for the construction of greenhouse space at Cal Poly Pomona has been signed and Cal Poly has allowed the Program to use temporary greenhouse space until the new greenhouses are constructed. Currently the Arvin facility is being used for growing the required plant, 15,000 plants are being prepared for use in rearing. The temporary space at Cal Poly is also being used for plant rearing as well. The Rubidoux facility is being used for mass rearing. The production of Tamarixia has increased to approximately 200,000 this year will continue to increase as more rearing cages are being prepared at Rubidoux. Limited releases are ongoing in areas of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Diego, Orange, San Bernardino and Imperial Counties. The issue of homeowners in areas where biocontrol agents are released was also discussed; the UC Extension will be preparing a handout on the importance of ant control in protecting citrus.

Detection and Treatment Updates

Southern California

Tina Galindo reported that ACP were detected in Santa Paula, Piru and Moorpark in Ventura County. Treatment is complete in Santa Paula and pending in Piru. It was noted that there are only 3 residential properties in the Piru find area. The Moorpark Find was in a Jackson fruit fly trap and was not within 1.5 miles of commercial citrus, so CDFG will not be treating in the area. The area was looked at for possible biocontrol release, but due to limited ACP population, it was determined that the area is not suitable for biocontrol release.

There were two detections near the border, one in Calexico, Imperial County and one in San Ysidro in San Diego County, both areas are currently being treated.

The first area-wide treatment will be held in the Redlands area of San Bernardino. The public meeting was held on November 4th and treatment will begin soon.

Central Valley

Art Gilbert stated that there were no new finds in the Central Valley. There are 3941 delimitation traps in Tulare and 275 in Wasco. There were 899 residential properties treated in the Central Valley with one pending refusal property in the Terra Bella area. Visual survey was conducted in approximately 5000 acres of citrus, all visual surveys yielded negative results. There are currently 4724 grove traps in the Central Valley

Trapping Program Report

Art reported that in the San Bernardino/Riverside/Orange Counties 290 trap sites were removed and 539 survey sites were added for ACP sampling.

High Risk HLB Survey

Debby Tanouye said that there was not very much activity conducted on the survey during the federal shutdown, but activities have resumed. They are currently working in Orange County.

Brian Taylor from the CRB updated the Subcommittee on the Hacienda Heights activities and the tree removal. There are additional trees in the area that the CRB would like to survey for

additional trees. The CRB is proposing to set up transects at various intervals around the original HLB find to survey for ACP and to sample citrus using various methods for HLB.

Motion: Recommend to the full CPDPC to fund \$5,000 for additional HLB survey work in the Hacienda Heights HLB quarantine area.

First: Etienne Rabe

Second: Dan Dreyer

Motion Passes: All in favor

Regulatory Updates

Central Valley

CDFA regulatory staff has been working to get all nurseries, packing houses, growers, haulers and harvesters under compliance in the Central Valley. Retail and production nurseries have been visited; citrus nursery stock has been inventoried and placed on hold. All 13 retail nurseries in the quarantine areas were visited and 1,126 citrus plants were placed on hold. Of these plants, 924 were grandfathered by tagging and released for sale exclusively inside the quarantine area and 202 remain on hold. All 7 production nurseries inside the quarantine area were also inspected and a total of 770,485 plants were placed on hold. Total of 200,830 citrus budwood sticks were allowed to move out of the quarantine area under a special permit with CDFA issued CQCs.

As of October 30, 2013, 55 packing sheds, 2 juice plants, 377 growers with 24,040.62 acres of citrus, 117 hauler/transporters and 66 harvesters have signed compliance agreements with the project. To move bulk citrus out of the quarantine area, the growers can either spray an U.C. recommended insecticide or clean the fruit of all leaves and stems. There have been 86 insecticidal treatments for ACP and 13 field cleaning operations.

Southern California

All CASS field staff were furloughed on August 31, 2013 and since then retail nurseries are not inspected. Treatments at production nurseries and nurseries within 3 miles of commercial citrus production continue to be monitored for treatments by CDFA staff.

Laboratory Activities

Riverside Laboratory Activities – Cynthia LeVesque went over samples received and processed and indicated they've received and processed 14,399 subsamples since March and all subsamples have been negative for Las, Lam and Laf. The Subcommittee was also updated on the Hacienda Heights trees testing, which is ongoing, 174 of the 600 samples have been tested and have come back as negative.

Sacramento Laboratory Activities – Luci Kumagai reported that the CDFA lab has analyzed 12,288 plant samples and 8,055 ACP samples, all plant and insect samples have been negative for Las. October was a very slow month for the lab, due to the Federal shutdown. There were two interceptions of HLB positive plant tissue, one containing citrus leaves was detected at the Yolo County mail facility by the detector dog and one containing tangerine fruit was intercepted at the Blythe border station by an inspector.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn stated that CRB staff continues making progress on updating and verifying the statewide citrus layer, Fresno County is done and Madera is in progress.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m. The next meeting will be held on December 11, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.