

CALIFORNIA CITRUS PEST AND DISEASE PREVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, February 4, 2014

Opening:

The regular meeting of the California Citrus Pest and Disease Prevention Committee (CPDPC) was called to order at 10:00a.m. on February 4, 2014 in Exeter, California by Committee Chairman Nick Hill.

CPDPC Members Present:

Richard Bennett	Gus Gunderson	James McFarlane
Franco Bernardi	Nick Hill	Kevin Olsen
Bob Felts, Jr.	Link Leavens	Etienne Rabe
John Gless*	Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
Jim Gorden	George McEwen	Brian Specht*

CPDPC Members Absent:

Craig Armstrong	Mark McBroom
-----------------	--------------

CDFA Staff:

Jason Chan*	Adrian Gonzales*	Debby Tanouye*
Nick Condos*	Victoria Hornbaker	Austin Webster
Cassandra Davis	Magally Luque-Williams*	Scosha Wright*
Art Gilbert	David Morgan*	

Guests:

Bob Atkins	Nancy Holland*	Sylvie Robillard
Jill Barnier	Shirley Kirkpatrick	Cressida Silvers*
Ed Civerolo	John Krist*	Brian Taylor*
Vic Corkins	Leslie Leavens*	Dan Willey*
Joshua Crowell*	Cynthia LeVesque*	Helene Wright
Rick Dunn	Tom Mulholland*	Judy Zaninovich
Subhas Hajeri	Jeff Nakao*	Bob Zuckerman*
Linda Haque	Joanne O'Sullivan*	Sandra Zwaal*
Add: Roger Smith		

*** Participated via telephone**

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:

Shirley Kirkpatrick welcomed the Committee and guests to Exeter and encouraged the Committee to hold future CPDPC meetings at the Veterans Exeter Memorial building since the location is convenient.

Roger Smith with Tree Source Citrus Nursery gave an update on behalf of the Nursery Industry. Tulare County is in quarantine therefore all nurseries in the County have to comply with quarantine regulations and most loads will require two inspections. Nursery staff has been working with the citrus industry to ensure the inspections do not interfere with movement. Nursery staff is continuing to work hard to ensure plants stay protected.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS &UPDATES

Nick Hill reviewed the minutes from the three Committee meetings that took place on November 12, 2014 November 24, 2014 and December 11, 2014.

Motion: Approval of the minutes from the November 12, 2014 November 24, 2014 and December 11, 2014 Committee meetings as presented.

First: Nick Hill

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. 2013/2014 Budget and Assessments

James McFarlanereviewed the 2013/2014 budgets and revenues. To date the program has received \$13,501,770 in assessment revenues with an estimated balance remaining to be received of \$468,181. The program has expended \$18,103,763 from all funding sources,leaving an available balance of \$4,327,401.The projected reserve balance is \$12,219,949.The CHRP budget is \$9,624,859. The CHRP expenditures to date are \$8,377,412, leaving a remaining balance of \$1,247,447, with a projected balance of \$1,186,701of after projected expenditures.It was recommended that the left over balance from CHRP be used to fund applicable expenses form the assessment fund budget.

Motion:To transfer of \$1,186,701of CHRP funds to the assessment budget for commercial grove trapping.

First: Bob Felts

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

James reported on the other budgets, stating that the TASC grant current cycle is complete and the budget has been zeroed out. The Citrus Commodity budgethas a balance remaining to be expended of \$14,870. The HLB MAC funds of \$45,005 are available to the program for biocontrol activities, most will be rolled over into the 2014/2015 fiscal year budget.

b. Variance Analysis Review

James reported that the variance analysis is essentially a repeat of the sub-budgets for fiscal year 13/14 due to it being late in the cycle. The ending variance for the assessment budget was -19.42 percent. Program staff will endeavor to fine tune the 2015 monthly variance to become more accurate.

c. 2014/2015 Budget and Assessments

James reviewed the 2014/2015 CHRP budget and sub-budgets with the Committee. So far \$1,691,056 in assessment revenue has been received with a remaining projected balance of \$12,824,944. The budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 is \$15,344,839. Through December 2014 there has been \$2,576,904 in expenditures to the assessment budget, leaving a balance remaining of \$12,767,935. There has been \$550,588 spent for urban treatment and \$939,291 has been spent for central valley treatment and surveying year to date. These two have been the highest expenditures to date. The administration line item has been reduced by \$38,500 due to CDFA staff now handling the assessment collections. The projected CHRP budget amount is the same amount as last year, \$9,624,859. So far, \$843,256 has been spent, with a balance remaining of \$8,781,603. The Citrus Commodity budget has a balance remaining of \$93,945. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is a new fund schedule from a grant that will be used to for a new psyllid project to genetically modify ACP so that it will no longer be able to host and transfer HLB. The grant is a total balance of \$84,194.

