

**CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on May 13, 2014 in San Bernardino, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Craig Armstrong	Gus Gunderson	George McEwen
Richard Bennett	Nick Hill	James McFarlane
Franco Bernardi	Link Leavens	Brian Specht
Bob Felts, Jr.	Scott Mabs	
John Gless	Mark McBroom	

CPDPC Members Absent:

Jim Gorden	Etienne Rabe
Kevin Olsen	Kevin Severns

CDFA Staff:

Stephen Brown*	Adrian Gonzales	Mike Pitcairn*
Jason Chan*	Victoria Hornbaker	Debby Tanouye
Sean Farnum*	Jason Leathers*	Scosha Wright*
Tina Galindo	Magally Luque-Williams*	
Art Gilbert	Colleen Murphy	

Guests:

Bob Atkins	Subhas Hajeri*	Cressida Silvers
Jill Barnier*	Linda Haque	Greg Simmons*
Marjie Bartels	Bob Hull	Jeffrey Steen*
Brett Chandler*	Shirley Kirkpatrick*	Brian Taylor*
Vic Corkins	Leslie Leavens	Dan Willey*
Aaron Dillon*	Cynthia LeVesque*	Jack Williams*
Dan Dreyer	Pat Nolan	Judy Zaninovich
Richard Dunn*	Sylvie Robillard	Bob Zuckerman*
Dusty Ference	Jim Rudig	Sandra Zwaal
John C. Gless	Loveleen Sandhu*	

*** Participated via Webinar**

Opening Comments:

Chairman, Nick Hill, welcomed the Committee, staff, and members of the public participating in person and online and stated there is a quorum for the meeting.

Public Comment:

Victoria introduced the new interim CRB president, Jim Rudig to the Committee.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS & UPDATES

Nick Hill reviewed the minutes from the Committee meeting that took place on March 11, 2015. There were no corrections.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the March 11, 2015 Committee meeting as presented.

First: Mark McBroom

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. 2014/2015 Budget and Assessments

James reviewed the 2014/2015 budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. To date \$6,488,046 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$8,027,954. The assessment budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is \$16,572,678. Through March 2015 there has been \$5,891,951 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$10,680,727. There has been \$1,617,395 spent for urban treatment and \$1,511,307 has been spent for central valley treatment and surveying year to date. These two have been the highest expenditures to date. It was asked if any additional funds were going to be spent in Santa Clara County since \$671, 020 have been spent so far which is almost half of what has been expended in the Central Valley. The finds in Santa Clara have been addressed with the new northern California response protocol which involves more trapping, less treatment and less surveying. The new protocol will save funding in the long run. The projected CHRP budget amount is \$9,624,859. So far, \$2,376,981 has been spent, with a balance remaining of \$7,247,878. The CHRP budget will be receiving a one-time augmentation of approximately \$1.1 million. There were some suggestions at the last Finance Subcommittee meeting that was held on May 5, 2015 on what the augmentation should be used for. One of the suggestions made at the subcommittee meeting was to fund Dr. Bartels ACP cluster analysis. Debby announced that CDFA staff has met with Dr. Bartels and reviewed his data. Dr. Gottwald’s survey is different from Dr. Bartels which makes it more difficult to combine the two. Magally is currently developing a survey to try and consolidate the two without a lot of overlay. Victoria discussed other options that the funds could be used for.

Motion: To move \$800,000 in appropriate expenditures from the assessment budget to the CHRP budget.

First: Richard Bennett

Second: John Gless

Motion Passes: All in favor

The TASC grant has a total budget of \$475,000 with a remaining balance of \$430,313. The Citrus Commodity budget has no balance remaining to be spent. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant has not been touched since the last meeting and has the same balance of \$84,194.

b. Variance Analysis Review

James reported that the variance analysis for fiscal year 2014/2015 is structured differently than the previous reports because there was a section added that compares the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year. The ending variance for the assessment budget was -18.45 percent. There have been 35.55 percent of projected expenditures spent for fiscal year 2014/2015 so far. CDFA staff has been better with projecting lag times and reporting expenditures.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Review Committee By-Laws and Term Limits

Victoria announced a few members' term limits that will expire in September of 2015. Nick Hill also mentioned that the Executive Committee members' term limits are up in July 2015 and this would be an opportunity for any other CPDPC member to become a part of the Executive Committee if interested. It was suggested to have a larger Executive Committee with 5 members instead of 3. This will be revisited at the CPDPC meeting being held July 15, 2015.

b. Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins, Statewide Grower Liaison Coordinator gave several updates. A huge issue for the grower liaisons and CDFA is the long lag in receiving the monthly pesticide use reports. If a high percent (percent to be determined) of the treatment from the prior season is completed, CDFA will match the treatment however the lag in reporting is making it difficult for CDFA to complete treatments in a timely manner. The California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA) spring conference is held the week of May 18, 2015 and there will be some discussion there with the county agricultural commissioners to see what they are doing to promote the reporting electronically. Imperial, San Diego and Riverside counties have continued to make good progress with area-wide management. Ventura is lagging on reporting so Sandra Zwaal is unsure on how well treatments are doing there. The transition to area-wide management should help. A task force was formed in San Bernardino County and is working with the Farm Bureau. There was been a lot more participation regarding neglected and abandoned orchards however, the drought will likely cause more abandoned groves. The pest control districts in Coachella and Imperial are functioning well.

c. Proposal for Area-wide Treatment Buffer for Imperial County

Mark McBroom stated that the residential buffer treatments around commercial groves is currently 400 meters, but he feels that 800 meter residential buffer treatment zones would be more effective in reducing ACP populations. There is not a substantial amount of properties around commercial groves therefore the cost of increasing the treatment areas will not significantly affect the budget.

Motion: To increase the Psyllid Management Area (PMA) residential buffer treatment from 400 meters to 800 meters around commercial groves in Imperial County.

First: Gus Gunderson
Second: Link Leavens
Motion Passes: All in favor

There was discussion about the treating a buffer around State Historical Park in Riverside County. CDFA staff suggested treating the park as its own unit and perhaps releasing some biocontrol agents there.

d. Ventura County Grower Liaison Needs

Gus Gunderson reported that there are now two area-wide treatment zones in Ventura County and the current Ventura County grower liaison needs assistance organizing the new area-wide treatment zones and ensuring treatments are being done. There was further discussion about the workload and a decision was made that the workload warrants an additional position.

Motion: To add an additional grower liaison in Ventura County for 2 years spending a maximum of \$100,000.
First: Mark McBroom
Second: Link Leavens
Motion Passes: All in favor

e. Statewide Quarantine Working Group Report

Victoria reported that the second meeting of the Statewide Quarantine Working Group (SQWG) was held on April 27, 2015. The group met with scientists from California, Florida and Texas to get their perspectives on ACP and HLB. There were presentations given by Dr. Bartels, Dr. Gottwald, Dr. Susan Halbert and Dr. Beth Grafton-Cardwell. There was a lot of good input and discussion at the meeting. A doodle poll has been sent out to the working group for an additional meeting. What discussions come from that meeting will be sent to the Science Advisory Panel for recommendations for a path forward.

f. Area-wide Residential Buffer Treatment Protocol

Victoria went over some issues that have occurred with the buffer treatment protocol. Collecting the pesticide use reports has been the biggest issue. The Executive Subcommittee recommended conducting the initial 400 meter residential buffer treatment around all citrus that is identified actively participating in a PMA. The treatment would be completed within 2 to 3 weeks. CDFA will verify treatments have been completed and if 75 percent of the PMA acreage has been treated, CDFA will partner with the following treatment. This treatment protocol has already been completed in Imperial County and staff is currently working in Ventura County and Coachella Valley.

Motion: To approve the southern California PMA protocol.
First: Mark McBroom
Second: John Gless
Motion Passes: All in favor

g. Renew MOU between CCTEA and CPDPC

Victoria presented the MOU between CPDPC and the Central California Tristeza Eradication Agency (CCTEA) to the Committee and asked if they would like to maintain the working arrangement CPDPC has with CCTEA.

Motion: To approve the renewal of the MOU between CCTEA and CPDPC.

First: George McEwen

Second: Link Leavens

Motion Passes: All in favor

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. HLB Survey Updates

Magally Luque-Williams gave several updates. Cycle 0 in Tulare and Fresno are both 100 percent complete. Cycle 1 for Ventura, Imperial, Santa Barbara and Tulare is also 100 percent complete. All other counties are in progress for cycle one. CDFA staff are currently surveying to have cycles completed every 6 months and staff are surveying the highest risk STRs first. Staff is working on developing a survey to incorporate the data from Dr. Bartels research into the survey.

