

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

Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Opening:

The regular meeting of the Operations Subcommittee was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on June 24, 2015 in Visalia, California by Subcommittee Chair Jim Gorden.

Committee Members Present:

Jim Gorden	Link Leavens*	Kevin Olsen
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Committee Members Absent:

John Gless	Scott Mabs	Kevin Severns
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CRB Staff:

Rick Dunn	Cynthia LeVesque*	Jim Rudig
Brian Taylor*		

Interested Parties:

Bob Atkins	Tina Galindo*	Mike Pitcairn*
Jill Barnier	Art Gilbert	Sylvie Robillard
Richard Bennett	Victoria Hornbaker	Cressida Silvers*
Erin Betts	Magally Luque-Williams*	Debby Tanouye*
Stephen Brown*	Susan McCarthy*	Scosha Wright*
Brett Chandler*	David Morgan*	Judy Zaninovich
Dan Dreyer	Joanne O'Sullivan	Sandra Zwaal*
Enrico Ferro*	Curtis Pate*	

*** 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. There is currently still a vacancy on the Subcommittee and Richard Bennett has volunteered to be appointed. The full Committee will vote on Richard's appointment to the Operations Subcommittee at the next CPDPC meeting so that there will no longer be a vacancy.

Approval of minutes

Jim Gorden reviewed the April 15, 2015 meeting minutes. There were no corrections made. The minutes were then approved by all members in attendance.

Financial Report

Victoria reported that there has been a one-time allocation of CHRP funding of approximately \$1.2 million. At the last full Committee meeting in May, it was recommended to move \$800,000 of assessment expenses to the CHRP allocation. The Finance Subcommittee recommends moving assessment expenses from commercial grove trapping to the remaining CHRP allocation. There was a budget change proposal made on behalf of the Committee in 2013 to increase the spending authority. As of July 1, 2015 the budget authority will go back down to \$15.6 million. This will be discussed at the full Committee meeting on July 15, 2015.

Regional ACP Management Program Update

Bob gave an update on regional ACP management. All of the county grower liaison positions have been filled and are nearly complete with the transition from contracting with CASS to contracting with CDFA directly. The Committee recommended that CDFA add a second grower liaison in Ventura County and the contract is currently in CDFA's contract office for review. Bob reported that all treatment areas are doing well. Sandra, grower liaison in Ventura County is having difficulty communicating with growers and receiving treatment information from the Agricultural Commissioner's office. Sandra and CDFA staff are continuing to review the pesticide use reports to determine if Ventura achieved the 75 percent target treatment area. There has been a lot more participation regarding neglected and abandoned orchards however, the drought will likely cause more abandoned groves. There was an early detection technology (EDT) task force meeting on June 12, 2015 that went well. The task force is in the process of working with USDA for a new protocol so that CDFA will be able to test nymphs and flush.

Judy Zaninovich and Dan Dreyer gave a treatment report on the Tulare ACP petal-fall "fire drill". In the Central Valley near Farmersville, grower liaisons coordinated treatment of 5 different PMAs as a test run of the PMA system. There were 4595 acres treated in the Exeter/Farmersville area and the compliance rate was 98 percent. 1270 acres treated in Richgrove and the compliance rate was 100 percent. There was a comment made that treatment times need to be more coordinated in the future.

HLB Survey Update

a. Hacienda Heights Risk-Based Survey

Tina Galindo gave an update on the Hacienda Heights area. Cycle 1 was from January 2, 2015 to February 24, 2015. 683 sites were visited, with 456 ACP samples, 10 plant samples collected and 225 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Cycle 2 was from March 2, 2015 to April 29, 2015. 638 sites visited, with 529 ACP samples, 49 plant samples collected and 112 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Cycle 3 began May 1, 2015 and should be complete soon. There have been 461 sites visited so far, with 280 ACP samples, 43 plant samples collected and 162 sites negative for ACP and plant samples. Tina also reported on traps positive for ACP in March, April and May. 100 traps were surveyed each month with 75 traps positive for ACP in March, 76 traps positive with ACP in April and 52 traps positive for ACP in May. There was a total amount of 273 ACP collected in March, 282 in April and 177 collected in May.

b. Southern California Risk-Based Survey

Magally Luque-Williams gave an update on the southern California HLB risk based survey. Cycle 1 has made great progress with Imperial, Ventura, Tulare, Santa Barbara, San Joaquin, Fresno, Madera, Kings and Kern Counties being 100 percent complete. All other areas are between 6 and 91 percent complete. Cycle 2 has begun in Fresno County and should begin in the other counties in August of 2015.

Treatment Updates

Tina Galindo gave an update on the southern California urban treatments. In Ventura County, Filmore and Piru are 85 percent complete and 8 zones are being treated there. Camarillo is complete, and Santa Paula is pending a public meeting for June 29, 2015. In Riverside, Coachella is complete and Hemet is pending to start treatment in July or September. In San Diego, Pauma is pending treatment for mid-August and San Ysidro is 15 – 94 percent complete. In Imperial, treatment will begin in Calexico on June 26, 2015.

Biocontrol Program Report

a. CDFA Tamarixia Rearing and Release

Mike Pitcairn reported that 437,702 Tamarixia have been released year to date through June and 52,257 Tamarixia have been released into 34 commercial orchards. Staff has started to release Diaphorencyrtus, with a total released year to date of 60,927. 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 which is encouraging. There was a question asked regarding releases, why the map shown does not reflect the high and low risk areas. Victoria stated that the legend is color coordinated and indicates what releases are made in high, medium and low risk areas.

b. USDA Field Cage Rearing

Jim Gorden and Brian Taylor gave a brief update on behalf of Greg Simmons regarding the progress of the field cage Tamarixia production. Field cage efforts are going to transition into more of a private insectary based project. Brian Taylor announced that the field cage project has gone well this year with approximately 23,000 Tamarixia produced so far. A good number of field cages have been set up and going. Jim reported on the plans for Diaphorencyrtus production in field cages. Staff plans to run 4 to 8 field cages to produce Diaphorencyrtus and the goal is to produce 100,000 or more wasps. There has been good progress in the FAR insectary project. Rearing rooms have been added and upgraded and there has been an additional full time person hired. A production plan has been developed and there has been progress towards synchronized, stable and predictable production.

Laboratory Activities

a. Riverside Laboratory Activities

Cynthia LeVesque reported that the CRB is currently tabulating the data collected from the early detection field experiment investigators. The CRB is continuing to work on digital droplet PCR in collaboration with Dr. Greg McCollum. The CRB is almost completed re-analyzing all ACP samples for Lam and Laf separately to determine which species of *Liberibacter* is indicated in the map developed by Dr. Bartels and those will be tabulated for the next CPDPC meeting.

b. Sacramento Laboratory Activities

Victoria reviewed the ongoing Sacramento lab activities. The Lab has analyzed 23,771 ACP samples and 4,240 plant samples since January 2015. CDFA is currently following up on plant and ACP samples that produced qPCR high Fam Ct's in 2013 and 2014. Plant and ACP samples are being collected from each site and retested for HLB. CDFA is continuing to provide samples to Dr. Slupsky at UC Davis. There are also more dog teams being implemented.

Data Management Report

Rick Dunn reviewed the data management activity for May and June 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 in San Joaquin Valley, Ventura, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and most recently in Riverside County. Staff continues to support grove trapping and biocontrol by producing overview and progress maps. CPDPC trappers have serviced more than 1,000,000 traps since 2009 which is very encouraging. There was discussion about receiving treatment information and the pesticide use reports in a timely manner.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m. The next meeting will be held on August 5, 2015 at 10:00 a.m. in Visalia, California.