There will be a budget presented at the next CPDPC meeting in March for the additional activities in Santa Clara and San Jose Counties.

d. Assessment Collection

Victoria reported that staff is currently working very hard on switching over the assessment collection from Inspection Services to Plant Division to avoid credit card fees. All of the documents have been completed and mailed out the packing houses. Starting in February 2014, the packing houses will pay the assessments directly to the CPDPC program for January's fees.

e. Revised CRB Operations Grant

Kiersten Alvarado reviewed the CRB operations grant with the Committee. There was a proposed amendment on the data management portion of the operations grant for \$70,906 to continue funding data management services through May 2015.

Motion: to approve the proposed CRB grant budget amendment to add \$70,906 for Data Management.
First: Bob Felts
Second: James McFarlane
Motion Passes: All in favor

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Regional ACP Management

Bob Atkins, Statewide Grower Liaison Coordinator gave several updates. The area wide management areas are starting to come together well. Sandra Zwaal is the new grower liaison in Ventura County and has picked up fast from where the last liaison left off. Ventura is in

transition to area wide management, especially in the Piru, Santa Paula and Fillmore areas. Borrego Springs in San Diego is contemplating putting together a task force due to the high number of growers there wanting to be a part of area wide management. Riverside County grower liaison Alan Washburn is doing a great job getting treatments done. John Blasius has taken over San Bernardino County and things are going well in that area. There has been discussion about putting together task force for San Bernardino County. All of the packinghouse and grower meetings that have been held have great participation and attendance rates. There are funding issues with Ventura and San Bernardino. The San Bernardino grower liaison was allotted \$19,000 for 9 months and will likely run out of funding in March 2015. Ventura will likely run out of funding in March as well, due to the frequent amount of work ongoing there. Victoria suggested amending the CASS contract to add funds or shift around line items. Bob stated that area wide management will reduce the amount of work being done as well.

Motion: That CDFA staff work with CASS to address a funding issue for the Grower Liaisons in Ventura and San Bernardino Counties, which is due to their increased work load (not to exceed \$50,000 each).

First: George McEwen

Second: Link Leavens

Motion Passes: All in favor

b. ACP/HLB Work Plan and Action Plan

Nick Hill reviewed the work and action plan with the Committee and asked for a motion to approve the two plans if there were not any questions. There was a question regarding the attachments that the action plan refers to. Victoria stated that the attachments are located on the CFDA intranet. Victoria asked that the Committee endorse the work plan and stated that the work plan is a living document that will be changed as the Committee implements changes and recommendations. The Committee requested time to review the action and work plans once more. They will revisit them at the next meeting.

c. Optional Organic Homeowner Pesticide

Cyfluthrin and imidacloprid are the two products currently used for residential treatments. There has been speculation that if there was an organic option there would be a higher cooperation rate. CDFA staff is looking into adding spinosad as another pesticide treatment. Greg Simmons with USDA stated that there has been research done at the University of California with organic products and he can provide that data to the Committee for review.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Operations Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden provided a summary of the Subcommittee meeting that was held on January 7, 2015 in Visalia, California.

a. Discussion on Increased HLB Survey in Generally Infested Areas

Art Gilbert discussed the need to increase collection of ACP for analysis in generally infested areas and recommended moving away from trapping in such areas. Nick Hill mentioned the Committee previously stated they wanted to see a change moving forward, focusing more on HLB rather than ACP. It was mentioned to drop trapping completely and instead capture live ACP and testing for HLB and additionally put a heavy emphasis on the borders. Victoria stated

that CDFA staff have already started replacing traps with surveying in southern California. There was further discussion about reducing the trapping in other areas as well as getting input from Texas and Florida on this idea.

