

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 9, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on December 9, 2015 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Richard Bennett	Jim Gorden	Kevin Olsen
John Gless*	Link Leavens*	

Committee Members Absent:

Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
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CRB Staff:

Greg Burdick	Cynthia LeVesque	Brian Taylor
Rick Dunn	Gary Schultz	

Interested Parties:

Jennifer Anderson*	Tina Galindo*	Raju Pandi
Bob Atkins	Subas Hajeri	Sylvie Robillard
Lannette Bankston*	Evonne Kluska	Cressida Silvers*
Jill Barnier	Luci Kumagai*	Judy Zaninovich*
Erin Betts	Leslie Leavens*	Bob Zuckerman*
Dan Dreyer	Magally Luque-Williams*	Sandra Zwaal*
Linda Haque*	Beth Grafton-Cardwell*	

*** 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 quorum for the meeting.

Approval of minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the minutes from the Operations Subcommittee meeting that took place on October 14, 2015. There were no corrections.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the October 14, 2015 subcommittee meeting as presented.

First: Link Leavens

Second: John Gless
Motion Passes: All in favor

Regional ACP Update

Bob Atkins reported that there has been good participation in most of the treatment areas. CDFA is current with their treatments and the southern California treatment areas continue to improve. Grower liaisons continue to increase participation and timeliness of the area-wide treatments. A comment was made that the 4 month time frame for area-wide treatment is too long, followed by discussion about tightening that time frame. Sandra Zwaal, the ACP grower liaison in Ventura has reported that participation in submitting the pesticide use reports in Ventura are near 100 percent. Bob reported that he has attended two EDT forums, one in Visalia and one in Ventura. Both forums provided a lot of useful information.

Victoria reported that there was a motion passed at the full Committee meeting in November to move to regional control areas that would require the mitigation of a wash to move from one area to another. The Secretary had some adjustments to the motion: the map made had divided California into 3 sections when it should be divided into 5 sections; making areas that have no ACP finds a different area. The new map will be provided to the Executive Committee on December 10, 2015. The second issue is that the requirement for washing is not something that has been analyzed through the PEIR. This issue will also be discussed with the Executive Committee. Victoria stated that nursery stock movement would also need to be reviewed and mitigations would need to be put in place. These issues will also be brought up at the next full Committee meeting in January 2016.

HLB Update

Hacienda Heights Risk-Based Survey

Tina Galindo gave an update on the HLB risk-based survey. There have been 100 traps serviced in September, October and November. There were 73 traps with ACP in September, 97 traps with ACP in October, and 97 traps with ACP in November. In September there were 329 ACP collected, 2,359 ACP collected in October and 4,237 ACP collected in November. Treatment began on September 24, 2015 and ended on October 17, 2015. CDFA staff is currently finishing up cycle 6 which began on November 9, 2015. Staff is currently waiting for the Gottwald survey to start over for Hacienda Heights and that will begin once it is received.

In San Gabriel, 100 traps were serviced in September, October and November. There were 64 traps with ACP in September, 86 traps with ACP in October and 93 traps with ACP in November. In September there were an estimated 330 ACP collected, 1,179 collected in October and 4,091 collected in November.

California High Risk Survey

Cycle 0 and cycle 1 are both complete. Cycle 2 is complete in Fresno, Madera, Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties. Cycle 2 is still ongoing in Ventura, Tulare, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, Merced, Los Angeles, Kings and Kern. All samples have come back negative for HLB.

Laboratory Activities

Sacramento Laboratory Activities

From January to November of 2015, 67,222 ACP samples and 22,880 plant samples have been collected. Since 2008, CDFA has sampled 91,119 plant samples and 96,921 ACP samples. PDEP is currently 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. There was a question asked about CDFA lab capacity. Luci Kumagai stated that the lab is in the process of hiring more people and there have been two additional machines ordered for the lab that will help get more samples processed as well.

Review 2015 ACP Samples with Ct Values >32<40

Victoria presented a map of southern California where there have been inconclusive samples. Luci stated that a sample that has a Ct value of 38 is negative, not inconclusive. All of the inconclusive samples are currently being retested.

CRB Laboratory Updates

Cynthia gave a few updates on behalf of the CRB lab. The second Texas field study is in progress and is going well. On December 4, 2015 CRB met with USDA and CDFA employees concerning lab recertification and discussed a number of modifications for the lab to increase the lab's capacity. CRB is currently testing samples from the 2nd early detection study in the UC Davis Contained Research Facility and working with Greg McCollum with USDA to develop a protocol for droplet digital PCR using BLOCKS standards. Staff continues to test high throughput protocol for the siRNA protocol with HLB samples from Florida.

Residential HLB Response Plan

Discuss Commercial and Nursery HLB Response Plan

The full Committee has adopted the HLB Response Plan however Victoria suggested that the Committee start thinking about how staff should respond to a positive HLB find in a commercial property or in a nursery. Victoria recommended the SAP meet to discuss a plan for an HLB find in commercial production. Beth stated that Texas and Florida have been unsuccessful with HLB because they have only removed trees that were PCR positive and that the recommendation needs to come from industry. It was also recommended to do some economic analysis and incorporate commercial production costs as a start. Chairman Jim Gorden recommended forming a small industry-driven group to come up with a draft Commercial and Nursery HLB Response Plan.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reviewed the data management activity for October through December 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.

The launch of the limited version of the ArcGIS online interactive map prototype testing has continued for the iPad, iPhone and Android devices. CDFA is currently looking at the app and determination is pending before moving forward. Staff continues to support commercial grove trapping and HLB detection overview maps, PDR 800M maps, biocontrol work group activity maps and CPDPC trapping/sampling progress maps.

Chairman Report and Adjournment

Chairman Jim Gorden reported that he attended a meeting on December 8, 2015 at the Tristeza agency which involved the Technical Advisory Committee. The agency has received a specialty crop block grant from CDFA to acquire equipment to do HLB testing. This will potentially be a place where growers can bring in their own samples for testing of HLB which is something the Committee would like.

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