

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 14, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on October 14, 2015 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Jim Gorden Link Leavens* John Gless

Committee Members Absent:

Richard Bennett Kevin Severns
Scott Mabs Kevin Olsen

CRB Staff:

Greg Burdick Rick Dunn* Cynthia LeVesque*

Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins	Tina Galindo*	Sylvie Robillard
Erin Betts	Art Gilbert	Aliza Santos
Greg Creekmir*	Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	Dan Willey
Aaron Dillion	Nancy Holland*	Judy Zaninovich*
Dan Dreyer	Luci Kumagai*	Sandra Zwaal*
Enrico Ferro*	Magally Luque-Williams*	

*** Participated via telephone/WebEx**

Opening Comments

Subcommittee Chairman Jim Gorden welcomed staff and the members of the public participating in person and online. There is a not quorum for this meeting.

Approval of minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the June 24, 2015 meeting minutes. There were no corrections made. The minutes were then approved by all members in attendance.

San Gabriel HLB Update

The quarantine is combined with the Hacienda Heights quarantine totaling in 177 square miles in Los Angeles and 3 square miles in Orange County. Approximately 90 nurseries and garden centers were surveyed, ACP/HLB material was found at 30 of the entities and 8,040 plants were placed on hold. The next step is implementing an intensive risk-based survey that CDFA is currently working on with Dr. Gottwald.

There have been a total of 1,375 ACP samples collected from San Gabriel and a total of 6,688 plant samples collected, these numbers include samples collected from the expansion areas. There have been a total of 4 ACP positive samples, and 10 positive plant samples.

ACP Trapping Program Proposed Improvements

Art Gilbert gave an update on the new ACP finds and the delimitation expansions in the Central Valley for the following counties: San Luis Obispo, Nipomo, Bakersfield (which has had multiple finds), Arvin, and Arroyo Grande. Wasco has gone two years with no ACP finds. CDFG has provided USDA with all of the negative trap data and they will make a determination for ACP exit strategy. Art presented 3 options for delimitation trapping, visual survey and treatment for a single psyllid find. Option 1 being the current central valley protocol, which is 100 traps in the core area with 50 traps in the surrounding 8 miles and 800 meters of visual survey and treatment. Option 2 is 100 traps in 9 square miles and visual survey and treatment at the find site and on adjacent properties. Option 3 is the northern California protocol, which is 100 traps in the core area, 50 traps in the surrounding 8 miles, visual survey at the find site, at adjacent properties and 50 in each mile in the 8 surrounding miles. This includes 100 meter treatment zones. For more than one psyllid find, either initially or at a later date, the option 1 protocol remains the same as the single find protocol. Option 2 is 100 traps in 9 square miles and visual survey and treatment 800 meters within 3 months. Option 3 is the northern California protocol, which is 100 traps in the core area, 50 traps in the surrounding 8 miles, visual survey for 200 meters and 50 traps in each mile within 6 months, treatment is 400 meters within 6 months. Adjacent properties are defined as properties that touch the property that the initial find was on. The amount of funding on trapping and visual survey in the central valley continues to increase significantly every year with a total amount of \$8,699,264 spent since fiscal year 2012/2013. Victoria reported that the Science Advisory Panel (SAP) has recommended that a 400 meter treatment in response to a psyllid find is appropriate however the Committee is in favor of the 800 meter treatment.

Beth recommended there be a difference in treatment areas (800 meters versus 400 meters) depending on if the area is a citrus growing region and the density of the residence, however not reduce all areas to 400 meters. There was further discussion about the 800 meter treatment versus the 400 meter treatment, and which is the best solution for the Central Valley. Art Gilbert is going to work with the grower liaisons and Beth Grafton-Cardwell.

There will be further discussion regarding this topic and hopefully a decision made at next the full Committee meeting.

HLB Update

Hacienda Heights Risk-Based Survey

Magally gave an update on the HLB risk-based survey. Cycle 0 is complete in all counties and cycle 1 is complete in all counties except Sacramento. Cycle 2 has begun in Tulare, Kern, Kings, Madera, Stanislaus, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Ventura, San Joaquin, and Fresno. Staff hopes to have cycle 2 complete by December. Since December 2014, there have been 78,482 sites surveyed, 2,960 STR's surveyed and 20 counties surveyed.