b. Monitoring and Response Protocol for Northern California

Jim stated that the Operations Subcommittee has spent a lot of time discussing the draft of the ACP response protocol. Victoria presented the draft response protocol for Northern California and compared it to the current response protocol. The new protocol contains directions for two different scenarios. The response to one ACP find with no commercial citrus within 1.5 miles is as follows: Trapping density will be 100 traps per square mile in a 1.5 mile radius to form a nine square mile delimitation area. The service rate of the traps will be based on additional finds. Properties within 100 meters will be visually surveyed and treated. The remaining delimitation area will be visually surveyed at a density of 50 sites per square mile. The response to two or more ACP within 1.5 miles of each other within 6 months of the identification date, or to one or more ACP within 1.5 miles of commercial citrus follows the same protocol for trapping. Visual surveying will be done on all properties within 200 meters. The remainder of the delimitation area will be surveyed at a density of 50 sites per square mile. Lastly, all properties within 400 meters will be treated. The Subcommittee recommended making several changes to the protocol, including limiting survey to the find and adjacent property rather than 100 meters around the find and decreasing the trap density after a designated time from 100 traps per square mile to 50 traps per square mile. The new protocol would save time and funding with monthly servicing versus daily and weekly. The Operations Subcommittee recommended approving the new response protocol with changes made that they sanctioned.

Motion: To approve the response plan for Asian citrus psyllid detections in Northern California.

First: Jim Gorden

Second: Richard Bennett

Motion Passes: All in favor

Additionally the Committee discussed the need for maintaining delimitation traps past two years in all areas, which ruled to be unnecessary.

Motion: That CDFA remove delimitation trapping after two years without subsequent finds.

First: Etienne Rabe

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

Victoria mentioned that switching from bi-weekly/weekly trapping to monthly trapping would be a good cost saving measure, and asked the Committee how they felt about moving to monthly servicing after a certain designated time. The Committee discussed the issue and made a recommendation to reduce trapping interval after 6 months with no additional finds.

Motion: That delimitation trap servicing be moved from weekly to monthly after 6 months with no additional Asian citrus psyllid finds in a delimitation area.

First: Jim Gorden
Second: Richard Bennett
Motion Passes: All in favor

Nick Hill mentioned that the Executive Subcommittee and Ed Civerolo met with USDA in January. The topic of statewide quarantine for ACP was discussed. It was noted that there is concern that some growers are not in compliance with the spray and move program. It was recommended to create an Ad Hoc Subcommittee to further discuss the idea of statewide quarantine. The subcommittee will bring information to the full Committee at the next meeting. Victoria announced that if the Committee was to recommend a statewide quarantine, it would have to be done through the regular rule-making process. CDFA would not be able to make it an emergency because it will impact many counties that do not have psyllid finds.

c. HLB Survey Updates

Jim announced that cycle one in Fresno, Imperial and Tulare Counties has been completed. Kern, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Joaquin, and Ventura Counties are still being surveyed. CDFA staff are currently surveying to have cycles completed every 6 months and staff are surveying the highest risk STRs first.

Tina Galindo gave several updates. CDFA is no longer doing the zone surveying in Hacienda Heights, they have moved to a risk-based survey. There are 100 traps placed in the core square mile in Hacienda Heights. In November there were 84 traps with ACP samples and an estimated 924 ACP collected. In December there were 52 traps with ACP samples and an estimated total of 153 ACP collected. In January there were 19 traps with ACP samples and a total estimated amount of 37 collected. Imidacloprid and cyfluthrin treatments were completed September 16, 2014 through October 29, 2014. Tina presented a map of the five mile quarantine zone that includes sites that are visited one to six times a year. Cycle 6 started on December 19, 2014. There were 214 sites visited with, 154 ACP samples collected, 6 plant samples collected and 57 sites negative from ACP. Cycle 1 began January 2, 2015 and 588 sites have been visited thus far, with 393 ACP samples, 10 plant samples collected and 193 sites negative for ACP. Cycle 2 will begin in March.

b. Treatment Updates

Art Gilbert gave an update in regards to treatment in the Central Valley and Kern, Madera, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo and Tulare County treatments are all completed.

