

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 7, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on January 7, 2014 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

John Gless*	Link Leavens*	Kevin Olsen*
Jim Gorden		

Committee Members Absent:

Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
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CRB Staff:

Rick Dunn

Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins*	Victoria Hornbaker	Helene Wright
Richard Bennett	Marilyn Kinoshita	Les Wright
Erin Betts	David Morgan*	Scosha Wright*
Dan Dreyer	Laura Petro*	Judy Zaninovich*
Enrico Ferro*	Elizabeth Ponce*	Sandra Zwaal*
Tina Galindo*	Sylvie Robillard	
Art Gilbert	Cressida Silvers*	
Linda Haque*	Debby Tanouye*	

*** 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 this meeting.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Approval of minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the November 5, 2014 meeting minutes and there were no corrections made. The minutes were approved by all members in attendance.

Financial Report

Victoria went over the Operations financial report. The data management section of the CRB Operations grant will be addressed at the next CPDPC meeting. After there is a decision made on the Operations Grant the budget will be finalized. The new area contingency funds are being spent quickly with the new ACP finds in Northern California, which will also be addressed at the next full CPDPC meeting.

Regional ACP Management Program Update

Bob gave an update on regional ACP management. The Ventura and Imperial County grower liaison positions have been filled. Sandra Zwaal is the new Ventura County grower liaison and Curtis Pate has accepted the Imperial County position. Ventura has implemented their first area wide treatment as there have been additional ACP finds in residential areas. There was concern at the last CPDPC meeting about the effectiveness of treatments with groves being infested after four to six weeks. The recommendation from UC Riverside is to have treatments completed within two to three weeks in order to have effective ACP control. San Diego County is doing well and has just finished their third treatment in Pauma Valley.

Draft Northern California ACP Response Protocol

Victoria presented the Committee with a draft response protocol for ACP detections in Northern California. The 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.

Motion: To support the two trapping scenarios stated in the Northern California ACP Response Protocol.

First: Link Leavens

Second: John Gless

Motion Passes: All in favor

Programmatic Environmental Impact Report

Laura Petro reported that the statewide Plant Health and Pest Prevention Management Program Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) was certified by the Secretary on December 24, 2014. This report covers all of the plant health activities and furthers the compliance agreements as well as updates EIR's for the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The document is posted on CDFA's website for review. The PEIR will not change activities significantly; CDFA is currently

updating EIR's that have previously been used. There will be a few changes in the quarantine compliance agreements and regulatory chemicals. The Pest Exclusion branch has been working hard to put new language in the compliance agreements and to update the requirements going forward for CEQA. The hope for the PEIR is that it will help streamline the process when it comes to CEQA.

HLB Survey Update

a. Hacienda Heights Review

Debby Tanouye gave an update on the Hacienda Heights area. The new survey has been implemented by CDFA staff and has had a few kinks that need to be worked out. Cycle 6 started on December 19, 2014. There were 214 sites visited with, 154 ACP samples collected, and 60 sites negative from ACP. Cycle 1 began January 2, 2015 and 45 sites have been visited thus far, with 21 ACP samples collected and 24 sites negative for ACP. Debby plans to meet with Dr. Gottwald and USDA to work on improving the survey. There was a question regarding early detection technologies and if any of the new technologies are planned to be used soon, which they are not at this time.

b. HLB Risk-Based Survey

Debby gave an update on the HLB risk based survey. Dr. Gottwald will continue to receive data on a flow basis, so he can also make changes or direct staff to new areas if needed. The HLB risk-based survey work in the Central Valley is almost complete, with Fresno being 100 percent complete and Tulare being 66 percent complete. The HLB risk-based survey has started mid-December in Southern California with Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego and Ventura all being under 6% complete. Staff has planned to finish the survey in Imperial County and Coachella Valley by mid-February.

Biocontrol Program Report

CDFA Tamarixia Rearing and Release

David Morgan reported that 49,400 Tamarixia have been released in the month of December, this number includes the greenhouse, as well as the outdoor screen house production. 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 Dr. Gottwald. 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.

Laboratory Activities

a. Riverside Laboratory Activities

Victoria reviewed CRB's current lab activities on behalf of Cynthia LeVesque. There have been 22,568 samples that have been tested since January 2014. All samples have come back negative for HLB. QC failed on 271 samples. CRB lab staff has analyzed 369 ACP and 853 plant samples from the UC Davis containment facility. They are also testing high throughput protocol for siRNA and digital PCR. They are working on a project with Greg McCollum with USDA Florida to develop a protocol for digital droplet PCR. 240 leaf samples have been collected for the early detection field study which is ongoing. Current lab staff has remains the same.

b. Sacramento Laboratory Activities

Victoria reviewed the ongoing Sacramento lab activities. No additional HLB positive samples have been detected in California since March 2012. There was an HLB positive potted tree detected on November 17, 2014 at the needles inspection station and the plant was destroyed. There was another HLB positive find from the dog teams on December 3, 2014 on fruit being shipped from Atlanta, Georgia. Over 13,000 plant samples have been tested in 2014 and 61 percent of those came from Los Angeles County and 57 percent were collected from the Hacienda Heights area. 24 percent of the samples came from areas of high risk according to the Gottwald model. CDFA staff is continuing to provide samples to Dr. Slupsky at UC Davis.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reviewed the data management activity for November and December 2014. Rick is still working 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 including the new grower liaison in Ventura. Greg Burdick has been hired as a new network administrator to in-source IT infrastructure. Staff continues to support grove trapping and biocontrol by producing overview and progress maps.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m. The next meeting will be held on February 25, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.