Tina Galindo gave several updates. There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In February there were 36 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 63 ACP collected. In March there were 83 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 457 ACP collected. In April there were 75 traps with ACP samples and a total estimated amount of 273 collected. Imidacloprid and cyfluthrin treatments were completed April 27, 2015 through May 13, 2015. The next imidacloprid treatment will be in the fall of 2015. Survey cycle 1 was completed on February 24, 2015 and 683 sites were visited. The survey resulted in 456 ACP samples, 10 plant samples collected and 225 sites negative for ACP. Survey cycle 2 was completed on April 29, 2015. There were 638 sites visited with, 529 ACP samples collected, 49 plant samples collected and 112 sites negative for ACP. Cycle 3 began May 1, 2015. Thus far there have been 114 sites visited with, 83 ACP samples collected, 4 plant samples collected and 25 sites negative for ACP.

b. Treatment Updates

Tina gave an update in regards to treatment in Southern California. There are currently 10 treatment areas in Ventura. There is a public meeting being held on May 18, 2015 in Fillmore and Piru. 8 zones are being treated there. Camarillo and Hacienda Heights will be complete by May 14, 2015. There are 4 areas being treated in Coachella with a public meeting held on May 12, 2015. In San Diego, Pauma is 100 percent complete. Tecate and San Ysidro are pending public meetings. Imperial County will be complete May 7, 2015. Calexico is 95 percent complete with one public meeting pending. There was a question regarding how many people attend the public meetings and Tina stated there are approximately 20 people.

Art Gilbert gave a treatment update for Northern California. All of Tulare County is complete. In Kern County, three sites in Bakersfield are 100 percent complete. Two additional find sites are in progress for treatment. Most of San Luis Obispo is completed, with one area in Arroyo Grande still in progress. There have been a total of 7,363 properties treated so far.

For commercial grove trapping there has been 7,267 traps deployed and 15,597 traps serviced as of April 29, 2015. In April, 4,830 sites have been sampled and 786 sites were visited with 437 ACP collected and 3 plant samples collected. As of May, 8, 2015, 18,704 adult ACP has been collected, 14,564 nymphs collected, and 3,732 sites negative for ACP.

c. Biocontrol Program Update

Mike Pitcairn gave an update on the Biocontrol Program. Year to date 318,835 Tamarixia, and 21,179 Diaphorencyrtus have been released. These numbers include the greenhouse, as well as the outdoor screen house production. Releases are ongoing in organic and abandon groves. Mike reviewed the new release strategy in Santa Barbara County. The Biocontrol Task Force recommended making heavy releases in Santa Barbara since there has been no previous parasite releases there so that the Diaphorencyrtus could establish a population. Staff has initiated an overall monitoring program at a total of 29 sites which include high, medium and low risk areas according to the risk based HLB survey. The monitoring data has shown parasitism at the sites being monitored. There was a question asked regarding the status of the private insectaries. Greg Simmons reported on the current status of the FAR insectary. The insectary was awarded a one year contract through MAC funding in October 2014. FAR has produced approximately 50,000 Tamarixia so far. Everything received from FAR is being put directly into the CDFA release program, for research in augmentative biocontrol, and in for releases in areas that cannot be treated. There will be a second year contract out for bid soon. Due to the quarantine, staff was unable to get a permit to work in Ventura County. There was a question asked regarding the Cal Poly Pomona facility. Victoria stated all of the permits are in place and construction has started. There is hope that the facility will be ready by August 2015. Victoria asked how far out is staff from having a methods development protocol that could be handed off to other private insectaries. Greg stated that the technology transfer is a continuous process but after a season of research things should be available for other insectaries. There was further discussion regarding permits for commercial insectaries to rear Tamarixia.

d. Laboratory Updates

Victoria stated that the reports are in the Committee member's binders for review and all samples have come back negative for HLB.

SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Update on Early Detection Technologies

Bob Atkins reported that there were some issues at the last Early Detection Technologies (EDT) task force meeting on April 16, 2015 so the action items will be discussed at the next EDT meeting tentatively scheduled for June 12, 2015. Bob gave a brief update on key points that were discussed at the last task force meeting. The task force formed a working group to design a survey where trained staff will take all samples for researches to examine randomly so that the sources are unknown. The task force discussed testing ACP nymphs and the flush on which the nymphs were found to perhaps produce an early detection of HLB. The problem is there is no USDA accepted work plan to use in the lab for flush. There was another working group formed to research the available scientific literature and experiment with testing positive ACP nymphs and processing the flush. The final issue discussed was cox internal control. It is mitochondrial DNA that may depress the PCR values.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Outreach Chairman Franco Bernardi directed the Committee members to the outreach summary in the binders. Victoria gave a brief update on behalf of NST and ongoing outreach activities. Last week there was a media event regarding Tamarixia and Diaphorencyrtus releases in Santa Barbara. There is also a new positive newspaper release and radio report which is encouraging. Georgios is going to be doing some outreach on safe sources of budwood for grafting which was discussed at the last outreach meeting as something there has not been much focus on in the past. There has been a lot of legislative outreach and work done with Master Gardeners in the bay area. There is an RFP out to film a new PSA.

CRB REPORT

Jim Rudig introduced himself to the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm. The next meeting will be held in Visalia, California on July 15, 2015 at 10:00am.