Tina gave an update in regards to treatment in Southern California. Area-wide treatment began in Fillmore and Piru on January 17, 2015. Fillmore, Camarillo and Piru are 90 percent complete. Santa Paula is 20 percent complete. There are two areas in Moorpark being treated, one is 98 percent complete and the other is 20 percent complete. There are public meeting pending in Ventura, Somis, Camarillo, Oxnard, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Simi and Ojai. Staff has started area-wide treatment in Hemet. Coachella is pending two public meetings. In San Diego, Pauma is pending a public meeting and area-wide treatment will begin soon. San Ysidro is 15 percent complete. In Imperial, the Calexico border is 10 percent complete with pending treatment for new finds. There were four finds in San Jose and treatment has started this week.

c. Biocontrol Program Update

Jim gave a brief update on the Biocontrol Program. Winter production has gone better than what was expected. 49,400 Tamarixia have been released in the month of December and an estimated 59,000 in January. These numbers include the greenhouse, as well as the outdoor screen house production. 2014 year to date 1,124,091 agents have been produced and 931,522 agents have been released in the southern California area. Releases are ongoing in organic groves as well. Staff are currently working on the third round of releases. Staff is going to initiate a monitoring program in 2015 at a total of 27 sites which include high medium and low risk areas according to the risk based HLB survey. The monitoring data should start to be reported in February. The second biocontrol agent, Diaphorencyrtus, has been released but the releases are limited so that staff can monitor establishment of the wasp. Diaphorencyrtus may work well with Tamarixia however it is much harder to rear and it is much slower than Tamarixia but it does well in desert areas. Construction on the Cal Poly Pomona greenhouse has not begun yet, however the campus has lent staff a 4,000 square foot greenhouse to use in the meantime for plant production. Greg Simmons stated that approximately 3 million Tamarixia will be produced between the Mt. Rubidoux and the Cal Poly greenhouses this year.

d. Laboratory Updates

Jim reported that there were lab reports provided to the Committee members for their review and everything tested has come back negative for HLB.

Jim gave a brief update on the data management report. Rick Dunn has been working hard on upgrading the citrus layer and has provided a lot of assistance to Bob Atkins and the treatment coordinators.

Victoria briefly reviewed a draft analysis of ACP treatments in the San Joaquin valley. The analysis was conducted to determine if there is a difference in efficacy between mandatory and non-mandatory treatments. Victoria reviewed the draft reevaluation eradication criteria for ACP with the Committee and she also provided a summary of HLB interceptions by the dog teams.

SCIENCE SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

a. Citrus Research Board Laboratory

The CRB has decided to seek re-certification of the Riverside Lab. The process may take some time and there was discussion about the level of funding from the CPDPC to the CRB in the interim. CRB and CDFA will present budgets at the March meeting.

b. Update on Early Detection Technologies

There has been an Early Detection Technologies (EDT) task force put together involving scientists, growers and advisors and they have come up with some recommendations. Bob Atkins, Science Subcommittee Co-chair gave a few updates. The samples are all out to the researchers and there is hope to receive reports from them by March 2015. Bob and Ed have been discussing a date for the next task force meeting to review the researcher's results.

OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT & DISCUSSION

Outreach Subcommittee Chair Franco Bernardi provided a brief summary of the Subcommittee meeting that was held on January 7, 2015 in Visalia, California. Franco announced that the Outreach contract expires September 30, 2015 and the Subcommittee recommended to start the RFP process. The funding for the new contract will remain the same at \$750,000 for two years.

Motion: to move forward with the RFP for an outreach contractor for 2 years with a maximum budget of \$750,000 per year.

First: Franco Bernardi

Second: Jim Gorden

Motion Passes: All in favor

NST has developed an area-wide psyllid management video which has been helpful in getting information out about area-wide treatments. There were a few grower meetings held in January in Ventura, Santa Barbara and Fresno that were well attended. NST and Beth Grafton-Cardwell are developing outreach materials for wholesale nurseries. The first PAPA seminar for 2015 is scheduled in Santa Clara County on February 4, 2015. The Subcommittee approved research on messaging in northern California and NST is moving forward with that.

Teresa Siles with NST presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Outreach plan for 2015. Teresa went over target audiences, goals for the New Year, and strategies. She discussed outreach tactics, and outreach conduit regarding Master Gardeners and rare fruit growers. NST is preparing to create another PSA which will hopefully be complete in the next few months. Teresa reviewed outreach tactics for the commercial citrus industry and the audience subsets. Teresa also reviewed priority areas for ACP outreach. Those areas include San Joaquin County, Santa Clara County, Coachella Valley, Tulare and Kern Counties, Fresno County, San Luis Obispo and Monterey counties.

Nick Hill gave an update on behalf of the CHRP meeting. There were discussions focusing on EDT's, root sampling, root stocks, thermal treatment, vector management which seems very promising. USDA also discussed protocols for going into an ACP statewide quarantine. The number of Tamarixia produced from the field cages in Florida was very high.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm. The next meeting will be held in San Bernardino, California on March 11, 2015 at 10:00am.