Southern California High Risk Survey

Tina gave an update on treatment in Southern California. There are 9 treatment zones in Fillmore/Piru, with treatment having begun on October 12, 2015 with a public meeting that was held on October 6, 2015. There was a public meeting held in Ojai as well on October 7, 2015 with treatment beginning on October 14, 2015 with 12 areas being treated. Lake Sherwood, Hidden Valley, Oxnard and Ventura are all pending environmental consult and public meetings. There is a public meeting being held in Summerland on October 14, 2015. Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, and Goleta are pending environmental consult. Hacienda Heights is 75 percent complete. In Riverside, Hemet is 65 complete, the UCR area is 50 percent complete and Coachella is 10 percent complete. In San Diego, Pauma, DeLuz, San Ysidro, and San Pasqual (area wide) are 100 percent complete. Tecate, Otay Mesa, and Borrego Springs are pending environmental consultations. In Imperial County, Bard/Winterhaven is pending environmental consultation for 6 areas. Winterhaven, Holtville and Calexico along the border, are 100 percent complete.

San Gabriel Survey

Magally also went over the San Gabriel HLB high-intensity survey. 81 percent of census blocks in San Gabriel are sampled at least once. The areas close to the HLB source areas are sampled more frequently. This survey methodology is used to monitor HLB, check if HLB has spread outside of the quarantine area, and determines the possible pathway for HLB spread. If there are additional HLB detections outside of the original epic center, the adjustment will be made to address the sample intensity in the new areas. Cycle 1 will be from January through April with approximately 17,671 samples and 3,342 parcels. Cycle 2 will be from May through August with approximately 17,612 samples and 3,256 parcels. Cycle 3 will be from September to December with approximately 17,708 samples and 3,247 parcels.

Laboratory Activities

Sacramento Laboratory Activities

The delimitation survey in San Gabriel has been completed. There were 6,735 plant samples collected, out of which ten trees tested positive for HLB. There were 1,504 ACP samples collected and four tested positive for HLB. From January to September of 2015, 47,878 ACP samples and 16,922 plant samples have been collected. The lab is now conducting a second follow up visit to the sites that gave inconclusive/ high Ct values back in 2013, 2014 and in 2015. Plant samples and ACP will be tested from the follow up sites. Samples from nurseries are also going to be tested from the CDFA lab sometime in late October, early November.

Review 2015 ACP Samples with Ct Values

There have been 310 samples that had high fam (a florescent dye that is incorporated in the QCPR test) counts. There were 34 inconclusive samples and most of those have been followed up on already. There were 85 ACP samples that gave a 37 Ct count, 117 ACP samples that gave a 38 count, 74, and ACP samples that gave a 39 count. There were 292 plant samples that gave a 37 to a 39 Ct value. 39 plant samples gave a 37 reading, 106 plant samples gave a 38 reading and 137 plant samples gave a 39 reading. There were 85 ACP samples that gave a reading in the 37 range which most came from the Los Angeles area. HLB is not the only cause for the low Ct counts and that is why going back to the site and testing the plant samples is crucial.

Draft Residential HLB Response Plan

Victoria presented the most recent draft HLB response plan. She reported that staff can only respond to a PCR positive tree. Something that Victoria suggested for the Committee to start thinking about is how does staff respond to a positive HLB find in a commercial property or in a nursery. She asked all members in attendance to review the plan so that it can be approved or edited at the next full Committee meeting.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reviewed the data management activity for September and October 2015. Rick continues to work in cooperation with the University of California's Kearney Ag Center GIS facility to update the citrus layer. Rick reported that he continues to provide mapping services to the grower liaisons and the psyllid management areas (PMA) in various counties. Staff continues to support grove trapping and biocontrol by producing overview and progress maps. Staff also continues to revise the statewide commercial citrus layer as information is received. Rick presented some examples of the ArcGIS mobile device maps that are password protected and can be opened and viewed interactively on apple and android devices. CDFA is going to look at the app and make a determination before moving forward. There was further discussion about the PMA considerations.

Chairman Report and Adjournment

Chairman Jim Gorden presented an article from the Tampa Bay Times regarding Florida's crop estimate that just came out discussing how the crop estimate is at an all-time low from the citrus greening disease. This is what the Committee wants to avoid happening in California.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on December 9, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.